# Living With the Land

How Oklahoma's land shaped daily life

**3.C.2.3** "Describe ways early inhabitants of present-day Oklahoma satisfied their basic needs and wants by interacting with the environment and using the natural resources of the region..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline one way people used what the land provided, and circle one way people changed the land. Put a box around one renewable resource and one nonrenewable resource.

### Homes, Fields, and Resources

1. Long ago, American Indian groups in what is now Oklahoma lived in different places. On the wide grasslands, some groups hunted bison for food and used their hides for shelter. Near rivers, other groups grew corn and beans in the rich soil. They cleared small fields to plant crops. In the wooded east, people hunted animals and traded furs.

2. The land offered natural resources, things people use from nature. Grasses and trees can grow back after they are used, so they are renewable resources. People can use wood from trees to make tools. Oil under Oklahoma's ground is different. It takes millions of years to form, so people cannot quickly replace it. Oil is a nonrenewable resource.

3. Later, settlers came to Oklahoma's open plains. In some places, few trees grew, so there was little wood for houses. Settlers built homes from blocks of sod, the thick grass and soil they could find nearby. They also used windmills to lift water from the ground. Some dug channels to bring water to crops when rain was scarce. These changes helped them live and farm there.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the grasslands help some American Indian groups meet a need?

2. Why did some groups farm near rivers, and how did they change the land to farm?

3. Why did some settlers build homes from sod instead of wood?

4. Name one renewable resource and one nonrenewable resource in the passage. How are they different?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine you lived on an Oklahoma grassland long ago. Write three sentences that name a need and a natural resource you would use, describe a new way you would change the land to meet that need, and explain whether your resource is renewable or nonrenewable and why. Do not use a plan from the passage.

**ANSWER KEY**

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**GRADE 3 · 3.C.2.3**

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one way people used what the land provided, and circle one way people changed the land. Put a box around one renewable resource and one nonrenewable resource. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | How did the grasslands help some American Indian groups meet a need? | **Some groups hunted bison on the grasslands for food and used their hides for shelter.** |
| 2 | Why did some groups farm near rivers, and how did they change the land to farm? | **They grew corn and beans in the rich soil near rivers and cleared small fields to plant them.** |
| 3 | Why did some settlers build homes from sod instead of wood? | **Few trees grew on parts of the open plains, so settlers had little wood for houses. Sod was available nearby.** |
| 4 | Name one renewable resource and one nonrenewable resource in the passage. How are they different? | **Trees are renewable because they can grow back. Oil is nonrenewable because it takes millions of years to form.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

I need food, so I would use sunlight to dry slices of squash. I would clear a sunny place to set out the squash. Sunlight is renewable because the sun gives us more each day.

Accept other passage-supported examples for the short answers. For Your Turn, accept a new, workable plan that meets a need, changes the land, and correctly explains the resource type.