# Homelands and Heritage

How place shaped life before European arrival

**4.C.3.1** "Examine the various American Indian cultures inhabiting the nation prior to European explorations. Explain that North America is the home to well-developed societies and cultures (e.g., Inuit, Puebloan, Mississippian…"

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline one food and circle one home named for each of these homelands: the Arctic, Southwest, Eastern Woodlands, and Northwest Coast. Use your marks to compare how communities used local resources.

### Many Homelands, Many Ways of Life

1. Long before Europeans arrived, North America was home to many well-developed societies. In the Arctic, Inuit families hunted seals and fished in cold waters. They made warm clothing from animal skins and built shelters suited to the season, including snow houses during winter travel. Far to the south, Ancestral Puebloan communities in the Southwest grew corn and built stone homes near fields and water sources.

2. In the Eastern Woodlands, Haudenosaunee communities farmed corn, beans, and squash. Forests supplied wood for longhouses that sheltered several families. Along the Northwest Coast, many Coast Salish communities caught salmon and used cedar to build large plank houses and canoes. Both regions offered food and building materials, but their waterways, plants, and ways of gathering food differed. These communities also had customs and knowledge passed from one generation to the next.

3. Near the Mississippi River, Mississippian people at Cahokia grew corn and built huge earthen mounds for important gatherings and buildings. These works show careful planning and teamwork. Today, Cahokia Mounds preserves the remains of this place. At Mesa Verde National Park in the Southwest, workers protect stone dwellings built by Ancestral Puebloan people. Museums also work with Native communities to care for objects and share their stories.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did food and homes differ between Inuit families in the Arctic and Ancestral Puebloan communities in the Southwest?

2. Compare how Haudenosaunee and Coast Salish communities used resources from their homelands for food and homes.

3. What did Mississippian people at Cahokia build, and what does it show about their society?

4. How do Cahokia Mounds and Mesa Verde National Park each protect evidence of earlier societies?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label comparing Inuit and Coast Salish food and homes. Explain how their homelands shaped their choices, and tell how the museum could work with living Native communities to share these histories.

ANSWER KEY

# Homelands and Heritage

GRADE 4 · 4.C.3.1

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one food and circle one home named for each of these homelands: the Arctic, Southwest, Eastern Woodlands, and Northwest Coast. Use your marks to compare how communities used local resources. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | How did food and homes differ between Inuit families in the Arctic and Ancestral Puebloan communities in the Southwest? | **Inuit families hunted seals and fished, and they used snow houses during winter travel. Ancestral Puebloan communities grew corn and built stone homes.** |
| 2 | Compare how Haudenosaunee and Coast Salish communities used resources from their homelands for food and homes. | **Haudenosaunee communities farmed corn, beans, and squash and used forest wood for longhouses. Coast Salish communities caught salmon and used cedar for plank houses.** |
| 3 | What did Mississippian people at Cahokia build, and what does it show about their society? | **They built huge earthen mounds for gatherings and buildings. The mounds show careful planning and teamwork.** |
| 4 | How do Cahokia Mounds and Mesa Verde National Park each protect evidence of earlier societies? | **Cahokia Mounds preserves remains of the Mississippian site. Mesa Verde National Park protects stone dwellings built by Ancestral Puebloan people.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Inuit families in the Arctic hunted seals and fished in cold waters, while Coast Salish communities on the Northwest Coast caught salmon. Inuit used snow houses during winter travel, while Coast Salish people used local cedar for plank houses. Our museum can work with Inuit and Coast Salish people today to tell these histories in their own words.

Accept accurate comparisons that connect a named homeland to food or shelter. For the museum label, look for three sentences, both groups, a connection to local resources, and a respectful role for living communities.