

Land, Water, Life

Read how Virginia Indigenous communities used nearby resources circa 1600.

VS.2.d “describing the relationships and interactions of Virginia’s Indigenous People and their environment, circa 1600; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each word or phrase that names something from nature that people used. These clues show how people and the environment were connected.

Using Nearby Resources

- ① Circa 1600, many Virginia Indigenous communities lived near rivers, bays, or the Atlantic coast. Waterways gave people fish, shellfish, and easy travel by canoe. In warm months, people could fish and gather oysters. Rivers also linked villages, so people could visit, trade, and share news. Living near water shaped daily work and connections among communities.
- ② Virginia Indigenous farmers grew corn, beans, and squash in garden plots. These crops grew well together. Corn stalks supported bean vines, and squash leaves shaded the ground, helping it hold moisture. Farmers cleared small fields and planted seeds with simple tools. Growing food close to a village helped families prepare for seasons when hunting or fishing was less successful.
- ③ Forests supplied wood for houses, canoes, tools, and fires. People hunted animals such as deer in wooded areas and used parts of the animals for food, clothing, and tools. In some places, people gathered nuts, berries, and wild plants from the forest. By using nearby land and water in different ways, communities met their needs throughout the year.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did waterways help communities besides providing food?

2 How did corn, beans, and squash help one another grow?

3 Name two ways people used resources from forests.

4 Why was growing food close to a village helpful to families?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose one resource named in the passage. Write three sentences that name the resource, describe one use, and explain how its location or features helped a community meet a need circa 1600.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each word or phrase that names something from nature that people used. These clues show how people and the environment were connected. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did waterways help communities besides providing food?	Waterways provided travel by canoe and linked villages for visiting, trading, and sharing news.
2	How did corn, beans, and squash help one another grow?	Corn stalks supported bean vines, and squash leaves shaded the ground to help it hold moisture.
3	Name two ways people used resources from forests.	Answers may include using wood for houses, canoes, tools, or fires; hunting deer for food, clothing, and tools; or gathering nuts, berries, and wild plants.
4	Why was growing food close to a village helpful to families?	It helped families prepare for seasons when hunting or fishing was less successful.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A river was a resource for a Virginia Indigenous community. People traveled by canoe on the river to visit nearby villages. Because the river connected villages, it helped people share news and trade.

Accept answers that accurately connect a named natural resource to a use and explain how that resource helped meet a community need. For question 3, accept any two accurate forest uses stated in the passage.