

Living Virginia Cultures

Trace Virginia Indigenous communities from the past to today.

VS.2.e “describing the lives and cultures of Virginia’s Indigenous People leading to the present day.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail about life before English settlers, circle one detail about changes after Jamestown, and number one detail about Virginia Indigenous communities today. Your marks will help you describe how cultures continued over time.

Communities Then and Now

- ① Long before English settlers arrived, Virginia Indigenous communities lived in many places, including the Coastal Plain, Piedmont, and mountains. Different peoples spoke different languages and followed local seasons. Many Algonquian-speaking communities near the Chesapeake Bay were part of Chief Powhatan’s political alliance. Families grew corn, beans, and squash. They also fished, hunted, gathered plants, and traded with neighboring communities.
- ② When English colonists built Jamestown in 1607, they entered homelands already used and cared for by Indigenous communities. At first, some communities traded food and other goods with colonists. Conflict grew as colonists wanted more land. Diseases brought from Europe killed many Indigenous people, who had no immunity. Indigenous leaders and communities used diplomacy and fought to protect their people and lands.
- ③ Today, Virginia Indigenous people are living communities, not only people from the past. Tribal nations such as the Pamunkey and Mattaponi have leaders and tribal governments. Many people work, attend school, serve their communities, and take part in tribal events. Families share stories, arts, foodways, and language learning. Museums, cultural centers, and tribal gatherings help protect and teach these traditions.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

- 1 Describe how Virginia Indigenous families used local resources before English settlers arrived. Give two examples.

- 2 Describe two changes Indigenous communities faced after Jamestown was built.

- 3 How did Indigenous leaders and communities try to protect their people and lands?

- 4 What two details show that Virginia Indigenous cultures continue today?

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label called "Virginia Indigenous Communities Then and Now." Include one detail about life before English settlers, one detail about life today, and a sentence that connects the two.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline one detail about life before English settlers, circle one detail about changes after Jamestown, and number one detail about Virginia Indigenous communities today. Your marks will help you describe how cultures continued over time. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Describe how Virginia Indigenous families used local resources before English settlers arrived. Give two examples.	They grew corn, beans, and squash, and they fished, hunted, gathered plants, and traded.
2	Describe two changes Indigenous communities faced after Jamestown was built.	Colonists wanted more land, causing conflict. Diseases from Europe killed many Indigenous people who had no immunity.
3	How did Indigenous leaders and communities try to protect their people and lands?	They used diplomacy and fought to protect their people and lands.
4	What two details show that Virginia Indigenous cultures continue today?	Answers may include tribal governments, tribal events, sharing stories, arts, foodways, language learning, museums, cultural centers, or tribal gatherings.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Virginia Indigenous communities have lived in this region for a long time. In the past, families used local resources to grow food, fish, hunt, and trade. Today, tribal nations keep culture alive by sharing stories, arts, foodways, and language learning, connecting present communities to earlier traditions.

Accept accurate passage-based details in students' own words. For the open response, look for one past detail, one present-day detail, and a clear connection showing that Virginia Indigenous communities continue today.