

Teacher's Guide

“Creek and Cherokee I”



Grade Level:
2nd

GSE Reference:
SS2H2a;
SS2G2 b, c, d;

Summary:

Students investigate how the Creeks and Cherokees obtained food, clothing, shelter and medicine from their natural environment.

Objective:

Students will understand that the Creeks and Cherokees used their environment to obtain food, clothing, shelter and medicine and that the Chattahoochee River influenced their lives.

Essential Questions

When reviewing “The Creeks and The Cherokees” with your students, begin by discussing what life would be like 500 years ago.

- Where would you get your food?
- What would you do if you were sick?
- Where would you live?
- What clothes would you wear and where would you get them?
- What else might be different than how we live today?

Feel free to keep a list of questions from the students to bring to the naturalist.

Vocabulary

- 📖 *Native* - anything indigenous to an area, not imported
- 📖 *Edible* - able to be eaten and digested

Pre-Visit Activities

- 📖 **Read** a book from the suggested reading list
- 📖 **Where did your lunch come from?** The goal is to have students think about the raw ingredients needed to make their lunch. As a class you can use the lunch on the cafeteria menu. Working in groups have them break down the entire menu or parts of the menu to the basic ingredients. For example if a roll is included in lunch - what ingredients are used to make the roll? Flour, which comes from wheat, water, and butter (from cows). Other ingredients may be included, but it will get the students to realize French fries start as a potato and rolls need wheat. How would lunch have been different if they were kids 500 years ago?
- 📖 **What would you do?** Working in groups have the students make up a game they would play as young Creek and Cherokee girls and boys 500 years ago.

Post visit activities

- 📍 **Review the major concepts and vocabulary.**
- 📍 **A Part of Nature** - A big part of the Creek and Cherokee lifestyle was their connection to nature. They respected everything around them because they knew it provided them with their food, shelter, medicine and clothing. Have students write a poem or draw a picture on the back of a rock or bark. They can find the rocks, bark or wood out in a natural area. Have them then place the item back to nature with the picture down, giving a gift to the earth. If you do not have a natural area, you can purchase rocks or bark and have them return it to the playground or at home.
- 📍 **CLEAN UP!!** - Just like the Native Americans respected the earth, show the earth respect around your school! Pick up litter around the school and playground. Create recycling centers in your classroom. Challenge students to bring a trash-free lunch one day!
- 📍 **Adopt a Tree** - How did the Creek and Cherokee use trees? For edible and non-edible uses? Read The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein and discuss what the tree gave. Find an area at your school where you can plant a tree and watch it grow or adopt a tree that is already there. You can place fallen leaves to give it nourishment, water it, keep trash picked up. Have the students record their experience in their class journals.
- 📍 **Kahoot!** Go to www.getkahoot.com, sign in, and search for the quiz called Creek and Cherokee 1 created by CNC. This is a fun, interactive way for students to review concepts learned during their visit to CNC using hand-held devices. The direct link is <https://play.kahoot.it/#/?quizId=f7f72f4b-c201-47d8-8926-3903743fe97f>

Suggesting Reading

If You Lived With The Cherokees, Peter Roop and Connie Roop

The Cherokee Nation: A History, Robert J. Conley

Living Stories of the Cherokee, Barbara R. Duncan

The Cherokee (True Books - American Indians), Andrew Santella

The Trail of Tears (Step into Reading - Step 5), Joseph Bruchac

Creek History and Culture, Helen Dwyer and Amy Stone

Pushing up the Sky: Seven Native American Plays for Children, Joseph Bruchac

Children of the Longhouse, Joseph Bruchac

Keepers of the Earth: Native American Stories and Environmental Activities for Children, Joseph Bruchac and Michael J. Caduto (anything from the Keepers Series)

Suggested Websites

<http://www.cherokeemuseum.org/>

<http://ngeorgia.com/history/chokeee.html>

<http://ngeorgia.com/history/creek.html>

Storytelling: How Grandmother Spider Stole the Sun <http://www.angelfire.com/ia2/stories3/sun.html>

Further Investigations!

Imagine you are a Creek or Cherokee child. What would you do for food, water, shelter, fun? What animals and plants would you see? Write a story about a day in your life.


