
Prehistoric Louisiana

Middle School
Social Studies
Prehistoric Cultures

Overview

The PowerPoint presentation tells about the Indians who lived in Louisiana during the thousands of years before Europeans arrived.

Objectives

Students will learn how people came to Louisiana.

Students will learn about the types of tools Indians used.

Students will learn about the different kinds of foods Indians ate.

Students will learn about the settlements Indians created.

Activities

Student activities and worksheets include:

- Review questions

- Interviews

- Report writing

- Creative writing

Teacher answer sheets are provided.

Related Resources about Prehistoric Louisiana

See www.crt.la.gov/DiscoverArchaeology

- Traveling Exhibit of Artifacts for the Classroom

- Interactive Online Exhibits

- Virtual Books

Vocabulary

Archaeologist

Archaeology

Artifact

Atlatl

Bering Land Bridge

Ceramic

Culture

Early Neo-Indian

Late Neo-Indian

Meso-Indian

Mound

Prehistoric

Paleoindian

Pottery

Timeline

Woodland

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Course: _____

Date: _____

True/False

People lived in Louisiana for a total of 1,500 years. True False

Some Indians lived the same way for thousands of years. True False

Prehistoric people went to prehistoric markets for their food. True False

Prehistoric people in Louisiana made decorative artwork. True False

Short Answer

According to this presentation, what is the name of a Paleoindian site in Louisiana? _____

Name one interesting thing you learned from this presentation. _____

When did the prehistoric period end in Louisiana? _____

Essay

How did the first people come to North America? _____

Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Course: _____

Date: _____

Individual Activity

Ceremonies and rituals vary around the world, even within families or local communities. Conduct an interview with a few members of your extended family, your neighbors, your classmates or friends about how different holidays or life events are observed and celebrated. Consider what artifacts would be left behind related to these events. Prepare a brief report on your findings. Be sure to get permission to use personal information, or change their names if necessary to protect people's privacy.

Examples of Holidays or Life Events:

Religious Holidays, Cultural Holidays, Birthdays, Graduations, Getting Driver's License or other Coming of Age Celebration

Name: _____

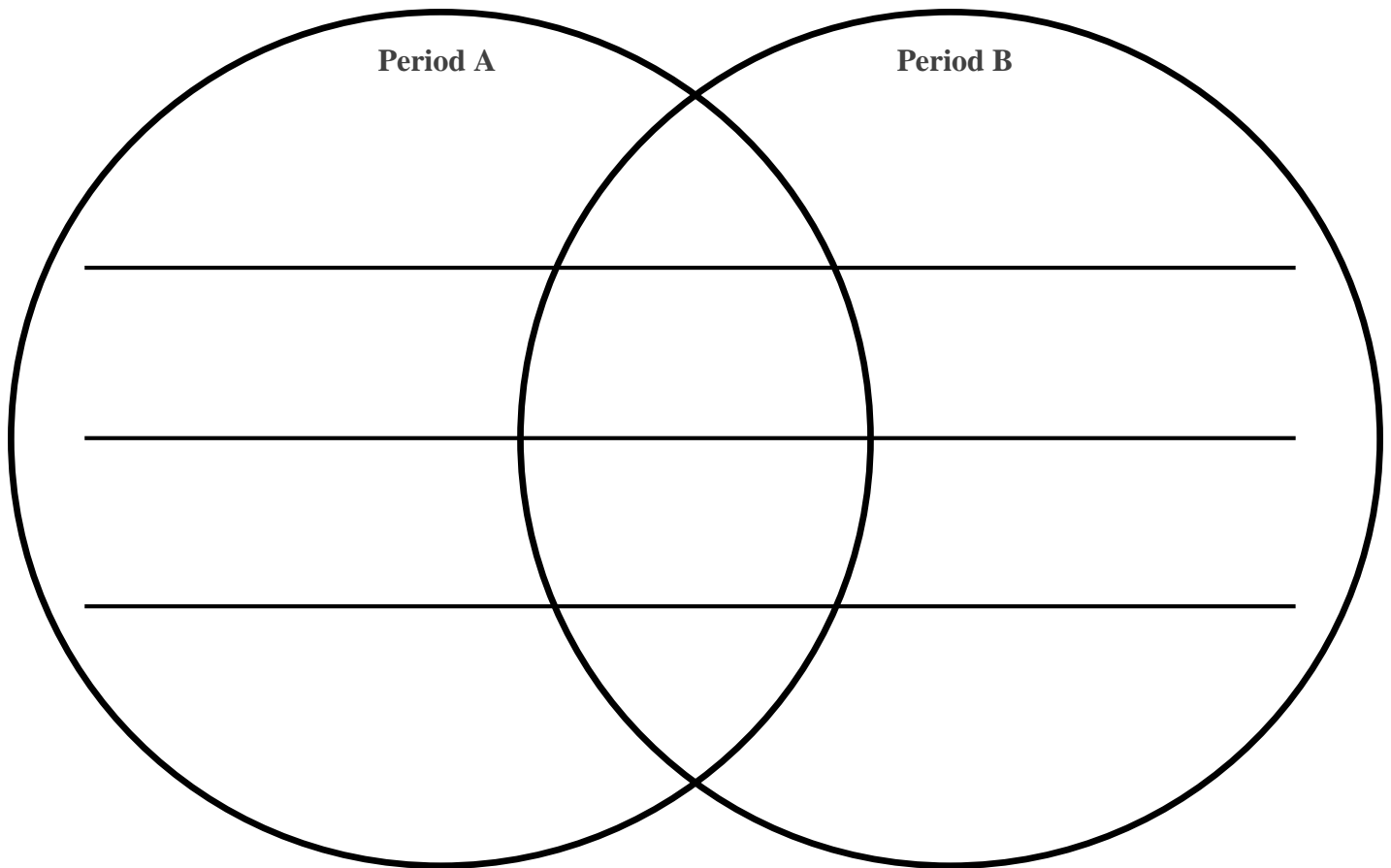
Teacher: _____

Course: _____

Date: _____

Venn Diagram

Compare two periods from the Prehistoric Louisiana presentation. Write down 3 individual characteristics for each period, and use the middle where the circles overlap to list common characteristics.



Name: _____

Teacher: _____

Course: _____

Date: _____

Check for Understanding

What do you think attracted Indians to certain areas where they built sites?

How did Indians in the prehistoric Louisiana live their daily lives (food, shelter, trade)?

For the Teacher

Answers

True/False

People lived in Louisiana for a total of 1,500 years.

True False

Some Indians lived the same way for thousands of years.

True False

Prehistoric people went to prehistoric markets for their food.

True False

Prehistoric people in Louisiana made decorative artwork.

True False

Short Answer

According to this presentation, what is a Paleoindian site in Louisiana? John Pearce Site.

Name one interesting thing you learned from this presentation. No wrong answer here.

When did the prehistoric period end in Louisiana? The prehistoric period in Louisiana ended with the Mississippi Period, or just before A.D. 1700, or when the French arrived.

Essay

How did the first people come to North America? Some theories are that people traveled across a land bridge from Asia to North America. Other theories are that people traveled along the west coast of North America.

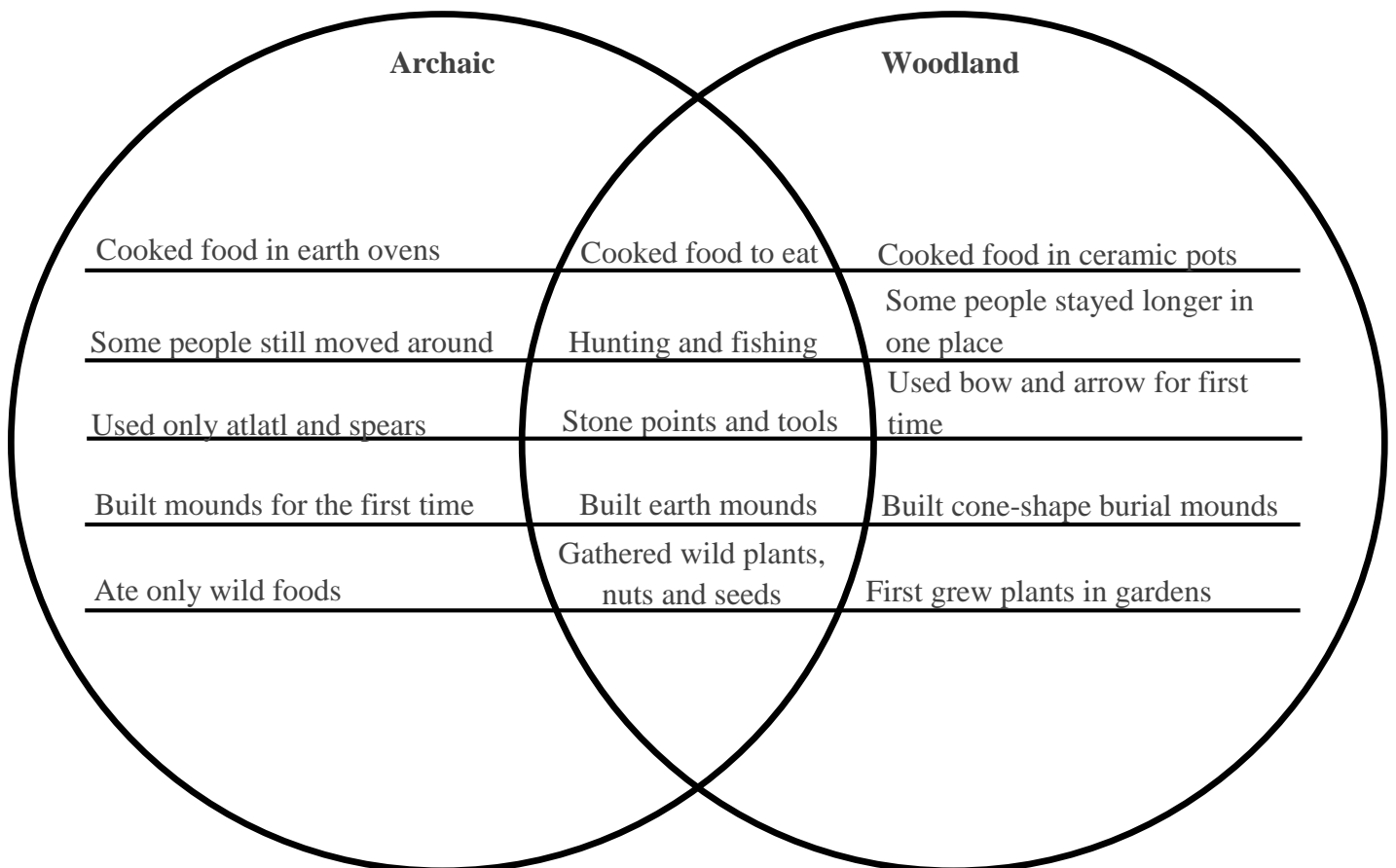
For the Teacher

Answers

Venn Diagram

Compare two periods from the Prehistoric Louisiana presentation. Write down 3 individual characteristics for each period, and use the middle where the circles overlap to list common characteristics.

An example of possible answers is below.



Prehistoric Louisiana

1700 B.C. to 1100 B.C.

This is one in a series of modules about Louisiana archaeology. Each module has a PowerPoint presentation and associated student activities. The series is called “Learn about Louisiana’s Past through Archaeology.”

The presentation is intended for educational use. Please use image credits where provided.

Please visit the Division of Archaeology website for additional teaching materials and educational resources at: www.crt.la.gov/DiscoverArchaeology.

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