

## At-Home Lesson Plan

Please note: This lesson plan was adapted from a museum-based program. It is recommended that families work together on this lesson. Once the museum is open to the public again, come for a tour and see the actual artifacts in person!

### *Lenni-Lenape Culture and Values*

**Context:** The Lenni-Lenape held many cultural values and practices. The tribe's values and culture grew more complicated when intertwined with the impact of European settlement. This lesson will explore cultural elements of the Lenni-Lenape and how their culture and lives were impacted by European settlement.

**Grade Level:** 4-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Learning Objectives: By the end of this lesson students will be able to:**

- Identify different objects that contributed to Lenni-Lenape culture
- Analyze original objects and describe their meanings
- Determine where the Lenni-Lenape relocated to and their reasons for moving
- Develop observation and group discussion skills

**Standards: (New Jersey Social Studies Standards) 6.1.4.B.1** Compare and contrast information that can be found on different types of maps and determine how the information may be useful, **6.1.4.B.5** Describe how human interaction impacts the environment in New Jersey and the United States, **6.1.4.D.1** Determine the impact of European colonization on Native American populations, including the Lenni Lenape of New Jersey, **6.1.4.D.13** Describe how culture is expressed through and influenced by the behavior of people, **6.1.4.D.15** Explain how various cultural groups have dealt with the conflict between maintaining traditional beliefs and practices and adopting new beliefs and practices. **(4<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts Standards) RI.4.3** Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text, **RI.4.4** Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.

### **Glossary:**

- 1) Culture: Beliefs, customs, arts, etc., of a particular society, group, place, or time.
- 2) Relocation: To move/change one's residence. Throughout the history of the United States, Native American tribes have been forced to relocate from their native lands.

## Lesson Guide

1) Ask students to help you define culture. *What is culture? What traditions, beliefs, art, do you have in your family or friend groups?*

2) Explain that you are first going to help students explore Lenni-Lenape cultural items. These will help students understand how the Lenape lived based on their traditions, art, and customs. Use the photos below. When the museum re-opens to the public, some of these items are on display at the Vineland Historical Society!

First ask students what they see. Ask what they think the item was used for, for further conversation ask; *Why do you think that? What would you use this item for? What types of objects are important in your life that gives insight into your culture?* If needed, ask follow-up questions about size, weight (use estimation since item is not able to be touched/seen in person), etc. to encourage participation.



a)

Ink/paint pots

Ritual/war paint



b)

Wapum trade beads

Small enough to be carried

Legal currency



c)

Stone gorget

Like a pendant

Ritual/Spiritual

4) Once you discuss the objects, go into some more detail about Lenape culture. Examples include Lenape belief in spirits and *shamans* who were thought to have more special power over spirits; sweat lodges or *pimewakan*, which were used for ritual, cleaning, and curing sickness; use of plants and herbs to cure sickness.

For more resources of Lenape culture visit:

<https://nanticokelenapemuseum.org/>

<http://www.lenapelifeways.org/kids.htm>

5) Transition to discussion on European settlement and its consequences: *Now that we have learned about Lenni-Lenape culture, can you think of ways that could change a tribe's culture?*

6) After discussion, explain that Europeans arrived in the 1500's and impacted the culture of the Lenni-Lenape over time. The Lenape traded furs, land, and food to the Europeans and received iron tools, beads, and knives in return. On the other hand, tensions rose between the Lenape and Europeans because of European over-hunting and their bringing of various diseases which wiped out many of the tribe members. For many Lenape that remained in our area, some had to hide their culture and heritage to seem assimilated with the settlers.

7) Have students locate the map of the relocation route (shown below.) Ask students which way the arrows are moving (West) and if they can identify any states along the route. After identifying the reasons for leaving our area, ask *what do you think they brought? What do you think drew them to relocate to these certain states? How do you think they felt having to leave their homes?* (Since we lack primary source material, these questions are more about reflection and connection than having a single right answer.)

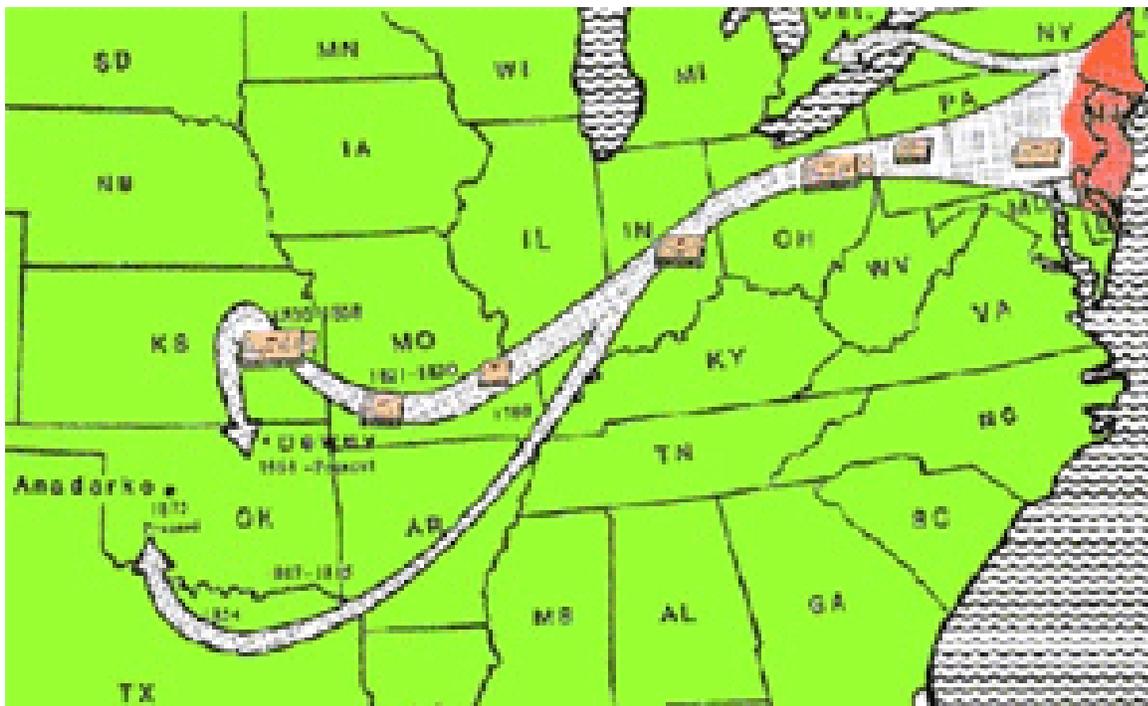


Image: Migration Routes of the Lenni Lenape Indians. Courtesy of the Penn Treaty Museum  
More information here: <http://www.penn treaty museum.org/americans.php>