

Name: _____

Date: _____

Native America – Southwest Tribal Region

Directions: Read the passage. Then answer the questions from the reading.



Hogan

In the northern region of the southwest are tall mountains and deep canyons where rivers flow. The Grand Canyon is in this region. The days can be very hot and the nights very cold because the air is dry, and there is not much rain.

Some people who lived in the desert southwest lived in hogans which have six sides built from wood poles and adobe (mud). There was one room in the hogan and the doorway faced to the east. There was a hole in the roof so smoke from the fires could escape.

Another type of home is the pueblo which has a flat roof and is built next to or on top of its neighbor. They are made of adobe, a mixture of clay and sand that is found in the southwest. Families slept on rugs or animal skins.

The most important foods for the southwest people were corn, beans, pumpkins and squash. The native Americans of the southwest, especially the Pueblo people, were farmers. Corn was the most important crop for the southwest people as they ground it into corn meal and baked it in outdoor clay ovens.

It is very dry in the desert, so rain was very important to the people of the southwest. In their ceremonies, they would perform rain dances in the hope that more rain would come.

Long haired sheep and goats were introduced to the people of the southwest by the Spanish settlers about 500 years ago. These animals are very important because their wool provides the fiber which the people use to weave beautiful blankets and rugs. Horses were also introduced to the area by the Spanish settlers. Horses enabled the Natives to control large herds of sheep and goats.

The Southwest people dressed in clothes made from the hide of sheep or spun from the wool. In hot weather, men wore loincloths. When it got colder, especially in the northern part of the region, they added wool shirts, leggings, and moccasins.

1. Which animal(s) were most important to these people? _____
2. What type of clothes did the people of this region wear? _____
3. What type of home(s) did the people of this region live? _____
4. What is the climate like in this region? _____
5. What type of food(s) did the people of this region eat? _____

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Sheep, Goats, Horses

Loincloths, Shirts, Leggings, Moccasins

Hogans, Pueblos

Hot Days, Cold Nights, Very Dry

Corn, Beans, Pumpkins, Squash