

AP Human Geography
Native American Indian Heritage Month

For this activity, you will be researching one of the Native American nations that either once lived, or currently live, in one of the US states you were assigned. For example, the Lenni Lenape (also known as the Delaware) were the dominant native nation of New Jersey.

Include the following details, on a single page:

(1) A symbol of the nation – it could be the nation’s seal or flag, or a glyph or distinctive piece of art. Here is a Lenape example that mixes modern and traditional imagery:



(2) The name that this nation is most widely known by, as well as their name for themselves. If you can find the meanings or origins of each name, include those. For example, *Lenni Lenape* means “the true or original people” in the Unami language, while *Delaware* is the peerage (noble title) of Thomas West, Third Baron De La Warr, who funded the defense of Jamestown Colony in Virginia, and was honored by the colonists by having his name given to both the Delaware region (the bay, river, and river valley) and eventually also the native people who lived there.

(3) The indigenous languages spoken by this nation, and the language family they derive from. The indigenous languages of the Lenape are Unami and Munsee, both of which are from the Algonquian language family.

(4) The most common food cultivated by this nation, before the arrival of Europeans. The Lenapi grew what they called “The Three Sisters” – maize (corn), beans, and squash. They supplemented this with hunting, particularly seafood.

(5) One prominent modern person (ideally still living, or at least alive in the late 1900s) from this nation. For example, Joe Baker is an artist from the Delaware Tribe and executive director of the Lenape Center in New York state. With support from the New York State Council for the Arts, in 2022 he organized an exhibition with the Brooklyn Public Library that calls upon Americans (and museums in particular) to “rethink their curatorial practice, and to rethink their relationship with the [Native] communities around them.”