



Learn about Badlands National Park!

At Home in the Badlands

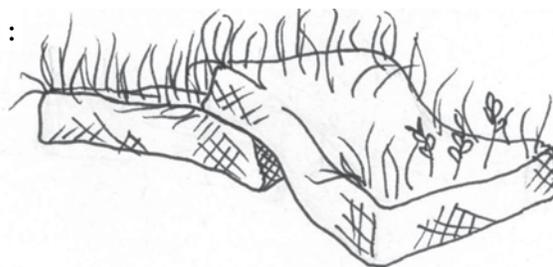
What is your house like? Does it protect you from summers' hot sun and strong thunderstorms and winters' biting blizzards? Does it stay nestled on one spot, or can you take it with you from place to place? The design of your house depends on *where* and *how* you live, as well as the *availability* of building materials.

As you color the drawings, you can learn about two types of home people have built in the Badlands to suit the place as well as their way of life.

As they followed game across the Great Plains, the nomadic **Lakota** people needed homes that could be easily erected, taken apart, and carried from place to place. They made their dwellings, called *teepees* (also spelled *tipi*), by wrapping a cover of buffalo hides around a cone-shaped skeleton of wooden poles, then pegging it to the ground.

After they selected their 140 acres of land to cultivate, **homesteaders** would often build their homes out of the same material that they intended to try plowing -- *sod*. They would cut and pile thick chunks of dirt laced with plant roots from the prairie to make a cheap and secure if damp and high-maintenance dwelling.

Materials :



Construction :



Do you think homesteaders would have been comfortable living in drafty, impermanent tipis?
Would the Lakota have liked having to put lots of time and work into dark, muddy sod houses?
Which type of building would you prefer to make your home in?