

TERRITORIAL RANGE

Introductory Set

Ask students to stand up if they were born in the town in which they now live; stand up if they were born in the state they now live in; stand up if their parents were also born there; etc. Then discuss why people move.

Procedure

Listed below are some good questions to start off a discussion with your students to see what they know before you begin.

- Who were the first Americans?
- Where did they come from?
- How did they get here?
- Where in the Americas did they live?
- Are all American Indians alike?
- What makes American Indian groups unique from one another?
- How many tribes were there? How many can you name?

Using a Smartboard or other device, go to the Native Languages website:

<http://www.native-languages.org/states.htm>. Have each student click on a state to reveal the names and locations of the tribes that originally inhabited each state. Give each student a blank map of the United States. One is available in the Additional Resources section. Have students locate the homeland of the tribes you investigate on the website on the map.

Then go to the Library of Congress webpage <http://bit.ly/abNzgD>. Compare this map to the map you previously examined. Have each student discuss with a partner the differences and why they occur. Discuss as a class the fluidity of tribal range as well as the lack of maps until much later as well as the fact that many American Indian groups were forced off their land.

Enrichment

Activities



Have students map a road trip that goes through at least 4 states. They should write a fictional story about the people they will encounter as well as what the land is like. This could either be a fictional story that requires students to use their knowledge of where tribes lived that allows them to make up a fictional lifestyle for each tribe or students could do research on each of the tribes to make their story more accurate. The Native Languages website (above) has good information that could be used for this.

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