



## Native American Lifestyles

**Grade Level:** 1 - 5

**Time:** 60 minutes

### Program objectives:

- Students will identify the general characteristics of the Paleo, Archaic and Woodland Indians living in the Ohio Valley and their contributions to our local history.
- Students will gain appreciation and understanding of the basic needs of the Native Americans through discussions of their food, shelter and clothing.
- Students will compare similarities and differences between their lives and the lives of the Native Americans.

### Program description:

Take a look at some of southern Ohio's earliest inhabitants. What tools, natural resources and skills allowed them to survive? Students will perform the duties of an archaeologist and investigate artifacts to help identify past cultures.

### Major vocabulary and concepts:

Adena

Ft. Ancient

Mound builders

The Three Sisters

Archaic

Ice age

Paleo

Woodland Native Americans

Atlatl

Migrate

Trade

### Suggested pre-visit activities:

- Research stories about Eastern Woodland Native Americans and share what you've learned. Write your own Woodland Indian story or poem.
- Use a dictionary to define the following terms, then try to locate illustrations of each: breechcloth, gorget, moccasins, trade silver and sinew.
- Discuss preconceptions or stereotypes students have about Native Americans.
- Locate Ohio, the Ohio River, Indiana, Kentucky and the Great Lakes on a map.
- Plant a class garden and raise corn, beans or squash on school grounds. Use your ingredients to cook Native American recipes.
- Learn some simple phrases in Native American sign language.



### **Suggested post-visit activities:**

- Have students choose a Native American name for themselves and share why it suits them. Use pictographs to write your name.
- Make a journal entry about the everyday life of the Woodland tribes.
- Contrast our modern diet with the diet of Native Americans. What conclusions can you draw?
- Inquire about gender roles within the Woodland Indian culture and compare to gender roles today.

### **Academic Standards:**

Ohio Revised Academic Standards:

- History – grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- Geography – grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
- Government – grades 1, 2, and 3
- Economics – grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

### **Related exhibits and features:**

- *Settlement to 1860s* exhibit in the Cincinnati History Museum
- *Earth Stories* exhibit in the Museum of Natural History & Science
- *Pathways to Change* exhibit in the Museum of Natural History & Science
- See how the Native Americans impacted the Corp of Discovery by supplementing you lab with the Omnimax® film: *Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West*

### **Resources:**

- [Cincinnati: The Queen City](#) By Daniel Hurley
- [Cincinnati Then and Now](#) by Iola Silberstein
- [Ohio Archaeology: An Illustrated Chronicle Of Ohio's Ancient American Indian Cultures](#) by Bradley T. Lepper
- [The Mound-Builders](#) by Henry Shetrone
- [The Adena, Hopewell, and Fort Ancient of Ohio](#) by Greg Roza

