

PAIRED TEXTS

Southwestern Dry Farming

In the American Southwest, states like Arizona and New Mexico are desert. Before these were states, tribes like the Hopi and the Anasazi built homes and farms on these dry desert lands. Since deserts are known for their dry, hot conditions and little rainfall, you might wonder how these Native American tribes were able to grow corn, beans, and squash with such success.



These tribes had to be very resourceful. Water is scarce in a desert, but crops need water to grow. The Native Americans would practice "dry farming." This type of farming can be done with less than ten inches of rain a year! One way is to create a small field at the base of a mesa wash. A wash is where the land has been eroded by rainfall and snowfall, and it creates a sort of ditch or trench for water to flow down. This would ensure that the crops would get any rain that might fall, as well as runoff when the snow melted at the end of the winter.

Another method was to irrigate, or bring water to their fields. Men would dig canals (waterways) from a spring which would send water to their fields. They had to create their digging tools from the natural resources they had. Often, a shovel was made from a shoulder bone of a large animal, like a buffalo. Planting was done with a sharpened stick hardened in a fire. Farming was done as a community: as some would dig, others would plant.

After a corn field was harvested, the Native Americans would leave the stalks to lay down on the ground. This would enrich the soil, stop their soil from washing away, and collect snow in the winter for moisture. The next season, they would not plant in this field. They would use it the following season instead. Letting a field rest and retain moisture is called fallowing.

The Hopi still live in the Southwest today, and they continue to practice dry farming. They still do everything by hand, even though there are modern tools and machines that could be used. For the Hopi, farming is not just for food, but it is life. They see the corn as their children, and they protect and grow it with prayer.

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Southeastern Agriculture

Native American tribes in the Southeast depended upon the success of their farms. They fished and hunted for meat and sometimes gathered nuts and berries, but they relied on agriculture (farming). Tribes like the Seminole, Cherokee, and Chickasaw lived in permanent villages. Many tribes built villages along creeks and rivers. Their corn, beans, squash, potatoes, melons, and tobacco grew well with a water source nearby.



We have been working through these paired texts and the kids love reading and learning about things they weren't aware of. The questions bring up great discussions and sometimes even research opportunities too! Great resource!

which were raised wooden bins. They had to be high enough that the mice couldn't get into it. Unfortunately, when Europeans began to settle, they would raid the Native American's corn cribs.

Not all crops were grown for food. Southeastern Native Americans grew bottle gourds to make bowls, cups, and even masks. They also grew sunflowers for medicinal teas and to create a purple dye for coloring cloth and even painting on their bodies.

Jennifer W., 4th Grade Teacher

WAYS TO USE THIS RESOURCE:

whole group or small
group modeling

read and annotate the
texts together, then
provide the questions
for comprehension
check, allowing
students to use the
annotated passages

completely independent
practice for students
reading above 4th-5th
grade level



SOUTHWESTERN DRY FARMING

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These tribes had to be very resourceful. Water is scarce in a desert, but crops need water to grow. The Native Americans would practice "dry farming." This type of farming can be done with less than ten inches of rain a year! One way is to create a small field at the base of a **mesa** wash. A wash is where the land has been eroded by rainfall and snowfall. The erosion makes a ditch for water to flow down. This would ensure that the crops would get any rain that might fall. Runoff when the snow melted at the end of the winter would also head down the ditch.

Another method was to irrigate, or bring water to their fields. Men would dig canals (waterways) from a spring. The

canals would send water to their fields. They had to create their digging tools from the natural resources they had. Often, a shovel was made from a shoulder bone of a large animal, like a buffalo. Planting was done with a sharpened stick hardened in a fire. Farming was done as a community. Some would dig, others would plant.

After a corn field was harvested, the Native Americans would leave the stalks to lay down on the ground. This would enrich the soil. It would also stop their soil from washing away and collect their snow in the winter for moisture. The next season, they would not plant in this field. They would use it the following season instead. Letting a field rest and retain moisture is called fallowing.

The Hopi still live in the Southwest today. They continue to practice dry farming. They still do everything by hand, even though there are modern tools and machines that could be used. For the Hopi, farming is not just for food, but it is life. They see the corn as their children. They protect and grow it with prayer.



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▲ **mesa:** a flat, high area of land with very steep sides

SOUTHEASTERN AGRICULTURE

Native American tribes in the Southeast relied on the success of their farms. They fished and hunted for meat. Sometimes they gathered nuts and berries, too, but they mainly depended on agriculture (farming). Tribes like the Seminole, Cherokee, and Chickasaw lived in permanent villages. Many tribes built villages along creeks and rivers. Their corn, beans, squash, potatoes, melons, and tobacco grew well with a water source so close.

Before a field was planted, it would be cleared by cutting down any trees or brush and burning them. The ashes from the burned woods helped provide nutrients to the soil. Corn, beans, and squash were called "The Three Sisters" in many Native American tribes. They believed that these three crops only grew well together. They were considered precious gifts from the Great Spirit. Because of this, they would plant them all mixed together in the same field. This was called intercropping. The bean vines would wrap around the stalks of the corn to grow taller. The squash on the ground helped the soil hold moisture.

Farming was done as a community. Some of the tribe members would dig



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with tools made of stone, fishbone, or wood. Others would use a digging stick to make holes for seeds. They didn't believe any person could own land. The food that was grown belonged to all. After harvesting the crops, the Native Americans would store them. That way their village would have food even in the winter. Corn was stored in "corn cribs," which were raised wooden bins. They had to be high enough that the mice couldn't get into it. Unfortunately, when Europeans began to settle, they would raid the Native American's corn cribs.

Not all crops were grown for food. Southeastern Native Americans grew bottle gourds to make bowls, cups, and oven masks. They also grew sunflowers for medicinal teas and to create a purple dye for coloring cloth. They even used the dye to paint their bodies.

Name: _____

Use both texts to answer the following questions.

Date: _____

- Which sentence **best** summarizes **Southwestern Dry Farming**?
 - The Hopi still farm in the Southwest today.
 - The Southwest tribes had to be very resourceful to farm with little rainfall.
 - Deserts are hot and dry, but the mesas help farms.
 - How are the tribes in **both** texts alike?
 - They grew their crops at the bottom of mesas.
 - They used the same field year after year.
 - They used natural resources to make farming tools.
 - The tribes that grew the food kept the food for their own families.
- In paragraph 2 of **Southeastern Agriculture**, what is **intercropping**?
 - planting one crop in many fields
 - planting many crops in one field
 - not re-using the same field
 - planting crops between fields
- In **Southwestern Dry Farming**, what did the tribes rely on for water for their farms?
 - rain
 - snow
 - springs
 - all of the above
- What can the reader conclude after reading **both** texts?
 - Corn was an important food for many tribes.
 - Native Americans survived by hunting.
 - Men had to dig and scoop dirt with their hands.
 - Native Americans only grew crops for food.
- How are the ideas in both passages **mostly** organized?
 - in chronological order to tell when crops grew
 - through compare and contrast of various tribes
 - with descriptions of the types of farms of the tribes
 - as a problem/solution to show how tribes stored food
- Which quote from **Southeastern Agriculture** shows a negative effect?
 - "Before a field was planted, it would be cleared by cutting down any trees or brush and burning them."
 - "Native American tribes in the Southeast depended upon the success of their farms."
 - "Unfortunately, when Europeans began to settle, they would raid the Native American's corn cribs."
 - "The food that was grown belonged to all."

Name: _____ Date: _____
Support your answer to the question with evidence from both texts.
How were the Southwest and Southeast tribes similar?



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TWO LEVELS PROVIDED OF EVERY PASSAGE

on grade level for 4-5

AND

on grade level for 6-7

discreet symbols on the passages to denote the level of passage

the same questions can be answered no matter the level given

creates a sort of ditch or trench that would get any rain that might fall, as well as in the winter.

Another method was to irrigate (waterways) from a spring which used digging tools from the natural resources. A shoulder bone of a large animal, like a bison, was hardened in a fire. Farming was done in a plant.

After a corn field was harvested, the stalks were left down on the ground. This would help melt the snow in the winter for moisture. The farmers would use it the following season instead of burning it.

The Hopi still live in the Southwest. They still do everything by hand, even planting. For the Hopi, farming is a tradition and they protect and grow it.

¹ mesa: a flat, high area of land

precious gifts from The Great Spirit, they planted them together in the same field. This was done by planting around the stalks of the corn to grow more moisture.

Farming was done as a community. Tools were made of stone, fishbone, or wood. They didn't believe in seeds. They didn't believe any one person should have to all. After harvesting the corn, the village would have food everywhere. They raised wooden bins. They had corn cribs. Unfortunately, when Europeans came, they took the corn cribs.

Not all crops were used. Some were used to make gourds to make bowls, and some were used to create a people's bodies.

- intercropping?
- planting one crop in many fields
 - planting many crops in one field
 - not re-using the same field
 - planting crops between fields

5. What can the reader conclude after reading both texts?

- Corn was an important food for many tribes.
- Native Americans survived by hunting.
- Men had to dig and scoop dirt with their hands.
- Native Americans only grew crops for food.

7. Which quote from **Southeastern Agriculture** shows a need for clearing land?

- "Before a field was planted, it would be cleared by cutting brush and burning them."
- "Native American tribes in the Southeast depended upon farms."
- "Unfortunately, when Europeans began to settle, they would clear the American's corn cribs."
- "The bean vines would wrap around the stalks of the corn to support them."

6. How most likely did the Native Americans survive?

- in the mountains
- where there were many farms
- with a variety of crops
- as a people's tradition

PASSAGES INCLUDED:

- ★ farming in two different regions
- ★ buffalo and whale (food sources)
- ★ totem poles (informational paired with The Raven: an old Inuit legend)

ANSWER KEYS NOTE CORE STANDARDS

Southwestern Dry Farming

In the American Southwest, states like Arizona and New Mexico are desert. Before these were states, tribes like the Hopi and the Anasazi built homes there. They also farmed on these dry desert lands. Deserts are known for their dry, hot conditions and little rainfall. You might wonder how these Native American tribes were able to successfully grow corn, beans, and squash there.

These tribes had to be very resourceful. Water is scarce in a desert, but crops need water to grow. The Native Americans would practice "dry farming." This type of farming can be done with less than ten inches of rain a year! One way is to create a small field at the base of a **mesa**. A mesa is where the land has been eroded by rainfall and snowfall. The erosion makes a ditch for water to flow down. This would ensure that the crops would get any rain that might fall. Runoff when the snow melted at the end of the winter would also head down the ditch.

Another method was to irrigate, or bring water to their field (waterways) from a spring. The canals would send water to the their digging tools from the natural resources they had. Often, shoulder bone of a large animal, like a buffalo. Planting was done in a fire. Farming was done as a community. Some

After a corn field was harvested, the Native Americans down on the ground. This would enrich the soil. It would also away and collect snow in the winter for moisture. The next field. They would use it the following season instead. Letting called following.

The Hopi still live in the Southwest today. They continue do everything by hand, even though there are modern tools. For the Hopi, farming is not just for food, but it is life. The protect and grow it with prayer.

*mesa a flat, high area of land with very steep sides



SOUTHEASTERN AGRICULTURE

Native American tribes in the Southeast relied on the success of their farms. They fished and hunted for meat. Sometimes they gathered nuts and berries, too, but they mainly depended on agriculture (farming). Tribes like the Seminole, Cherokee, and Chickasaw lived in permanent villages. Many tribes built villages along creeks and rivers. Their corn, beans, squash, potatoes, melons, and tobacco grew well with a water source so close.

Before a field was planted, it would be cleared by cutting down any trees or brush that were in the way. The ashes from

with tools made of stone, fishbone, or wood. Others would use a digging stick to make holes for seeds. They didn't believe any person could own land. The food that was grown belonged to all. After harvesting the crops, the Native Americans would store them. That way their village would have food even in the winter. Corn was stored in "corn cribs," which were raised wooden bins. They had to be high enough that the mice couldn't get into it. Unfortunately, when Europeans began to settle, they would raid the Native American's corn cribs.

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Name: _____ Date: _____
Support your answer to the question with evidence from both texts.

How were the Southwest and Southeast tribes similar?

The response may include, but is not limited to:

Both types of tribes had farms to grow crops. They both grew corn, beans, and squash. Farming was done as a community in all of the tribes. They helped each other. They also used natural resources, like bones and wood, to create tools. They also learned ways to enrich the soil. Southwest tribes allowed their fields to fallow and Southeast tribes burned their fields.

Totem Poles

The Native Americans of the Northwest coast were great storytellers. Some of the stories they told were represented on totem poles. These giant pieces of art were carved out of large cedar trees and often stood outside of their homes.

Characters and events from legends and stories were carved into totem poles. Special gifts that the people had received or traits of the people were also shown on them. No one could tell the story just by looking at the totem pole, though. The story had to be known by heart! Parents would tell the stories to their children, and it would be passed down through each generation of the family.

In the culture of the Northwest coast tribes, animals were symbolic. Each animal represented qualities that were shown in the stories about them, or gifts that had been received. The raven, for example, is known as a trickster. The tales about Raven often show him misbehaving. An eagle is the ruler of the sky. The bear represents a teacher, because in stories about Bear, people learn to fish and find berries. Native Americans viewed Wolf as power and a healer, so someone that could heal people would have a wolf on their totem pole. A hunter would have a whale carved on theirs. A beaver would be displayed for a builder.

The colors of a totem pole were created by mixing different natural resources together. Clay, eggs, roots, juice, algae, berries, and charcoal could be used to make paint. Each color represented qualities and things in nature, too. Yellow symbolized the sun, but also happiness. Green represented trees and mountains. Black was a color that showed power. Blue stood for rivers and lakes. White was the color to show purity and peace. Red stood for blood, bravery, and war. When the totem pole was first painted, it was bright, but after several winters, the colors became faded. They eventually rotted, but new totem poles were always being created. Even today, Northwest tribes still carve them!



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THE RAVEN

ADAPTATION OF AN INUIT LEGEND

The Raven in Alaska was no ordinary bird. He had remarkable powers and could change into whatever form he wished. He could change from a bird to a man. He could swim underwater as fast as any fish.

One day, Raven took the form of a little, bent-over old man to walk through a forest. He had a long white beard and walked slowly. After a while, Raven felt hungry. Just then, he came to the edge of the forest near a village on the beach. There, many people were fishing. In a flash, Raven thought of a scheme. He ran into the sea. He swam to the spot where the fishermen dangled their hooks. Raven pulled from one hook to another, gobbling up their bait. Each time Raven stole bait, the fishermen felt a tug on their lines. When the lines were pulled in, they were always empty. But Raven worked his trick once too often. When one expert fisherman felt a tug, he jerked his line quickly. He'd hooked something heavy. Raven's jaw had caught on the hook! Raven pulled in the opposite direction. His jaw broke off. The fisherman pulled in his line immediately. On his hook was a

man's jaw with a long white beard! It looked horrible enough to scare anyone. All of the fishermen were very frightened. They ran as fast as they could to the chief's house. Raven came out of the water and followed the fishermen. He was in great pain. No one noticed his missing jaw because he covered the lower part of his face with his blanket. The chief and the people studied the jaw that was hanging on the hook. They all handed it to each other. Finally, the jaw came to Raven, who said, "Oh, this is a wonder to behold!" He threw back his blanket and put his jaw back on. Raven performed his magic so quickly that no one had time to see what was happening. He turned himself into a bird and flew out of the chief's house. Only then did the people begin to realize it was the trickster Raven who had stolen their bait. On the totem pole, Raven was carved, not as the old man, but as himself without his beak, like the old man who lost his jaw.



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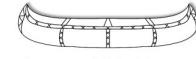
WHALING

Tribes of the Northwest coast and the Arctic hunted and fished for survival. They were expert fishermen, and very skilled with a **harpoon**. The tribes depended on the cedar trees of the land, but also the resources that whales provided. For this reason, the Native Americans had great respect and honor for whales.

Not just anyone could become a whale harpooner. Native Americans believed it took great physical and spiritual strength, so the right to hunt whales had to be earned. Young men would train with expert whale hunters to learn how to find the whales, how to steer through kelp beds and tides, and how to use different harpoons.

Before going whaling, the hunters would follow a ritual. The hunters prepared themselves spiritually for the hunt. They separated themselves from the tribe to pray and cleanse their spirit. After days of this ritual, several men would go out into the ocean in a canoe made from a dug-out cedar tree. Once a whale had been harpooned, it would take hours, or even days, to kill the gigantic mammal. This was the most

*harpoon: a barbed spear attached to a rope used to kill whales
*sinew: a tough tendon that connects muscle to bone



dangerous part of a hunt, because whales could overturn their canoe. The whale would then be brought to shore and everyone in the village would receive its resources, but first, all of the members of the tribe would sing and thank the spirit of the whale for giving itself to their people.

Native Americans never wasted any part of a whale. They used the blubber for oil, the ribs for kayaks, the jaw for tools, and the skin for clothing. They also used the harpoon to make tools.

Use both texts to answer the following questions.

1. Which sentence from **Whaling** best supports the idea that the Native Americans had great respect for whales?
a. "Not just anyone could become a whale harpooner."
b. "Young men would train with expert whale hunters."
c. "Native Americans never wasted any part of an animal they killed."
d. "The sinew was used to make rope."

2. In paragraph 1 of **Hunting Buffalo**, what does *parade* mean?
a. making a tepee
b. moving from place to place
c. hunting buffalo
d. preserving meat over a fire

3. How are the tribes in both texts alike?
a. They only used bows and arrows.
b. They used every part of the animals they killed.
c. They moved their homes to follow the animal they were hunting.
d. The hunter would keep all of the animal for his family.

4. How are the ideas in the third paragraph of **Whaling** organized?
a. in chronological order to tell about a hunt
b. through compare and contrast of types of animals hunted
c. with descriptions of the men that became hunters
d. as a problem/solution to show how whaling helped the community

5. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true?
a. Men had to learn how to hunt large animals from experts.
b. Sinew is strong enough to be used for ropes and weapons.
c. Women of the Plains tribes had important jobs, or roles.
d. Tribes of the Northwest coast moved from place to place to follow the whales.

Hunting Buffalo

Without the buffalo, the Native American tribes that lived in the Plains region might not have survived. They relied on them for food, shelter, and clothing. Because of this dependence, the Plains tribes were nomadic. They traveled from place to place to follow the migrating buffalo.

Since the Plains Native Americans were always moving, they needed a home that could be set up and taken down easily. These homes were called **tepees**. They were one of the many things made from the resources of a buffalo hunt. A tepee is like a cone-shaped tent. It has long wooden poles in the center with buffalo hide (the skin with the hair removed) wrapped around them. When the men spotted buffalo, the women would set up the tepees. The men would hunt with spears or bows and arrows. They never killed more than they needed to survive, and they used and shared every part of the buffalo. This is because they had great respect for all living things.



Use both texts to answer the following questions.

1. Which sentence best states the main idea of **Hunting Buffalo**?
a. The people of the Plains needed the buffalo in order to live.
b. Plains tribes used buffalo hides for clothes and shelter.
c. The women of the Plains were in charge of putting up the tepees.
d. Plains Native Americans ate buffalo meat all year long to survive.

2. In **Whaling**, what natural resource was needed to hunt?
a. oil
b. skin
c. blubber
d. cedar trees

3. How are the ideas in the third paragraph of **Whaling** organized?
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BUY THE BUNDLE & SAVE!

Leveled **GRADES 4-6**
PAIRED TEXTS
FOR AN ENTIRE YEAR!

LEGEND OF LOCHNESS
Could there really be a giant monster lurking in the depths of a Scottish loch? It's possible that in the 19th century, a man named Thomas Monaghan was the first to suggest that there was a monster living in the Loch Ness. He said he was looking at some old maps of the loch and noticed that there was a small island in the middle. He thought that there might be a monster living there. He wrote a book about it and it became a bestseller. The legend of Loch Ness has been around ever since. People still believe that there is a monster living in the loch today.

MEGALODON: NOT A MYTH
Megalodon was a giant shark that lived in the ocean millions of years ago. It was the largest shark that ever lived, and it was much bigger than any shark that lives today. Scientists have found many bones and teeth of megalodon, and they have used these to learn about the shark's life. They have found that megalodon was a fast swimmer and a powerful predator. It was also a very intelligent animal. Scientists believe that megalodon lived in the warm, shallow waters of the tropical seas. It was a very successful predator, and it lived for millions of years. Today, megalodon is extinct, but its legacy lives on in the stories we tell about it.

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Amber S. 5th Grade Teacher