



ZIIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN

High School Hunting & Gathering Exercise

You are about to embark on a journey through time to complete a Hunting and Gathering Exercise at the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways. Your mission is to find as many answers as possible. To accomplish your goal you will have to pay close attention to the exhibits and their text panels. You must also have good listening skills to gather information from the multi-media areas (movies, recordings, and the Anishinabemowin interactive objects). May your eyes be as sharp as our brother, the eagle, and your ears as attentive as our animal relatives for you may be graded by your teacher!

60-69 Points

You are challenged like many of our young animal brothers. (The Box Turtle)

70-79 Points

You have real strength that needs further development. (The Chipmunk)

80-89 Points

You are strong yet at times inattentive. (The White-Tailed Deer)

90-99 Points

Your eyes are sharp and your ears are attentive to details. You walk with pride!
(The Brown Bear)

100 Points

Fly High with pride. You are a gifted listener with a keen eye for details.
(The Golden Eagle)

Hint - The questions tend to go in order of your tour. Stay alert and attentive. Ask questions of our tour guide when clarity is needed!

1. During the time of the Anishinabek Great Walk, what three Indian nations formed the "Three Fires Confederacy"? **3pts**

The Chippewa (Ojibwe), Ottawa, and the Pottawatomi

2. Pick three objects from the exhibit. Identify and explain each one. **6pts**
 - A. **Answers will vary.**
 - B. **Answers will vary.**
 - C. **Answers will vary.**
3. List three tools used by the Anishinabek. What materials were used to make the tool, and how was it used? **6pts**

Answers will vary. Anishinabek used stone tools in many of their daily activities. Stone tools were used as hide scrapers, axes, mortars, and Arrowheads. Many of the drills and knives were razor sharp.

4. Many Anishinabe leaders felt coerced, threatened, and tricked into signing unfair treaties. Whom did they feel misled them? **2pts**

Treaties were made with the French, English and the American Colonial government. Tribal leaders were often threatened, given presents, and supplied with liquor by Europeans during treaty negotiations. They were often told treaties were just a formality as the Americans felt they had already won the rights to our land through conquest.

5. Explain one of the prophecies you have learned about. (Prophecies 1 - 5) **3pts**

Answers will vary. The first prophecy told the Anishinabek to follow the direction of the setting sun for their survival. The Megis shell (Cowrie) would appear at seven places on the great walk and lead the people to a new home where food grows on the water. The second prophecy said the Anishinabek would camp by a large body of water. The path of the Megis shell and the spiritual strength of the people would become lost. A special boy would be born to lead the people on the Great Walk. The Third prophecy foretold great hope and anticipation. The Megis shell would lead the Anishinabek to their new home, to the places where food grows on the water. The Fourth Fire's prophets told the Anishinabek that light skinned people would come over the great salt water in big trees pulled by billowing white clouds. The faces of the light-skinned people would tell the future. Some faces would show brotherhood, peace, and wonderful changes for many years. Others would wear false faces hiding the hunger for the land. The fifth prophecy said the light skinned people would bring promises of joy and salvation. Those who accepted the promises would abandon the old ways and each other for a new way of life.

6. What prophecy described the coming of the light-skinned ones? **1 pt**

The Fourth Prophecy foretold the coming of the light-skinned people.

7. Describe what happened to the environment as settlers moved into "Indian Country". How did this change the lifestyle of the Anishinabek, and their quality of life? **5pts**

The farming and lumbering industry of the Great Lakes began the destruction of the land and waters. Many of the animals that once roamed freely in the forests of the Great Lakes became scarce due to these changes. The loss of habitat endangered many animals, plants and trees. Birch, Black Ash, White Pine, Elm, and Cedar trees that were abundant are now scarce. Sweetgrass, has virtually disappeared from Michigan. The wolverine, pine martin, Grayling fish, sturgeon, and elk scarcely inhabit the once great forests and waterways of the Great Lakes. Even today beaver, black bears, bobcats, eagles, lynx, mink, and wolves are still trying to recover their populations.

The numerous environmental changes resulted in the loss of our natural food source which was also our source for tools, cordage, lodge covering, and

8. A third to half of the Anishinabe population was decimated by illnesses that threatened their existence. What illnesses befell the Anishinabek? **2pts**

Many diseases like smallpox affected the Anishinabek. The American Indians' immune systems and medicines could not fight these new illnesses. Tuberculosis and influenza were also rampant. Whole villages were ravaged by disease and death. Many children were orphaned and left to die. One third to one half of the Anishinabek died.

9. Explain the following quote;

“When we were taught the white way at school”. **2pts**

Boarding schools were established to educate, acculturate and assimilate the Anishinabek into white culture. Anishinabe children were removed from their families when they were around five or six years old. Children were taught Christianity and were forbidden to speak their native language. They were forced to march like soldiers. Because of this many children forgot their traditions and language.

10. Why did American Indians consider Government and Missionary Schools destructive to their way of life? **3pts**

Because boarding schools were established to educate, acculturate and assimilate the Anishinabek, many children forgot their traditions and assimilated to the American culture. The effects of the boarding school are still felt many generations later. Some American Indians never learned parenting skills due to family disruption. Numerous instances of abuse also took place in boarding schools. Because they were never truly accepted in white culture no matter how well they assimilated, and because they had lost much of their traditional knowledge, many felt isolated and unaccepted in both white and Native American societies.

11. How many years did the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School operate? Each year they had an average enrollment of 300 students. How many lives did they influence? **2pts**

The Mount Pleasant Boarding School was open from 1893 until 1933 (40 years). It impacted close to 12,000 Native Children. (40 x 300 =12,000)

12. The Sixth Prophecy states that many Anishinabek would turn their back on the old ways. Many would discourage their children from learning their traditions. Why would parents choose not to teach their children about their culture, language, and family traditions? Explain. (Hint-emotions) **3pts**

Anishinabek were taught in boarding schools and church that their culture and customs were useless, out dated and even devil worship. Many Anishinabek accepted the promise of joy and salvation and therefore discouraged their children from leaning the old ways and speaking their language.

13. Explain the term, “Blood Memory”. What prophecy does it support? Why is “Blood Memory” considered important to the Anishinabek? **3pts**

Blood Memory is the connection that all people have to their spirituality, ancestors and all of creation. Blood memory is described as how Anishinabek feel when we hear the drum or the language for the first time. The seventh prophecy

says that new people will rise up and the Anishinabek nation will be reborn. The new people will seek knowledge from the elders and rekindle the old ways.

14. Write the Anishinabemowin (Ojibwe word) for the following English Words: **5pts**

Water	Nibi
Tree	Mtig
Crane	Ajjaak
Paper	Mzinigan
Eagle	Migizi

15. Why is our traditional language important? What do the Anishinabek believe about their language? **2pts**

Anishinabek believe that their language was a gift from the creator. Anishinabemowin, the language of the Anishinabek, is a rich and descriptive language. It is comprised mostly of verbs. It is rich in detail and beautifully expressive. Mainly elders are fluent and the younger generations are trying to learn.

16. Our traditional language has been lost to many. What measures have the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe taken to revitalize their language in the community? **2pts**

The effects of colonization are evident in that many Anishinabek cannot speak their language. Many reservations have language camps to promote the Anishinabemowin language. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is revitalizing language by offering many programs for families to re-learn the language. Some of these programs include instruction in Anishinabemowin at the Saginaw Chippewa Academy (the tribal K-6 grade school), the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, and the Sasiwaans Immersion School (Pre-school through Kindergarten).

17. What kind of tree did/do the Anishinabek use for making baskets? How does this art form involve a great knowledge of science and promote the family structure? **3pts**

The Black Ash (Wiisagaak) was used to make baskets. It was/is a complex and time consuming process that required families working together, and knowledge of the environment. Families would gather together, make many baskets and then sell them. Men would be responsible for cutting down the tree and bringing it to the house. The bark would be peeled off and pounding would begin; this process was done by all family members. Splints would be refined by shaving, smoothing and even dyeing. The finished splints would be woven into baskets. To make a basket as an individual the time and energy spent would be great, but by sharing the work as a family, with everyone having a job, the load was lightened. Basket making became a way to make a living for many of the Great Lakes Anishinabek.

18. What cultural role do the youth of the Saginaw Chippewa community play? **2pts**

The youth are an important part of the Saginaw Chippewa Community as they are the future of the tribe. The tribe depends on its youth for strength and

determination to continue on for the next generation. The elders teach the young ones, and one day the young ones will be elders and take over the teaching role.

19. Explain some of the social and community programs offered today by the Saginaw Chippewa government for their community members: **2pts**
The tribe offers many programs for its members. They have a tribal school, libraries, Parks and Recreation (that facilitate sports programs and a gym), a medical center, and many other programs. In addition, the tribe has its own fire and police station. There is also the Elijah Elk/Seventh Generation program, a program that teaches many different aspects of living a traditional lifestyle. Programs are intended to instill a strong Anishinabe identity, encourage a positive lifestyle, and bring the community together.
20. Explain why the Anishinabe believe it is important to keep their language alive. What does the term, “a living language,” mean? **3pts**
Living language means that people actively speak and use the language daily. A language must be spoken for it to be alive. The Anishinabe believe that their language is important because it is part of their history, culture, and identity, and because it gives them their own way of talking about and thinking about the world. Our language is also important as it is the language given to us by the creator. Anishinabemowin, our language, hold many deep cultural teachings and values of how we are all connected in the universe. We are encouraged to use our language when saying our prayers or when speaking to the creator.
21. The Anishinabek form of government has evolved since making treaties with the U.S. government. How did they govern themselves before and after the Treaty Era? (Hint- powers, levels of government, and roles) **5pts**
The first people were self governing and independent from each other. Tribes now work together to maintain our way of life and fight for our sovereignty.
Today we have an adopted Constitution and elected governmental officials.
22. The Council for the Iroquois Confederacy played an influential role in the formation of the new governmental system of the United States of America. Who studied and recommended usage of the Iroquois’ form of government? Explain the contributions made by the Iroquois’ government to the United States democratic governmental system. **5pts**
Benjamin Franklin used the Iroquois Confederacy’s method of consensus and decision-making to form the foundations of democracy for the United States Government. The U.S. Constitution is also heavily influenced by Benjamin Franklin’s experiences with our councils.
23. Why are American Indian Tribes considered “Nations within Nations?” What protects their rights? **3pts**
Article 1: Section 8 of the U. S. Constitution outlines the Power of the U.S. Congress “to regulate commerce with foreign Nations, and among the

several States and with the Indian Tribes”. It upholds the status of tribes as having a “nation to nation” relationship with the United States Government.

24. In what year and by what Act did American Indians receive recognition as official U.S. citizens? In your opinion what does this imply about the opinions and attitudes of United States society and government towards American Indians? **3pts**

American Indians were not recognized as citizens of the United States until 1924 and were prohibited from practicing their religious ways until 1978. The American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 allowed them to legally practice their religious beliefs.

Opinions will vary.

25. What rights exist for today’s Anishinabe? What do tribal nations mean when they state that **Sovereignty** has given them inherent rights? Explain: **3pts**

Sovereignty is the inherent right of tribes to make decisions and/or govern themselves, and is not granted by the U.S. Government. American Indians have always been separate from the United States Government and have always had sovereignty.

Anishinabek have the right to elect their own tribal officials, and set the structure of tribal government. They also have other rights afforded to them through sovereignty, or treaties. Many of the rights of tribes must be fought for on a regular basis like their hunting and fishing rights.

26. Like most other nations, The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan faces numerous challenges. What is one of the main challenges facing the tribe in the next twenty years and into the next generation? **2pts**

Answers will vary, but possible answers could include: language preservation, sovereignty issues, tribal boundary issues, and continuance of gaming.

27. Explain the Seventh Prophecy. **2pts**

The seventh prophet warned about a choice between two paths that all people would need to decide on during the time of the seventh fire. One path would lead to the eighth and final fire, an eternal fire of peace. The other path would lead to the destruction of all living things. One path is said to represent compassion and the other desecration.

28. What are the Seven Grandfather Teachings of the Anishinabek? **7pts**

The Seven Grandfather Teachings are Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility, Wisdom, and Truth.

29. Pick one of the Seven Grandfather Teachings and compare it to a similar value or concept that you have been taught by your family or community. **5pts**

Answers will vary.

30. Explain one fact or item you learned on your tour today that was a “Wow, I didn’t know that!” moment for you. **3pts**

Answers will vary.

31. Explain what part of your tour you enjoyed the most and why?

2pts

Answers will vary.

Name: _____

Score: _____ / _____