

Did you know... that you are on an American Indian reservation? You are officially on the Isabella Indian Reservation which belongs to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Nation, or Saginaw Ojibwe People. The reservation lands are made up of 138,240 acres (216 square miles), which covers about 6 townships. Today, there are approximately 1,800 acres of land that are in “trust” and owned by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe. There are 700 acres of “allotted” lands that still belong to the heirs of the original descendants that those allotments were given to the lands in signing since part of those also belong to the Isabella Reservation. Also, it would be more accurate to say that the reservation was set aside by treaties of 1855 and 1864 for the Saginaw, Swan Creek, and Black River Bands, collectively (and officially) known as the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Diba Jimooyung (Telling Our Story) Permanent Exhibit

You are about to embark on a journey through time to complete a Scavenger Hunt 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 your tour guide and the exhibits. You will also have to have good listening skills to gather some information from the multi-media areas (theatres, recordings, and interactive language areas). 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.

1. Did the Ojibwe have a form of writing? What form(s) of writing was used, and what did they write on? (example: pictographs/petroglyphs)

2. What type of material can be used to cover lodges, made into containers, and used to make canoes? _____

3. Describe the musical instrument that you come across in the beginning of the exhibit and what types of materials are used to create it.

4. What similarities did you notice in the Creation Theatre to other Creation stories you may know of? _____

5. What do the four colors (red, white, black, yellow) represent?

6. What is one thing you found out about wigwams/teaching lodges?

7. What does “pre-contact” mean?

8. What is “pre-contact” clothing of Ojibwe (Chippewa) peoples made out of?

9. What types of food did Ojibwe (Chippewa) peoples eat & depend on before European contact? _____

10. How did Ojibwe (Chippewa) peoples travel before European contact?

11. What do you see were some of the roles of women in Ojibwe (Chippewa) culture?

12. What are the “Three Fires” of Michigan?

13. Where did the basic necessities for life come from?

14. What did Europeans introduce to American Indians that may have made life easier for them? _____

15. What was one way in which Ojibwe (Chippewa) people decorated their clothing? _____

16. What area were the Saginaw Ojibwe (Chippewa) peoples originally located in before being moved to today’s reservation?

17. In the year 1830, the map shows you that Michigan had over 100 American Indian villages. True or False

18. What do you notice about the clothing on the two mannequins (male & female) in the showcase? _____

19. What is a “treaty”? _____

20. Name three items that were used in exchange for land?

21. What were some positive effects for American Indian peoples in attending “Indian Boarding/Governmental/Residential” schools?

22. What were some negative effects for American Indian peoples attending “Indian Boarding/Governmental/Residential” schools?

23. What artifact in the “Missionary/Christianity” showcase is from 1844?

24. American Indian peoples were forced to learn and accept Christianity as their own beliefs. True or False

25. What does the drum beat represent during a song?

26. Where did American Indian peoples get glass beads from?

27. What was used before the introduction of glass beads?

28. What do you notice about Anishinabemowin (Ojibwe language)?

29. What material was used to make baskets?

30. Why did American Indian peoples make baskets?

31. Why are the youth important?

32. How is a reservation similar to a town or city?

33. What do you like best about the Veteran's display?

34. What tribal group did Benjamin Franklin study?

35. What year did it become okay for American Indian peoples to practice their religion/spirituality? _____

36. What year did Native peoples become official U.S. citizens? _____

37. What did you learn from watching the "Eyawiiyang" (Who We Are) video/theatre presentation? _____

38. Why is the tribal flag sitting next to the U.S flag? _____

39. What is one of the treaty rights of American Indians? _____

40. What is considered a business/corporation that belongs to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Nation and its members? _____

41. What are the Seven Grandfather Teachings? _____

Congratulations! You have completed the Ziibiwing Center's Scavenger Hunt dedicated to helping you achieve your "American Indian Culture" Merit Badge.