The Navajo Tribe

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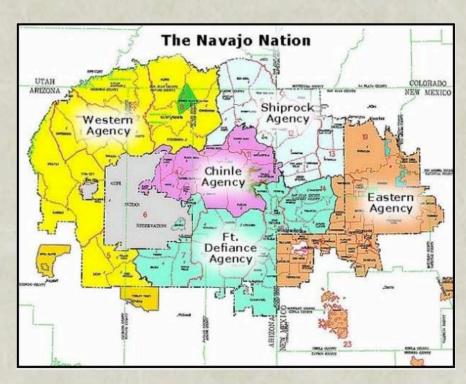
English Language Arts 3

Period 4

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Location

* The Navajo Tribe covers the corners of three states: Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah.



* The Navajo reservation covered 27,673 square miles in the United States of America.

The Trail of Tears

* In the 1860s, more than 10,000 Navajos and other tribes were forced to marched to the reservation in eastern New Mexico called Bosque Redondo.

*They were force to leave their home land and leave everything behind. *As they marched to their new reservation, they cried along and called it the Trail of Tears.



Navajo Housing



Past

- * Navajo Indians lived in homes called Hogans, they were made from wooden poles, tree bark, and mud.
- Navajo tugs are weaved by grandmothers, they usually have a small flaw at the final so evil spirits have a way to escape.
- * The Navajo language was not only used to help keep the Navajo culture but it was used to code in the U.S Army with the Japanese during World War II.

Present

- Navajo children are now raised on the reservations and they continue to herd sheep and livestock.
- * Children are able to go to schools but many have to be send to boarding school depending the location of the school.
- * The Navajo now are distance from each others houses compared to the past they used to be always together as a family.

Navajo Food Habits

Past

- * The Navajo tribe would plant fields of corns, beans, squash and they also practice hunting.
- * They would cook over fire because they were no stove by then.

Present

- * The grandmother was able to past to the next generations the dishes so they don't lose the food recipes from back then.
- * Food means a lot to the culture, it thanks and greets visitors.



Working Habits



Past

- * Women would shave the goats fur to make coats and clothing for them.
- * Men would go fishing or hunting to get the food so they would be able to eat.
- * Women would also wove rugs and baskets.

Present

- * Now the woven rugs are purchased by visitors that come and visit the tribe.
- * Many of the artifacts that they used to make by hand are now in the museums.



Navajo Religion

- * The Navajo tribe doesn't really have a specific religion.
- * They worship the winds, watercourses, sun, and a number of gods that they believe intervene in human affairs.
- * Navajo people do ceremonies and offer dances to gods.
- * They believe that there are two types of beings, the earth people and the holy people.



Navajo Present Religion

- * Now, the Navajo tribe have most of their beliefs as a religion.
- *There might be some changes because now they have like a government to take care of there nation.



*They have a president, vice president and a chief justice.

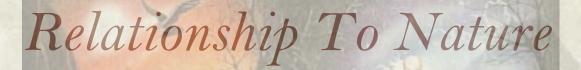
Navajo Belief

Their way of life is based on a belief that the physical and spiritual world blend together, and everything on earth is alive and sacred.

The Navajo people have two major kinds of ceremonies:

* Blessing way, which is to keep them on the path of happiness and wisdom.

*Enemy way, which is to eliminate ghosts and discourage evil spirits.



- * Navajo people care a lot about nature because they believe that everything in the world is sacred.
- * They believe in nature because they heal with ceremonies and Navajo medicine (herbs).
- * They focus to maintain harmony and balance on Mother Earth.
- * The Father Sky and the Mother Earth are very sacred to the Navajo and also other kinds of elements like plants, water and fire.

What we can learn from them

* We can learn that the Navajo tribe is unique and that they survive only with the needed necessities.

* They are very caring for what they have and they do ceremonies for every need or to thank nature for what they have.

* We can also learn how they are devoted to the Heavens, Earth and other elements.