

When Captain John Smith came to the New World, some important tribes were the Apaches, the Comanches, the Hurons, the Mohicans, the Navajos and the Sioux. At first the Indians were friendly with the white settlers. They taught the settlers how to grow crops. They also taught them how to live in the wilderness. The white settlers brought the Indians weapons and tools. Soon the settlers wanted to take the Indians' land. Many settlers came to America and they wanted land. The Indians didn't want to lose their land. The Indian wars began. Many people were killed.

Finally in the 1890s the Indian wars ended. The Indians lost their land. America was now the land of the white settlers. Today American Indians live on reservations.¹



A group of warrior chiefs from the Nez Perce tribe.

1. reservations : U.S. Government land that was given to the Indians.

1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.

- a. The American Indians came from Eastern Europe about 40,000 years ago. T F
- b. The first Indians hunted wild animals.
- c. American Indians lived in small families.
- d. The Indians painted pictures on trees.
- e. The Indians loved and respected nature and animals.
- f. The wigwam and the tepee were Indian homes.
- g. The Indians used bows and arrows, spears, knives and tomahawks to hunt and fight.
- h. The Apaches, the Comanches and the Mohicans were not important tribes.
- i. The settlers took the Indians' land.
- j. Today American Indians live on reservations.

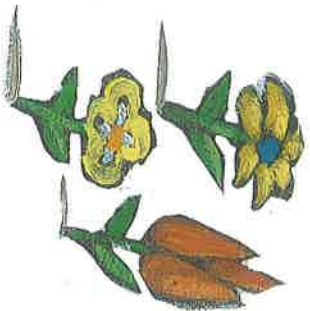
2 Odd one out!

Circle the word that doesn't belong.

- a. Indian English Spanish pictures French
- b. Asia ~~China~~ America Europe Africa
- c. ~~tomhawk~~ Navajo Sioux Mohican Apache
- d. tepee totem poles pueblo longhouse wigwam
- e. hunter warrior farmer ~~tepee~~ explorer

3 Now use the odd words to fill in the gaps.

- a. Some Indians put big tepees outside their longhouses
- b. Indians hunted animals.
- c. The Indians loved and respected nature.
- d. The tepee was used to hunt and fight.
- e. Indians often decorated their tepees with colorful pictures.



Pocahontas Falls in Love

After many months, Pocahontas met John Rolfe. He was a young tobacco farmer. John Rolfe was very kind to her. She loved him and he loved her. They were very happy together.

John Rolfe wanted to marry Pocahontas. But Pocahontas wanted to speak to her father first.

One day Pocahontas and John Rolfe went to visit Powhatan. The great chief was pleased to see his daughter.

"Father, this is John Rolfe. I met him in Jamestown. He is a very kind person. I love him and I'm going to marry him."

"You are a young woman now, Pocahontas. It is time for you to marry the man you love." Powhatan embraced his daughter and John.

"Great chief, I love your daughter and I want to take care of her," said John Rolfe.

Pocahontas falls in Love

In April 1614, Pocahontas married John Rolfe in the Anglican Church. She was the first American Indian to marry a white man. Pocahontas wore a beautiful white dress. She had flower in her hair. She and John Rolfe laughed and danced on this special day. All the people in Jamestown celebrated the marriage. There were great festivities with music and dancing. Nantaquas and many other Indians came to celebrate. At the wedding many white men and Indians. They were all good friends. They sat around a long table. There were all types of good food to eat. Pocahontas' marriage brought peace to the colony.

1. wedding meal : lunch dinner after a marriage



Pocahontas



the Virginia Colony. The colony began to grow.

Soon after their marriage, Pocahontas and John went to London. Pocahontas was surprised to see many new things in England. In London she wore beautiful English clothes. Everyone wanted to meet her. She met the most important people of London. She even met King James I! Everyone loved the Indian princess.

In London Pocahontas met John Smith again after many years! This was a wonderful surprise. They talked about their adventures in Jamestown.

Pocahontas and John Rolfe had a son. They were very happy. They called him Thomas. After Thomas' birth, Pocahontas became very ill. She died in England in 1617, at the age of 21. This was a tragic event. Many people mourned her. ¹ They remembered the courageous Indian princess.

Young Thomas was educated in Britain by his uncle Henry Rolfe. John Rolfe was heartbroken. ² He didn't want to live in Britain. He returned to Virginia to grow tobacco. He became an important tobacco farmer. He had a very big tobacco plantation.

When Thomas Rolfe was an adult, he left Britain. He went to America to visit his mother's land. He met his mother's tribe. He liked the New World and remained there. In 1788 the Virginia Colony became a state of the United States.

There are still descendants of Thomas Rolfe, Pocahontas' son, in Virginia today.

1. mourned her : cried and were very sad after her death.

2. heartbroken : very, very sad.



In Virginia today there is the Pocahontas State Park. The beautiful park was named after Pocahontas. There is also a museum dedicated to the Indian princess.

There are many excellent colleges and universities in this beautiful state.

1 You have the answers. Now ask the questions.

- a. Q: Virginia become a state in the 17th century?
A: No, it didn't.
- b. Q: many people live in Virginia?
A: Five million people live in Virginia.
- c. Q: Roanoke the capital of Virginia?
A: No, it isn't.
- d. Q: Washington the first president of the United States?
A: Yes, he was.
- e. Q: there a state park named after Pocahontas?
A: Yes, there is.

PROJECT ON THE WEB

LET'S FIND OUT MORE ABOUT POCAHONTAS AND THE OTHER CHARACTERS OF THE STORY!

Your teacher will help you find the correct Web site. Work in groups and answer these questions.

- a. What was Pocahontas' real name?
- b. Did any of the other characters have different names? What were they?
- c. How many wives did Chief Powhatan have?
- d. What can you find out about John Rolfe?
- e. Can you find other information about Pocahontas and her times?
- f. What differences are there between the story you read and the information on the Web site?



Four Faces of Pocahontas

Source of Source: [http://www.pocahontas.net/](#)

Many different depictions of Pocahontas exist today. Pictured clockwise from top left: *Mayo's Sun Horse* (1990), *Robert Matthew Smith* (1850), *Thomas Smith* (1852), *John Leon Ferris* (c. 1921) courtesy of William E. Ryder and the [Virginia Historical Society](#).

According to Native American lore, her parents knew her as "Amonté" and her secret clan name was "Matoaca." Her European Christian friends called her "Lady Rebecca. Many have revered her as the "mother" of our nation, the female counterpart to George Washington. We know her as Pocahontas, legendary Indian princess, daughter of the mighty Chief Powhatan.

Four hundred years ago the lived part of her life in what is present-day Henrico County. Pocahontas forever influenced the history of the Colony, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and America. It is her image that graces the [Henrico seal and flag](#).

Pocahontas' father, Chief Powhatan of the Algonquian Nation, ruled a confederacy of Powhatan Indian tribes in Henrico and eastern Virginia. A hunting party captured Captain John Smith in 1607 west of Jamestown along the Chickahominy River. Captain Smith later wrote that he was taken to Powhatan and sentenced to death. In the "General History" published in 1624, Smith described the controversial rescue by Pocahontas:

"Having feasted him . . . a long consultation was held, but the conclusion was, two great arrows were straight begun. Powhatan, then as many as could lay hands on him, dragged him to them, and then laid the neck and being ready with their clubs to smite out the brains, Pocahontas, that American girl, put his hand in her arms, and did her own upon him to save him, from death, whereas the Emperor [Powhatan] was contented he should live to make him his wife, and she his daughter."

Even though relations between the Indians and the settlers were hostile at times, Pocahontas and John Smith maintained a friendly relationship. In 1608 Pocahontas may have saved Smith's life a second time with her warning that Powhatan again wanted him put to death.

Pocahontas was kidnaped by the settlers in 1613. She was betrayed by two Indians for a copper kettle and lived onto a ship in the Potomac River. She was brought to Jamestown and used as a political pawn in negotiations with her father. During this time she was taken to the [Church of England](#) for religious instruction. Pocahontas became the first Native American in Virginia to convert to Christianity. She was baptized an Anglican and given the name Rebecca.