

## Mitchell Museum Education Task Force Curriculum Overview

### Environment and Resources

| K-2   | 3-5   | 6-8   | 9-12  |
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| <p>✓ <b>What are the major geographical regions in which American Indians lived?</b></p> <p>--What are the biomes of North America?</p> <p>✓ <b>How did American Indians in each region meet their fundamental needs? (food, clothing, shelter, transportation, medicine and agricultural methods)</b></p> <p>--What are the differences between needs and wants?</p> <p>--What are your needs?</p> <p>--What are the regional ways in which American Indians met their basic needs?</p> <p>--What are the similarities and differences among regions?</p> <p>--What are some of the ways in which traditional Native practices are still used to meet the needs of all people today?</p> | <p>✓ <b>What happened in Illinois during the most recent Ice Age?</b></p> <p>-- What were the physical features of Illinois prior to European contact?</p> <p>✓ <b>How have cultures lived in Illinois since the most recent Ice Age?</b></p> <p>--What innovations determine the emergence of each of the following archaeological periods: Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland, Mississippian, Proto-historic and Historic?</p> <p>--What evidence is there that Cahokia is considered to be the largest "city" in North America 1000 years ago? What are some of the explanations for its demise?</p> <p>✓ <b>How did the Potawatomi (or another historic Illinois Indian tribe) live in this region and how did they manage, share and/or compete for resources with other tribes?</b></p> <p>--How were the rivers, woodlands and grasslands important to them?</p> <p>-- Why were the Chicago Portage and Lake Michigan considered strategic by explorers Marquette and Jolliet?</p> | <p>✓ <b>How did the arrival of Europeans increase the competition for resources between the Potawatomi (or another historic Illinois Indian tribe) and other Great Lakes Indians?</b></p> <p>--How were the Potawatomi involved in the fur trade with the French?</p> <p>--When the British defeated the French in 1763, how were the Potawatomi affected?</p> <p>--What was the role of the Potawatomi in the American Revolution?</p> <p>--What was the Potawatomi role in the War of 1812?</p> <p>--How were the Potawatomi affected when the Americans defeated the British in the War of 1812?</p> | <p>✓ <b>What are some of the resource rights guaranteed to American Indians by treaties?</b></p> <p>--How does the "reserved rights doctrine" apply to Indian nations?</p> <p>--What are water rights?</p> <p>--What are mineral rights?</p> <p>--What are land use rights?</p> <p>--Why is the court case, the <i>United States v. Winans</i>, 198 U.S. 371, 25 S. Ct. 662, 49 L. Ed. 1089 (1905), important in terms of Indian resource rights?</p> <p>✓ <b>Which of these resource rights issues continue to be a problem today?</b></p> |

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|  | <p>✓ <b>What were some of the other tribes that lived in Illinois during the past 400 years?</b></p> <p>--What were the factors that influenced their movement to other areas?</p> |  |  |
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## Culture and Diversity

| K-2  | 3-5  | 6-8  | 9-12  |
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| <p>✓ <b>How did Great Lakes Indians develop a distinct culture in the past? (crafts, games, teaching stories)</b></p> <p>--Who are some of the Native people of the Great Lakes?</p> <p>--What are some of their traditional games?</p> <p>--What are their traditional crafts?</p> <p>--What was their music like?</p> <p>--What are some traditional teaching stories, such as origin stories?</p> <p>✓ <b>In what ways do contemporary Great Lakes Indians follow tradition?</b></p> <p>--Why are elders important?</p> <p>--How do Native children learn their language today?</p> <p>--What is a pow-wow?</p> <p>--Who are some contemporary Great Lakes Native artists and musical performers?</p> | <p>✓ <b>How did the Potawatomi (or one of the other Illinois Indian tribes) traditionally organize their society to govern, resolve their differences and take care of the welfare of the group?</b></p> <p>--What is a clan system?</p> <p>--What kinds of tribal leaders did they have?</p> <p>--How did someone become a tribal leader?</p> <p>--What were the responsibilities of tribal leaders?</p> <p>--How were decisions for the group made? What issues did they make decisions about?</p> <p>--Did this structure change after European contact?</p> <p>✓ <b>How do Great Lakes tribal governments function today?</b></p> <p>--Compare the Menominee government with one other Great Lakes tribal government.</p> <p>--How are they the same?</p> <p>--How are they different?</p> <p>--What differences, if any, are there from pre-contact types of tribal government?</p> | <p>✓ <b>What is sovereignty and how does it apply to American Indians?</b></p> <p>--What is the definition of sovereignty?</p> <p>--How and when did Indian tribes become sovereign nations?</p> <p>--In what way did the <i>Cherokee Nation vs. Georgia</i> (1831) and <i>Worcester vs. Georgia</i> (1833) court cases redefine sovereignty?</p> <p>--In what areas of their lives are American Indian nations sovereign? In what areas are they not?</p> <p>✓ <b>How does sovereignty help Great Lakes nations meet the needs of their people today?</b></p> <p>Study one nation to determine</p> <p>--How are land and resources managed?</p> <p>--How are programs necessary for people's survival developed?</p> <p>--How is land managed within traditional ideas? (such as the Menominee forest).</p> <p>--How do traditional rights to fish, hunt, and use land resources develop the economic resources of the tribe?</p> <p>--Does your researched tribe have gaming rights? How do these rights benefit the people?</p> | <p>✓ <b>What are contemporary issues that reflect the importance of culture to American Indians living today?</b></p> <p>--What is the NAGPRA (Native American Graves and Repatriation) Act? Why is it important?</p> <p>--How does NAGPRA affect museums?</p> <p>--What are treaty rights and why are they important to American Indian culture today?</p> <p>--Why was the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 so important?</p> <p>--How was it amended in 1994?</p> <p>--What is Pan- Indianism and how does it affect particular Indian cultures?</p> <p>--What is cultural property? How has the appropriation of cultural ceremonies hurt Indian culture?</p> <p>✓ <b>How are cultural beliefs reflected in American Indian fine arts today?</b></p> |

### Adaptation and Change

| K-2  | 3-5   | 6-8   | 9-12  |
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| <p>✓ <b>How did American Indians give thanks in everyday life?</b></p> <p>--How did warriors prepare for hunts and/or battles?</p> <p>--How did the people honor natural resources?</p> <p>✓ <b>How did American Indians communally give thanks throughout the year prior to European arrival?</b></p> <p>--What were some of the common times of the year that were celebrated?</p> | <p>✓ <b>What was the impact of Christopher Columbus' arrival on the Indians of the Americas?</b></p> <p>--How did disease affect the Indians?</p> <p>--How did slavery affect the Indians?</p> <p>--How did Indians respond to European contact?</p> <p>✓ <b>What is today's perspective on the history and celebration of Columbus Day?</b></p> <p>--How, when and why was Columbus Day established as a federal holiday?</p> <p>--Why have some schools, states and countries stopped celebrating and/or renamed Columbus Day?</p> <p>✓ <b>What was the impact of the Pilgrims on the Indians of New England?</b></p> <p>--Why did Massasoit befriend the Europeans?</p> <p>--How did disease affect the New England Indian population?</p> <p>--How did the Pilgrims use war against the Pequots as means of acquiring more land?</p> <p>--What was King Philip's War? Explain how it was fought, from the Indian perspective and the Pilgrim perspective.</p> | <p>✓ <b>What were the interactions of colonial and territorial governments with American Indians?</b></p> <p>Choose an Illinois tribe to research.</p> <p>--How did the English, French, Spanish and Dutch colonial governments ally themselves with your tribe?</p> <p>--Conversely, how did your tribe ally itself with these governments?</p> <p>--Was your tribe always allied with the same government?</p> <p>--Was your tribe involved in any resistance against these governments?</p> <p>✓ <b>How was the U.S. Constitution affected by the government established by the Iroquois Confederacy?</b></p> <p>✓ <b>How did United States' Federal Indian policy change over time?</b></p> <p>--What is a treaty? Choose one tribe and analyze the treaties that were made with it.</p> <p>How were American Indians affected by federal Indian policies during:</p> <p>--The Treaty Era (1776-1820s)?</p> <p>--The Removal Era (1820s-1850s)?</p> | <p>✓ <b>How did the so-called Five Civilized tribes try to incorporate formalized schooling in order to cooperate with the U.S government?</b></p> <p>--How did they educate children before formal schools?</p> <p>--What was the result of their effort to adapt to formal education?</p> <p>✓ <b>How, when and why did the U.S. boarding school policy for American Indians originate?</b></p> <p>--What happened to American Indian children in boarding schools?</p> <p>--How did this policy affect American Indian families and their culture?</p> <p>✓ <b>How did the Relocation Act affect the people moving to Chicago from reservations nationwide?</b></p> <p>--What cultural and political organizations did they create to cope with their new lifestyle?</p> <p>✓ <b>How did the Indian Child Welfare Act (1978) affect Indian families?</b></p> |

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|  | <p>--What happened to the land as Pilgrims settled more and more area? How was the Indians' life changed?</p> <p>✓ <b>What is today's perspective on the history and celebration of Thanksgiving?</b></p> <p>--How was the national holiday of Thanksgiving established? How was Abraham Lincoln involved?</p> <p>--How do we know what we know about Thanksgiving?</p> <p>--What is the Native American perspective about Thanksgiving?</p> <p>--What is the "national day of mourning" and how did it begin?</p> | <p>--The Reservation Era (1850s-1887)?</p> <p>-- The Allotment and Assimilation Era (1887-1934)?</p> <p>--The Indian Reorganization Era (1934-1940s)?</p> <p>--The Termination and Relocation Era (1940s-1962)?</p> <p>--The Self-Determination Era (1962-Present)?</p> <p>--Has the U.S. government lived up to its treaty obligations?</p> <p>✓ <b>How did these policies specifically affect the Potawatomi over time?</b></p> <p>--What were Potawatomi relations with the new U.S. government?</p> <p>--How did treaties between 1803–1809, including the Treaty of Fort Wayne, erode the Potawatomi land base in Illinois and Indiana?</p> <p>--How did the 1833 Treaty of Chicago affect the Potawatomi?</p> <p>--What is the Potawatomi Trail of Death?</p> <p>--What happened to the Potawatomi in terms of changing U.S. policy from 1833 to present?</p> |  |
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## Discrimination and Conflict

| K-2   | 3-5  | 6-8  | 9-12   |
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| <p>✓ <b>Teacher-led discussion of preconceived notions and tolerance</b> (<i>see source list for read-aloud materials and visuals to facilitate this discussion</i>):</p> <p>--What words come to mind when you hear "American Indian"?</p> <p>--How do you know these things? Where did you get these ideas?</p> <p>--How would you feel if these words were used about you?</p> <p>--How would you know if someone was an American Indian?</p> <p>✓ <b>How can we be respectful toward people of every culture?</b></p> | <p>✓ <b>How have images throughout popular culture contributed to the stereotypes and prejudice directed against American Indians?</b></p> <p>--What is a stereotype? What is prejudice?</p> <p>--What are some of the advertising images used over the years that Native people might feel are offensive?</p> <p>--What about images in children's books and cartoons?</p> <p>--What words or phrases might be offensive?</p> <p>--For what purpose(s) have these images and words been used over the years?</p> <p>--How do you feel when derogatory words or images are used about your ethnic or cultural background?</p> <p>--What are some things you can do to remind others to treat Native people the way you would want to be treated?</p> | <p>✓ <b>Why do American Indians protest against using their images as mascots, particularly for sports teams? (e.g. Chief Illiniwek, Washington Redskins)</b></p> <p>--Do mascots show positive qualities of Indians?</p> <p>--Do mascots promote real knowledge of American Indian culture?</p> <p>--Why could mascots be considered racist?</p> <p>--Why do people insist on keeping offensive mascots?</p> <p>--Are there any ways that mascots could be dignified, respectful, and educational? How?</p> | <p>✓ <b>What is genocide?</b></p> <p>--What accounts for the fact that, from the discovery of the Americas to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the American Indian population declined by from 70 to 90%?</p> <p>--Was the U.S. government policy toward American Indians genocide? Why or why not?</p> <p>✓ <b>What are some of the ways in which Native peoples are discriminated against today?</b></p> <p>--What does it mean that the U.S. government is the "trustee" for American Indians?</p> <p>--How did and does this affect the lives of American Indians?</p> <p>--What was the response of American Indians when the U.S. government failed to honor their trust agreement in <i>Cobell vs. Salazar</i>?</p> <p>--What are American Indians doing today to counteract discrimination? How can non-Indians counteract discrimination?</p> <p>--How has the U.S. government supported the civil rights of American Indians?</p> |