

Understanding the Native American Try-It

Do at least four (4) activities, including the two (2) starred requirements.

*1. Choose a California tribe of Native Americans. Know their history. Describe their homes, dress, food and ceremonies. Tell where their descendants live today.

*2. Describe briefly the Native American tribes or nations who lived in four different parts of North America: Northwest, Pacific Coast, Southwest, Basin, Lakes, Plateau, Plains, Prairie, Southeast, Northeast, Arctic or Subarctic.

3. Tell which states have names of Native American origin. Give the meanings of at least three such state names.

4. Find out about the life and contribution of a Native American heroine or hero.

5. Make a Native American food or prepare several and taste them all.

6. Read at least three Native American legends. Choose one and tell it to a group of Daisy Girl Scouts or other friends by way of a skit, poster, etc.

7. Learn to play a Native American game.

8. Do a service project to benefit the Native Americans.

Cahuilla Indians

The first known people of the San Jacinto Mountains were the Mountain Cahuilla Indians. There were three main divisions of Cahuilla: Desert, Western, and Mountain. They developed their villages around springs or beside streams. Villages consisted of family dwellings called Kish (they were sometimes constructed from slabs of incense cedar bark as well as circular brush shelters); the ceremonial house; the sweat house where men and women took sweat baths; and the basket granaries where they stored acorns and seeds. Besides the permanent villages, the Cahuilla had many temporary camping spots, places where they seasonally gathered seed and acorns and plants. Scattered throughout the area of Camp Scherman are several of these temporary camping sites. The Girl Scouts and Cahuilla Indians have something in common...we



both have camped there.