

Way Out West: Indigenous Americans and the first explorers

Timeline	
1492 AD	Christopher Columbus lands in America.
1830 AD	The Indian Removal Act is passed.
1838 AD	The Trail of Tears.
1990 AD	The Native American Languages Act is passed.



Key People/Places	
<b>Christopher Columbus</b>	One of the first European explorers to discover America.
<b>Arctic/subarctic tribes</b>	Tribes living in the far Northern Areas of America like Alaska and Greenland. The tribes living here included the Inuits and the Yupik.
<b>Californian tribes</b>	Tribes living in the State that is now called California. The tribes living here included the Mohave and the Miwok.
<b>Great Plains</b>	A vast dry land in Northern America. Tribes living here include Cheyenne and Blackfoot.

How did the Indigenous Americans lives change over time?

After Christopher Columbus landed in America (1492) the lives of Indigenous Americans began to change. Other people from Europe started to travel to America in search of a new life, invaded land and caused many brutal wars.

Many Indigenous Americans were forced to live in reservations. These are areas of land set aside specifically for Indigenous Americans. Today around 30% of Indigenous Americans still live in reservations.



Key Vocabulary	
<b>indigenous</b>	The original people who were born or settled in an area.
<b>nomadic</b>	People who move from place to place instead of living in one area.
<b>plains</b>	A large area with no hills or mountains.
<b>expedition</b>	A journey which has a purpose e.g. for exploration or adventure.
<b>reservation</b>	An area set aside for Indigenous Americans to live.
<b>teepee</b>	A tent shaped like a cone and used as a home.
<b>act</b>	A law made by a government.
<b>pilgrim</b>	Someone who travels to a foreign land.
<b>custom</b>	Another word for tradition. A usual way of doing things or behaving for a particular group of people.

Who are the Indigenous Americans?

The first people to live in a land are called indigenous peoples. This means they were the original settlers. The Indigenous Americans are the indigenous peoples and cultures of the United States.

Indigenous Americans live throughout North and South America. The Indigenous Americans were grouped into tribes or nations.

