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The Wampanoag People: Native Americans of the Past

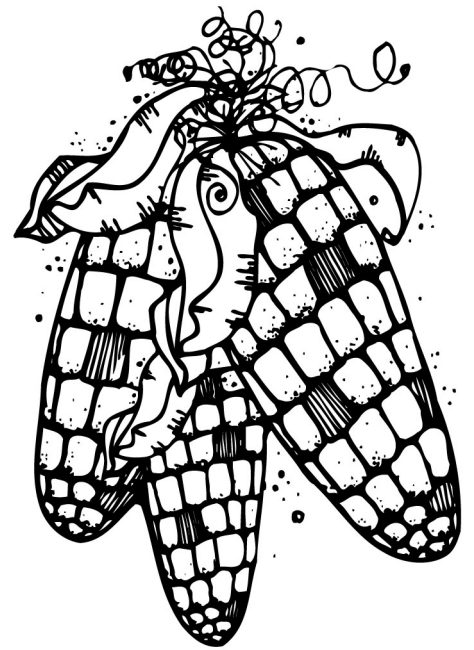
The Wampanoag people are Native Americans who lived in what is now known as New England in the United States. They have a rich and fascinating history that is important to understand.

Who Were the Wampanoag?

The Wampanoag were a group of Native American tribes who inhabited the region that includes present-day Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Their name means "Eastern People" because they lived along the eastern coast of North America. They were skilled fishermen, hunters, and farmers.

Homes and Villages

The Wampanoag built their homes differently depending on the season. In the summer, they lived in wigwams, which were cone-shaped homes made of wooden frames and covered with woven mats or birch bark. In the winter, they moved to rectangular-shaped houses called longhouses, which could hold several families. They lived in villages made up of these homes and shared resources and responsibilities.



Clothing and Appearance

The Wampanoag people wore clothing made from animal skins and woven plant fibers. They used natural materials to create colorful and intricate designs for their clothing. The men often wore breechcloths, and the women wore skirts. Both genders wore moccasins made of soft leather.

Food and Agriculture

The Wampanoag were skilled farmers and grew crops like corn, beans, and squash. These crops were known as the "Three Sisters" because they were grown together and helped one another to thrive. The Wampanoag also hunted deer, turkey, and fished in the nearby rivers and oceans to provide food for their families.



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The First Thanksgiving

The Wampanoag people played a vital role in the famous "First Thanksgiving" in 1621 when they helped the Pilgrims, English settlers who had arrived on the Mayflower. The Wampanoag taught the Pilgrims how to grow crops and fish in the new land, which was important for their survival.

Wampanoag Today

Today, the Wampanoag people still exist, and they continue to honor their traditions and culture. They celebrate their history and work to make sure that their language, stories, and traditions are passed down to younger generations.

Learning about the Wampanoag people is essential for understanding the history of Native Americans in the United States and the vital role they played in the early history of the country. The Wampanoag's legacy lives on, reminding us of their rich heritage and the importance of respecting and preserving the culture of Native American tribes.

1. What is the text structure of this passage? (circle all that apply)

description

cause and effect

compare and contrast

problem and solution

sequence

2. What does the name "Wampanoag" mean? _____

3. What are "The Three Sisters" and why were they given that name? _____

4. Which type of home did the Wampanoag live in during summer and during winter?

