



## Exploring Ohio's Indigenous Cultures

### Description

In this inquiry-based program, students will use real museum artifacts and replicas to tell the stories of the four main eras of indigenous people who populated Ohio before the arrival of European Settlers in 1650. This hands on, group based program will allow 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders to gain important insight on the earliest peoples who populated our state.

### Objectives

- Students will compare artifacts from different eras to learn about the people who created them
- Students will work in a group setting to answer questions and solve problems
- Students will gain familiarity with the different groups of people who once lived in Ohio
- Students will draw conclusions about the lifestyles of indigenous peoples

## Ohio's Learning Standards

### Grade 3: History Strand:

- Historical Thinking and Skills
  1. Events in local history can be shown on timelines organized by years, decades, and centuries
  2. Primary and secondary sources can be used to show change over time
- Heritage
  3. Local communities change over time

### Grade 3: Geography Strand:

- 5. Daily life is influenced by the agriculture, industry and natural resources in different communities

### Grade 4: History Strand:

- Historical Thinking and Skills
  1. The order of significant events in Ohio and the United States can be shown on a timeline
  2. Primary and secondary sources can be used to create historical narratives
- Heritage
  3. Various groups of people have lived in Ohio over time including American Indians...  
Interactions among these groups have resulted in cooperation, conflict and compromise

### Grade 5: Geography Strand



## Before Your Museum Visit

If this will be your first trip to the Museum for some of your students, you may want to discuss the following questions:

- What is a Museum? Why are we going to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History?
- How should we handle objects at the Museum?
- Use the vocabulary and additional resources provided in this Teacher Guide to preview or review program content with your class

## Vocabulary

**Diagnostic artifact:** An item that is indicative of a particular time or cultural group

**Indigenous People:** Distinct social and cultural groups that share collective ancestral ties to the lands and natural resources where they live

**Mastodon:** A large extinct elephant-like mammal of the Miocene to Pleistocene epochs

**Pre-contact:** The time period before contact was established with indigenous people

## Educator Resource Center (ERC)



**Educator Resource Center**  
CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
Celebrating 30 years of supporting science education

The Educator Resource Center offers educator workshops, thematic teaching kits, animal dioramas, and more for loan to area teachers.

Contact the ERC at 216-231-2075 for information on individual or school membership.

Visit the Museum's ERC website for more information on workshops  
<https://www.cmnh.org/ERC>

### Hours (appointment necessary)

- o Tuesday, Thursday 2-5 PM

### Materials for Loan

If you're interested in additional resources be sure to check out the following ERC materials or browse ERC materials online at

#### Related ERC kits:

Ohio Native Americans: Your students will enjoy exploring the culture, myths, clothing and artifacts of Ohio Native Americans. This kit is full of fascinating artifacts from the Ohio Native Americans, including woven baskets, a birchbark canoe, sweetgrass braid, cornhusk doll. A pair of mocassins is included, along with a hole punch and plastic lacing in case your students want to tackle mocassin creation. Pieces of flint and an arrowhead round out the kit, along with an assortment of books, a Teacher's Guide and an activity guide. Materials aligned for students in grade 5

