

Florida Seminoles

Indians from Georgia and Alabama migrated to Florida with the encouragement of Spain. The Indians were wanted to work in the fields, build Spanish towns, and to join the Spaniards as allies. The Indians that migrated to Florida became known as the Seminoles. Escaped black slaves joined the Seminoles and the slaves helped translate for the Seminoles.

There were three undeclared wars against the Seminoles. The First Seminole War occurred in 1817 when General Andrew Jackson fought the Seminoles in North Florida. In 1830 Andrew Jackson, who was then the President, signed the Indian Removal Act. All Indians were to be moved to a specific Indian Territory west of the Mississippi. The Seminole's did not want to move and refused.

The Second Seminole War was between 1835 and 1842, and was known as the bloodiest and most expensive Indian War. Many of the Seminole's who had previously refused to be moved to the Indian Territory west of the Mississippi were captured and forced onto steamboats and moved to what is now known as Oklahoma. The Seminoles that were not captured remain in South Florida in the Everglades.

The Third Seminole War began in 1885 because Billy Bowlegs garden in the Everglades was destroyed. This war lasted three years and around 123 Seminoles gave up and moved to the Indian Territory. The remaining Seminoles in Florida stayed in the Everglades and had to learn to adapt to the harsh conditions. They built chickees which allowed breezes to blow through and they kept insects and snakes away.

Objectives:

Third Grade:

Understand the importance of a chickee.

Understand how the environment influenced where the Seminoles settled.

Use new vocabulary.

Compare a chickee to their home.

Summarize what they learned about Seminoles in a paragraph.

Solve addition facts with sums to 18.

Science:

SC.3.N.1.6 Infer based on observation.

A chickee is a shelter supported by posts, with a raised floor, a thatched roof and open sides.

What do you think the benefits of the chickee were based on your observations? Can you think of a situation where a shelter with a raised floor, thatched roof, and open sides would be useful?

Social Studies:

SS.3.G.4.1 Explain how the environment influences settlement patterns in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

How did the environment influence Seminoles to settle in Florida?

Reading and Language Arts:

Vocabulary:

Chickee: a shelter supported by posts, with a raised floor, a thatched roof and open sides.

LA.3.1.6.1 The student will use new vocabulary that is introduced and taught directly; What is a chickee and how is it different from your house?

LA.3.4.2.1 The student will write in a variety of informational/expository forms (e.g., rules, summaries, procedures, recipes, notes/messages, labels, instructions, graphs/tables, experiments, rubrics);

Write a summary on what you learned about the Seminoles today.

Mathematics:

MA.3.A.1.In.b Solve addition facts with sums to 18 and related subtraction one-digit fact families using the formal algorithm with numerals and signs (+, -, =).

13 chickees + 5 chickees =

4 chickees – 3 chickees =

9 Seminole Indians + 9 Seminole Indians =

12 Seminole Indians + 5 Seminole Indians =

8 Seminole Indians + 7 Seminole Indians =