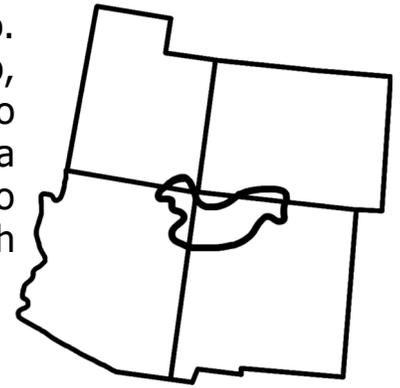
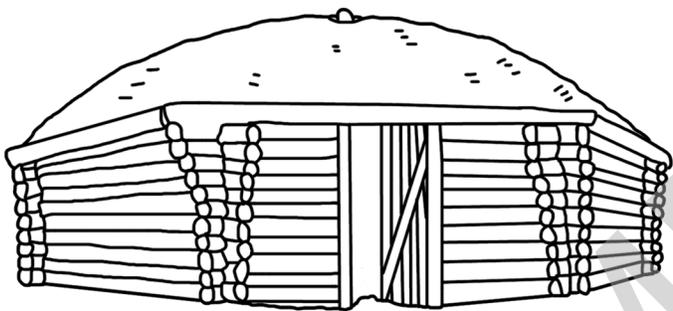


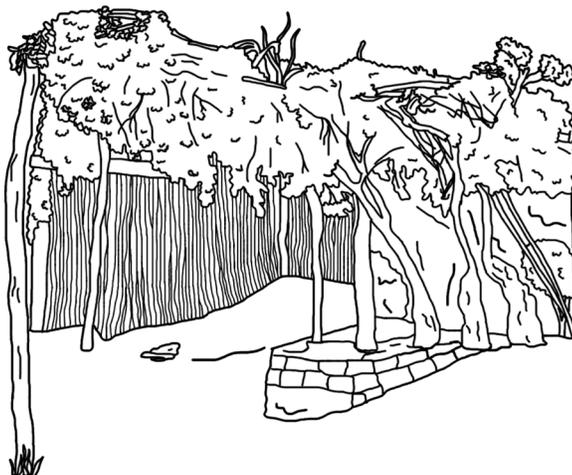
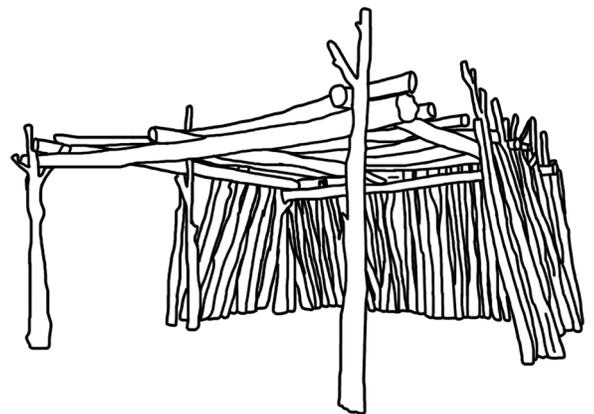
The Navajo were originally from northwestern New Mexico. The Spanish arrived, bringing with them churro sheep, goats, and horses. As time passed, the Navajo spread into parts of Arizona, Colorado, and Utah. Much of the area where they lived was desert, with dry and rocky land. Two rivers flow through the area, though, providing for both people and wildlife. The area is also quite windy.



Navajo homes were called hogans and were made by stacking logs. They also had log roofs. Some were round, and some had eight sides. Some were covered with bark and damp soil. Hogans were warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Men built the hogans with help from the women.

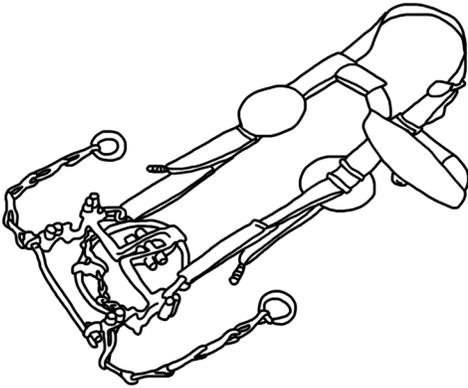
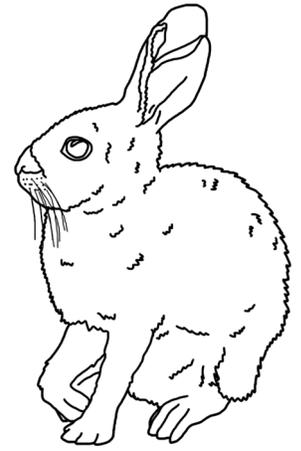


They also built ramadas for shade, which they needed in the hot southwest. The roof of the ramada was made from thin logs and held up by four poles. Some ramadas had an open area with only a roof for shade.



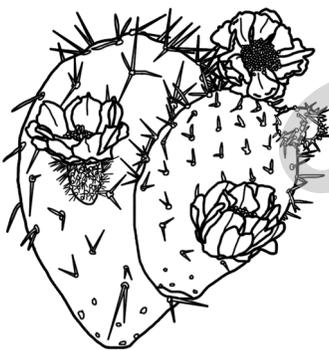
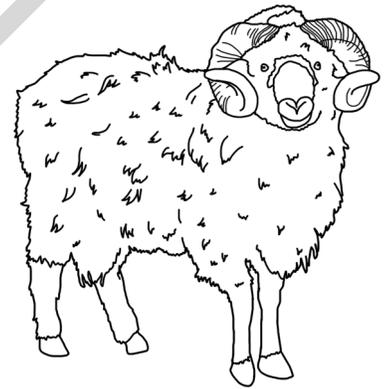
Others were covered with sticks and branches on the roof and the sides. In the summer, Navajos could cook and weave in the ramada, and children could play there to get out of the sun. Families even slept under a ramada at times.

Navajo men were hunters. They provided for their families by hunting many animals such as deer, desert cottontails, coyotes, mountain lions, deer, jackrabbits, eagles, and other animals.



They also fought to protect their families. Horses were very important to the Navajo, and they made beautiful bridles and other items out of silver, stones, and shells.

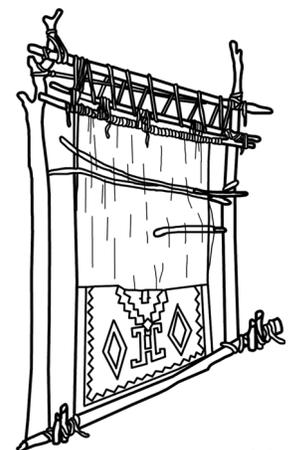
The women oversaw the home and the land. They raised churro sheep and goats. They grew corn, beans, squash, and melons on their farms.



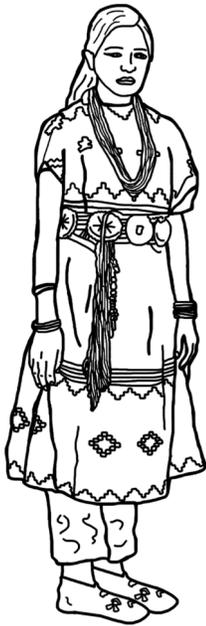
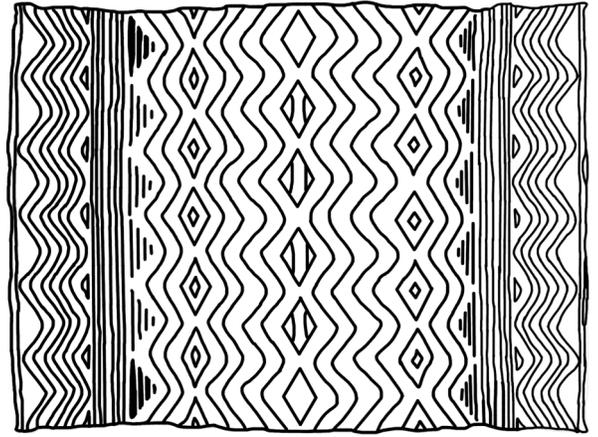
They also gathered wild spinach, fruit, berries, and seeds for food. Pine nuts were perfect for roasting, as were prickly pears and the fruit from the yucca plant.

Corn and mutton were very important foods. Mutton, or the meat from a grown sheep, was used in stew or dried to make jerky. Corn was eaten fresh or dried and ground into cornmeal. After being made into cornmeal, corn was used for cakes, corn soup, tortillas, and other dishes.

The women were also in charge of spinning and weaving wool into cloth. Traditional looms were made of lumber, and the women were famous for their weaving.



Their rugs and blankets are still prized today.

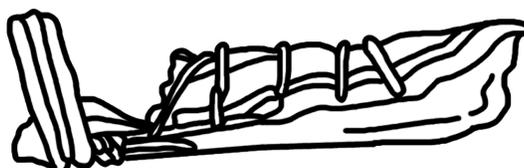


They made woolen dresses that were works of art. The wool first had to be spun and dyed. Then it had to be woven into two panels and stitched together to make a dress with openings for the head and arms. Each panel could take anywhere from two weeks to several months to complete, depending on the size and the design needed. In the 1880s, women started wearing long cotton skirts and blouses. They wore turquoise jewelry for special occasions.

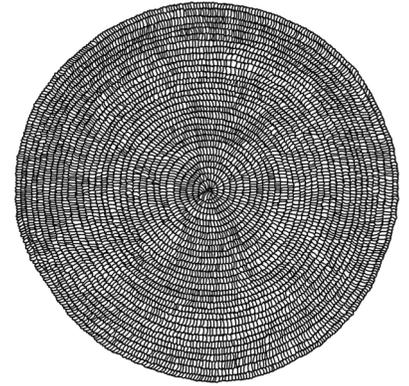
Some clothing styles were copied from the Spaniards that the tribe came into contact with.



Women carried young children on their backs in cradleboards while they worked.

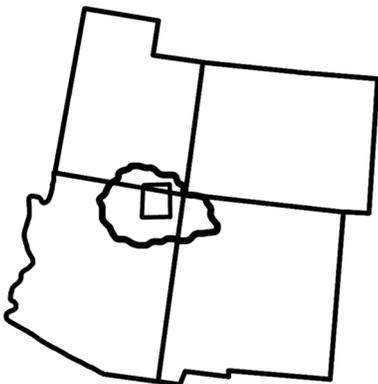
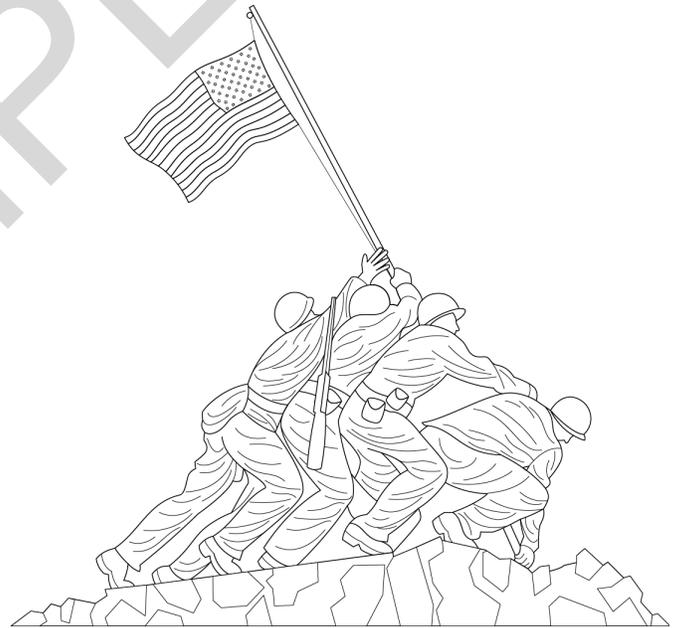


They were also skilled basket makers. They used a coil method of weaving for some of their baskets and added colorful decorations to their work.



When the United States and Mexico fought a war and the United States won, Navajo land that had been in Mexico became part of the United States. When settlers came and began to settle on Navajo land, fighting broke out. After 9,000 Navajos surrendered, they had to endure "The Long Walk," a forced journey over 300 miles (480 km) during winter. Sadly, many did not survive the walk.

During World War II, Navajo Code Talkers created a code that was never broken. In just two days of one key battle, six men sent and received more than 800 messages without making a single mistake. They were part of every assault the U.S. Marines made in the Pacific between 1942 and 1945. By creating a code based on their native language, they played an important part in winning the war.



Today, the Navajo Nation is located on a smaller area of land than where they once lived.

## Review

Of the tribes discussed in this unit, whose land was rich in salt?



Apache



Navajo



Pomo

Which of these plants were not mentioned as a plant the Apache used?



Agave



Saw palmetto



Yucca

Which of these men was not an Apache leader?



Cochise



Victorio



Sitting Bull

Which of the tribes we read about had to make "The Long Walk"?



Navajo



Apache



Pomo

How did the Pomo make a pudding from acorns?

---

---

---

What three groups of people had an impact on the Pomo and their way of life?

---

How was an Apache wickiup made?

---

---

What was an Apache fiddle, or tsii'edo'a'tl, made out of?

---

Describe a Navajo hogan and ramada.

---

---

---

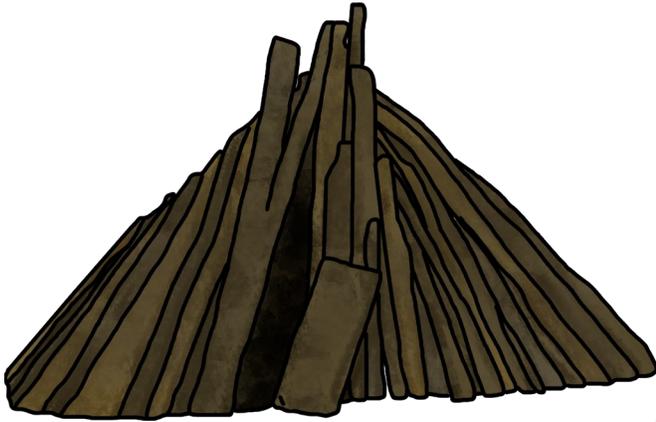
Describe the special contribution you read about that the Navajo made in fighting World War II.

---

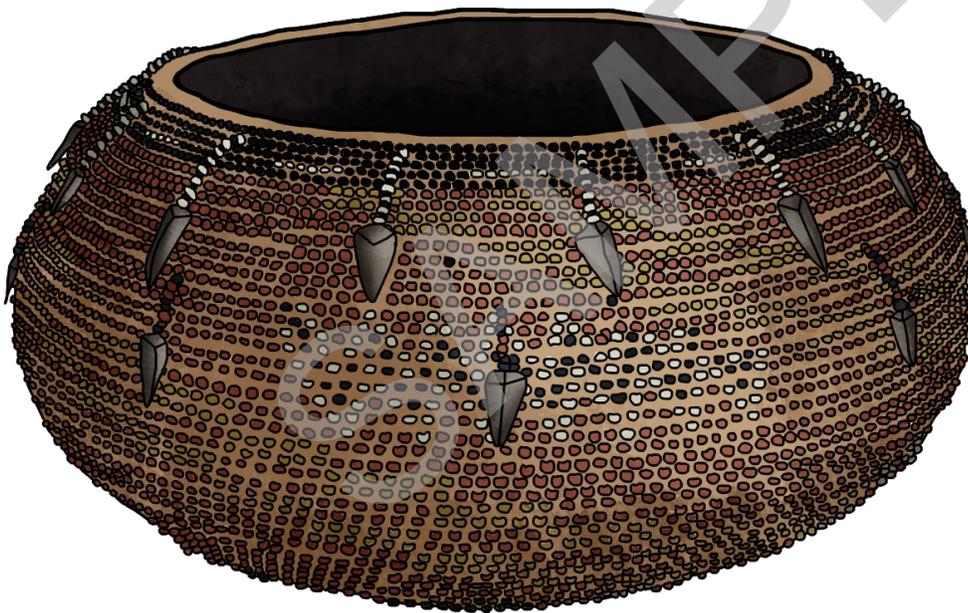
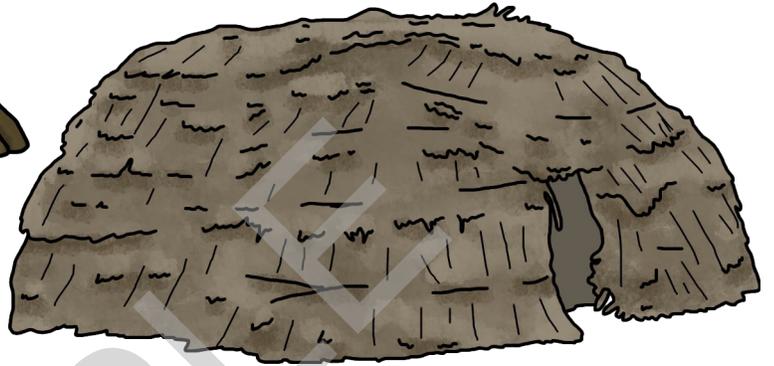
---

# Pomo

Here are color versions of select images from the unit so that you can see the artistry and beauty of the Pomo work.

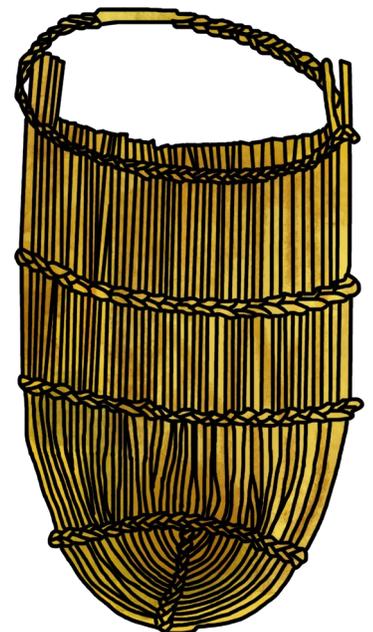


Homes



Basket

Boat and cradleboard





Clothing and headdress



Plants and animals of the region:  
Deer and acorn

