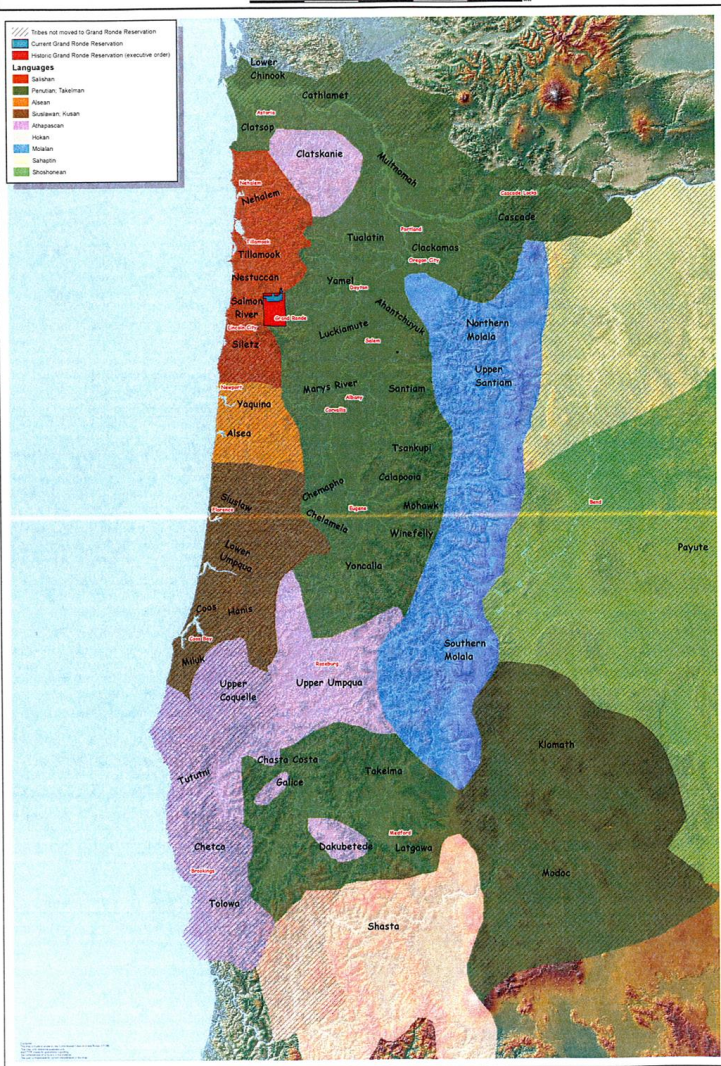




Language Revitalization

The Confederated Tribes of
Grand Ronde



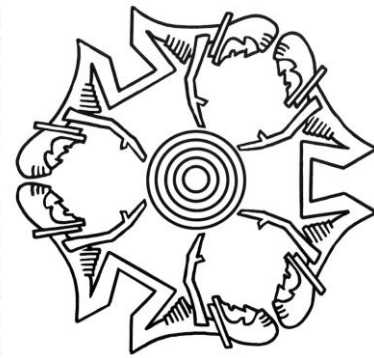
Native Languages in Western Oregon

This map, from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, demonstrates the various languages that were spoken throughout the Willamette Valley by different tribes.

It is estimated that there was **25-35** native languages spoken in Oregon prior to Euro-settlers, though only **nine** of them are spoken fluently today.

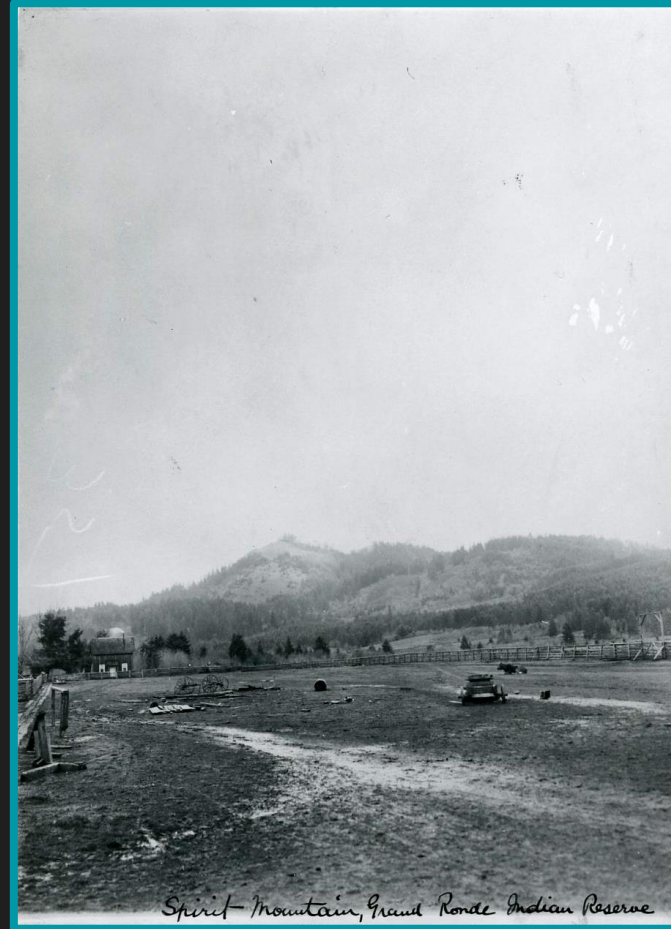


Reflect

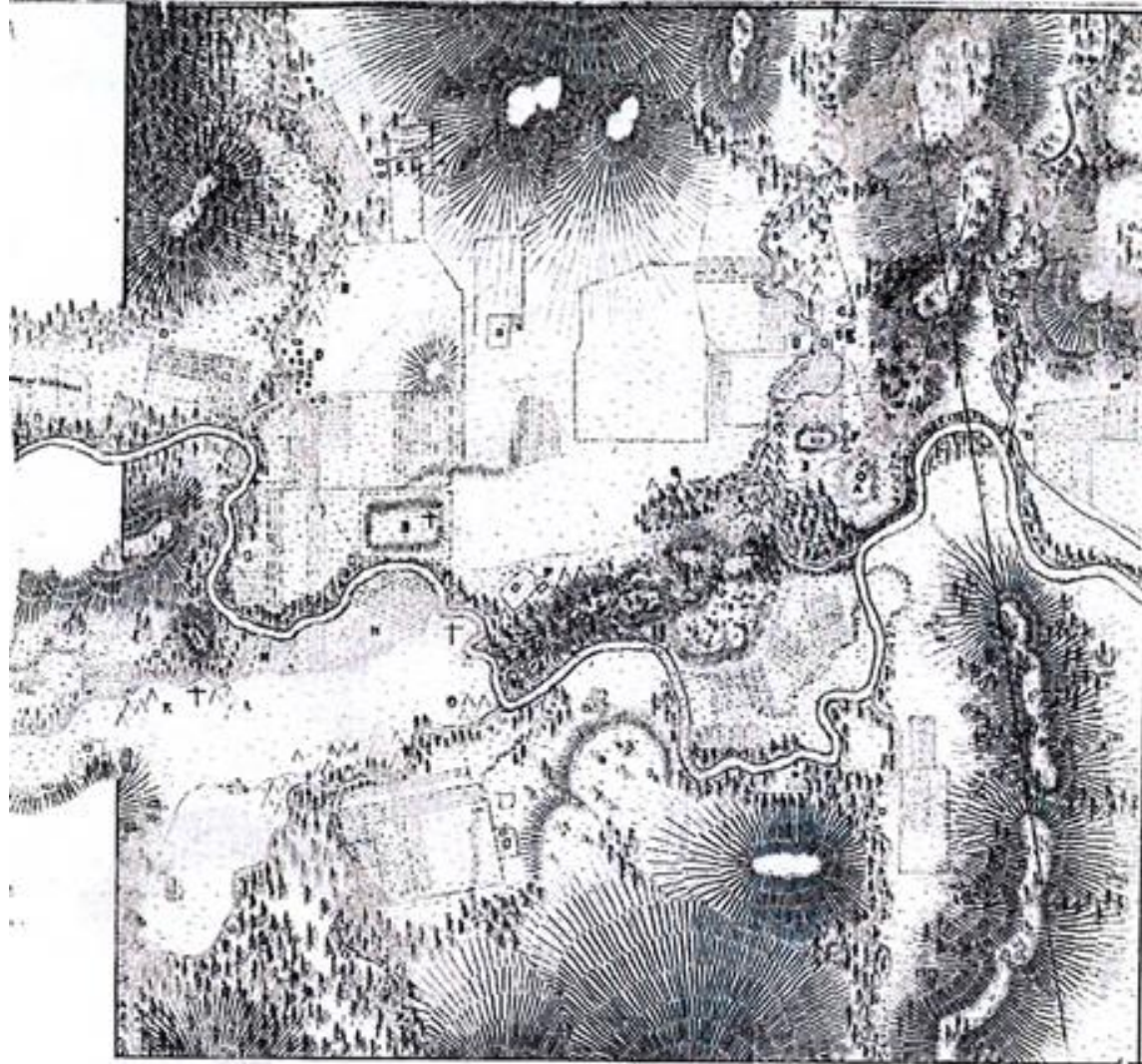


Why do you think only nine tribal languages are fluently spoken in Oregon today?

**In 1855 tribes in
Oregon began being
forced onto
reservations**

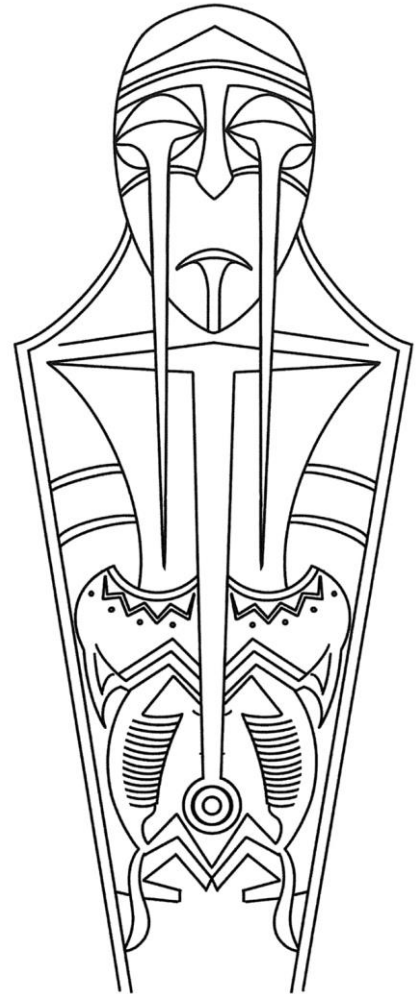


There were over 30 bands and tribes of people who were brought to the Grand Ronde Reservation.



chinuk wawa

“chinuk wawa is an intertribal hybrid language indigenous to the Pacific Northwest, where it served as a regional lingua franca facilitating communication between speakers of different tribal languages as well as between tribal people and speakers of English and Canadian French.” (chinuk wawa, 2012, p.13).



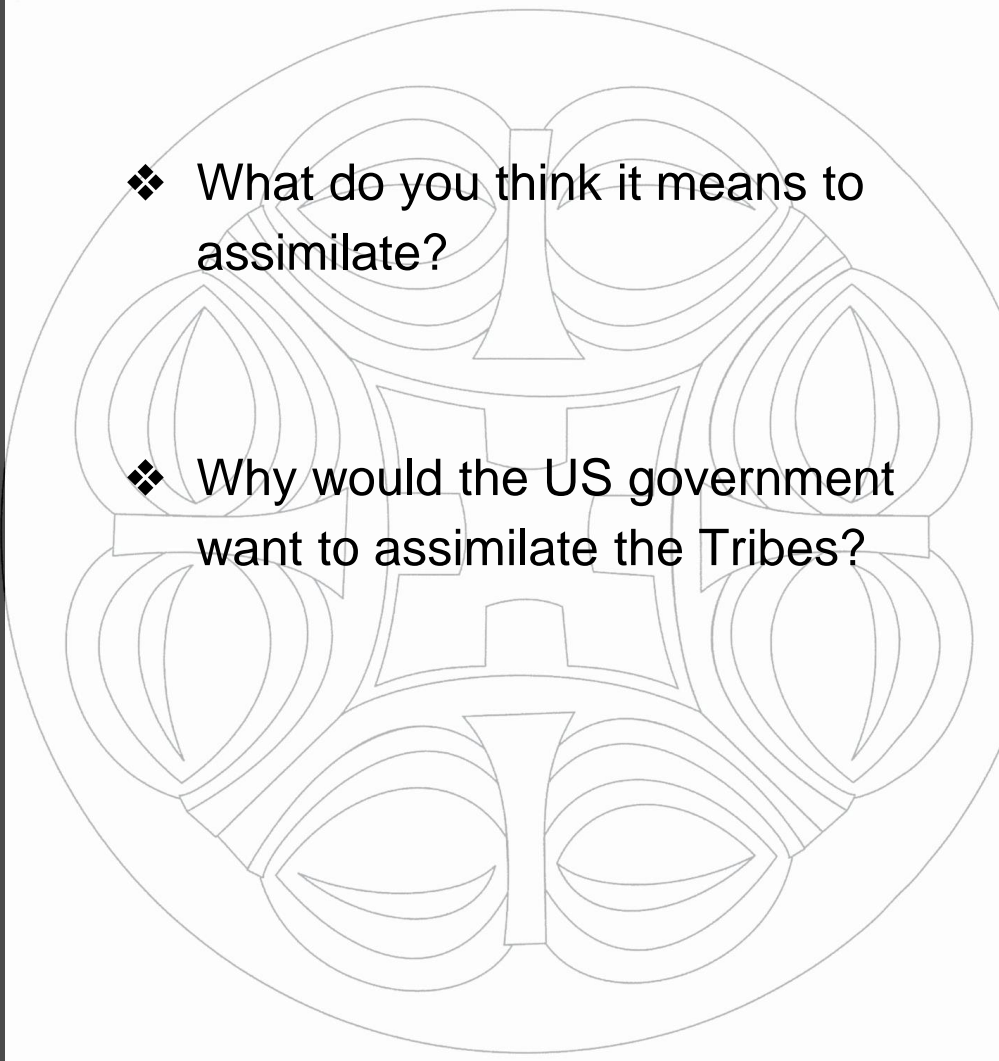


When the government forced the Native people to the reservation, they wanted the Tribes to assimilate and live like the European people.

“Kill the Indian, and Save the Man”

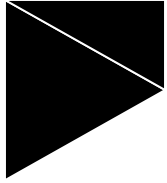
-Capt. Richard H. Pratt on the Education of Native Americans



- 
- ❖ What do you think it means to assimilate?
 - ❖ Why would the US government want to assimilate the Tribes?

Language Survival

In 1954 the Tribe was terminated, meaning the U.S. Government no longer recognized them as a tribe. During termination, many Tribal Members moved away to find work. The number of chinuk wawa speakers continued to decline.



Restoration

After being terminated for almost 30 years, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde was restored in 1983, gaining back their federal recognition.



chinuk wawa today

LANGUAGE

Choose a category



ACTIONS



ANIMALS



BASICS



CLOTHING



FOOD



HOUSEHOLD



Crystal Starr Szczepanski

Crystal Starr Szczepanski is Athabascan, Yup'ik and Colville. She has worked for the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde since 1997. One of her goals in both her personal and professional life is to advocate and share culture and her Indigenous Language. A couple of her greatest accomplishments in her life is being invited to speak at various Indigenous Language Conferences and having her artwork shown in exhibits. This was a product of her commitment and dedication to becoming a master language speaker, learning traditional lifeways, and being self-taught in contemporary art.



