Indigenous Cultural Regions Analysis

Directions: Use different maps to explore and make notes about the features and ecology of the ancestral lands occupied by the six Oregon Indigenous cultural groups.



Indigenous Cultural Region

I (or my group) explored the ______ Oregon Indigenous cultural region.

Physical Features

Maps to use:

- Physical Regions of the Pacific Northwest
- Oregon Topography
- Oregon Rivers and Lakes
- 1. What are the key land features of the cultural region?
 - a. Are there mountain ranges? Basins or plateaus? Valleys?
 - b. Is the region at a higher or lower elevation, in-between or a mix?
 - c. What bodies of water (rivers, lakes, ocean) are in or near the region?

Indigenous Cultural Regions Analysis (Continued)

Ecoregions

Maps to use:

- Oregon Ecoregions
- Oregon Ecoregions in Pictures
- Oregon Vegetation Zones
- Oregon Vegetation Zones: Elevation Cross-Section
- Oregon Wildlife Distribution
- 2. What ecoregion(s) can be found within the cultural region?
 - a. Does it seem like there is more or less precipitation (rain and snow) in the region compared to others?
 - b. How do the ecoregions line up with physical features such as mountains and rivers?
 - c. Does the region have dense forest or relatively few trees?
 - d. What animals are native to the cultural region?

Indigenous Populations

Maps to use:

- Oregon Native American Tribes and Language Groups
- Oregon Native Americans: 1780 Population
- 3. What Indigenous people groups historically lived in the region?
 - a. What was or were the main tribe(s)?
 - b. What were the bands or sub-groups?
 - c. What language(s) did they speak
 - d. What was the historic population density of Indigenous people in the region? Were there more or fewer people than neighboring regions?
 - e. What tribe(s) currently has/have reservations in the region today?

Name:

Indigenous Cultural Regions Analysis (Continued)

- 4. How might the landscape and ecology of the region have influenced the way Indigenous tribes in the region lived?
 - a. What kinds of plants and animals might they have eaten for food?
 - b. What kinds of shelter and clothing would have been needed?
 - c. Why would the region have supported a large or small population of people?
 - d. What sorts of resources would tribes living West of the Cascades have traded for with Eastern Oregon Tribes?