



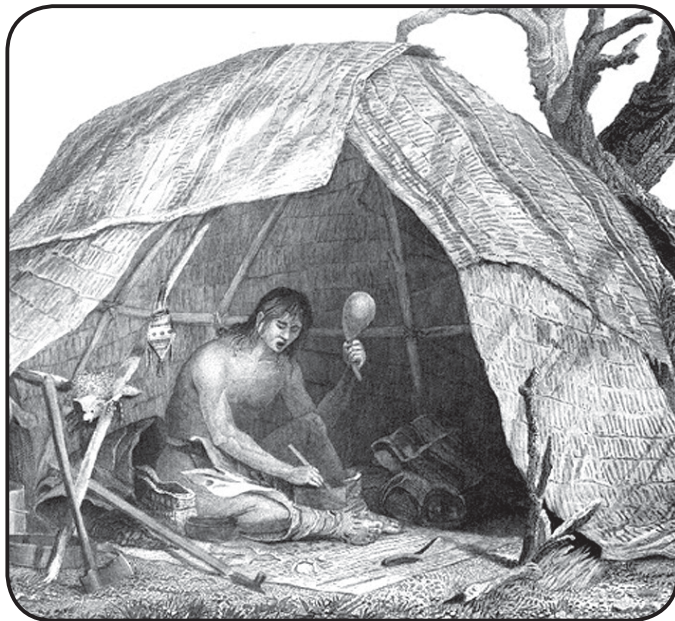
# The Algonquians

## Territory

The Algonquian People traveled and lived throughout northeastern Canada in the areas now known as Québec and Ontario. They sought out forests with birch trees. Birch trees were very important because their bark was better than any other kind of tree for building canoes. Birch bark was also used for making containers and for covering wigwams.

## Food & Shelter

The Algonquian tribes primarily relied on hunting but some practiced simple farming. They cleared small pieces of land and grew corn, beans, and squash. They ate wild plants, berries, and wild rice. Fish was a big part of their diet. They also ate deer, moose and the meat of the other animals they hunted.



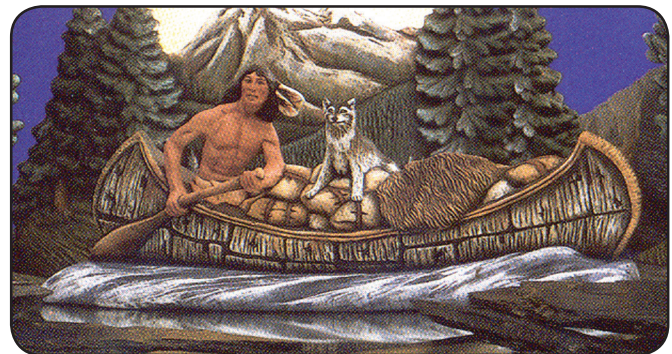
Some Algonquians lived in longhouses for part of the year. When they went on hunting and fishing trips, they built wigwams to temporarily live in. Wigwams were kind of a rounded dome shape. They were made of bent wooden poles covered with animal skins or brush, grass, mats, and bark. In the centre of the structure was a fire pit. Above

it was a hole to allow the smoke to escape. The floor was covered in boughs. Furs were placed on the boughs for sleeping.

Each wigwam housed a single family, although some tribes lived together in larger dwellings.

## Role of Men

Algonquian men were skilled hunters and fishermen. They fished, hunted, and skinned the game. They made canoes for traveling and fishing on the water. They made tools and wooden frames for the wigwams. Trading skins and furs to Europeans was an important part of their livelihood.



Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The Algonquians

Answer the following questions with a complete sentence.

1. Who made most of the tribal decisions for the Algonquians?

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2. Where did the Algonquian People live?

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3. Name two ways the Algonquians used birch bark.

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4. Describe what a wigwam looked like.

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5. How did the Algonquians decorate their clothing?

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6. Who were the enemies of the Algonquians?

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