

Mi'kmaq



History of the Mi'kmaq

- The Mi'kmaq people lived in what we know as the Atlantic provinces (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI) for centuries before European contact
- They are known for their hunting and fishing abilities. In the winter, the Mi'kmaq hunted a lot of caribou and moose, and slept in covered wigwams. In the summer, the Mi'kmaq focussed on fishing for sustenance and slept in open-air shelters
- The Mi'kmaq highly regard the natural world and also value music in their culture



First Contact

- It is believed that the Mi'kmaq were probably the people that Italian explorer John Cabot first encountered in 1497
- Cabot was sponsored by the English King Henry VIII to find riches in India, but instead he found oceans full of fish and land full of animals
- The Mi'kmaq may have first come in contact with Cabot in one of two places: either Newfoundland or the Gaspé Peninsula



Indigenous Perspective

- The Mi'kmaq were willing to accept the European settlers and shared their knowledge of fishing and hunting with the Europeans
- The Mi'kmaq traded furs for weapons, clothing, pots and pans, and other manufactured goods
- Many Mi'kmaq converted to Catholicism and married European settlers



European Perspective

- Early Europeans described the Mi'kmaq as “fierce” and “warlike”
- They generally had a good relationship as the Mi'kmaq allowed Europeans to settle in their communities, hunt and fish on their territory, and many even accepted Christianity as their faith
- European settlers would not have survived through the winters without Mi'kmaq knowledge



Relationships Over Time

- Over time, many Mi'kmaq actually left their communities because of lack of space and resources. The Europeans were over-hunting animals and building railroads, and resources became scarce
- Residential schools stripped the Mi'kmaq of their language, culture, and voice in politics
- Today, the Mi'kmaq live on Canada's East Coast and are actively working to have their voice heard in politics and culture



The page features decorative geometric patterns in the corners, consisting of squares and circles in shades of brown and tan. The background has a subtle, repeating pattern of interlocking lines.

References

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Mikmaq>

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/micmac-mikmaq>

<https://canadianhistoryworkshop.wordpress.com/indigenous-people>

<https://www.heritage.nf.ca/articles/aboriginal/mikmaq-impacts.php>

<http://mrstahl.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/chapter-2-european-explorers.pdf>

You will...

- 1) Fill out a handwritten graphic organizer to ensure that **research is stated in your own words**
- 2) **Collect a list of website links** for your references (at least 3)
- 3) Make sure your **slides are organized and readable** (not too much info, but not too little either)
- 4) **Include photos or a video** if they are relevant

- 1) **Innu**
- 2) **Wendat**
- 3) **Nehiyawak**
- 4) **Gwich'in**
- 5) **Beothuk**
- 6) **Nisga'a**
- 7) **Siksika**
- 8) **Baffin Island Inuit**