

Curriculum Unit  
Title

**American History from the Perspective of the Native**

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**KEY LEARNING, ENDURING UNDERSTANDING, ETC.**

Within this unit plan, the students will learn about Native American history through the eyes of the indigenous people. The students will learn who the Native Americans are such as their customs, culture and traditions as a civilization. In order to learn more about the Native Americans, the students will study some tribes within the Northeast of the United States in order to learn about the indigenous people who live in their hometowns. The students will also learn about the First Thanksgiving between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag tribe in Massachusetts. Finally, students will study the Taino Native American tribe in Puerto Rico and their encounters with Christopher Columbus when he arrives to the “new world.”

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION(S) for the UNIT**

“How is the Native American view of America’s beginnings different from United States history textbooks?”

“How do the Native Americans view the Europeans during the Colonial Era?”

“How do the Colonist view the Native Americans during the Colonial Era?”

What is the relationship between the Native Americans and the colonists?”

**CONCEPT A**

Who are the Native Americans?

**CONCEPT B**

Thanksgiving and Relationships between Native Americans and Colonists

**CONCEPT C**

The Taino Tribe and Christopher Columbus

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS A**

How did Native American history begin?

Who are the Native Americans?

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS B**

What is the relationship between the Native Americans and the colonists?”

“How do the Colonist view the Native Americans during the Colonial Era?”

“How do the Native Americans view the Europeans during the Colonial Era?”

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS C**

“How is the Native American view of America’s beginnings different from United States history textbooks?”

**VOCABULARY A**

- Native Americans
- Northeast tribes
- Culture
- Region
- Creation Stories

**VOCABULARY B**

- Thanksgiving
- Colonist
- Native Americans
- Wampanoag
- Plymouth, Massachusetts

**VOCABULARY C**

- Puerto Rico
- Taino Tribe
- Christopher Columbus
- Europeans
- conquer

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/MATERIAL/TEXT/FILM/RESOURCES

In this unit plan, I will be using multiple books on Native Americans, the First Thanksgiving and Christopher Columbus to read to my students within the classroom. Here are the books that I will be reading to the students:

- The Native Peoples of the Northeast by Barbara M. Linde
- Wampanoag by Katie Lajiness
- The Story of the First Thanksgiving by Dan Bolognese and Elaine Raphael
- Puerto Rico by Lisa Owings
- Puerto Rico by John Hamilton
- Puerto Rico by Ann Heinrichs
- A Journey with Christopher Columbus