

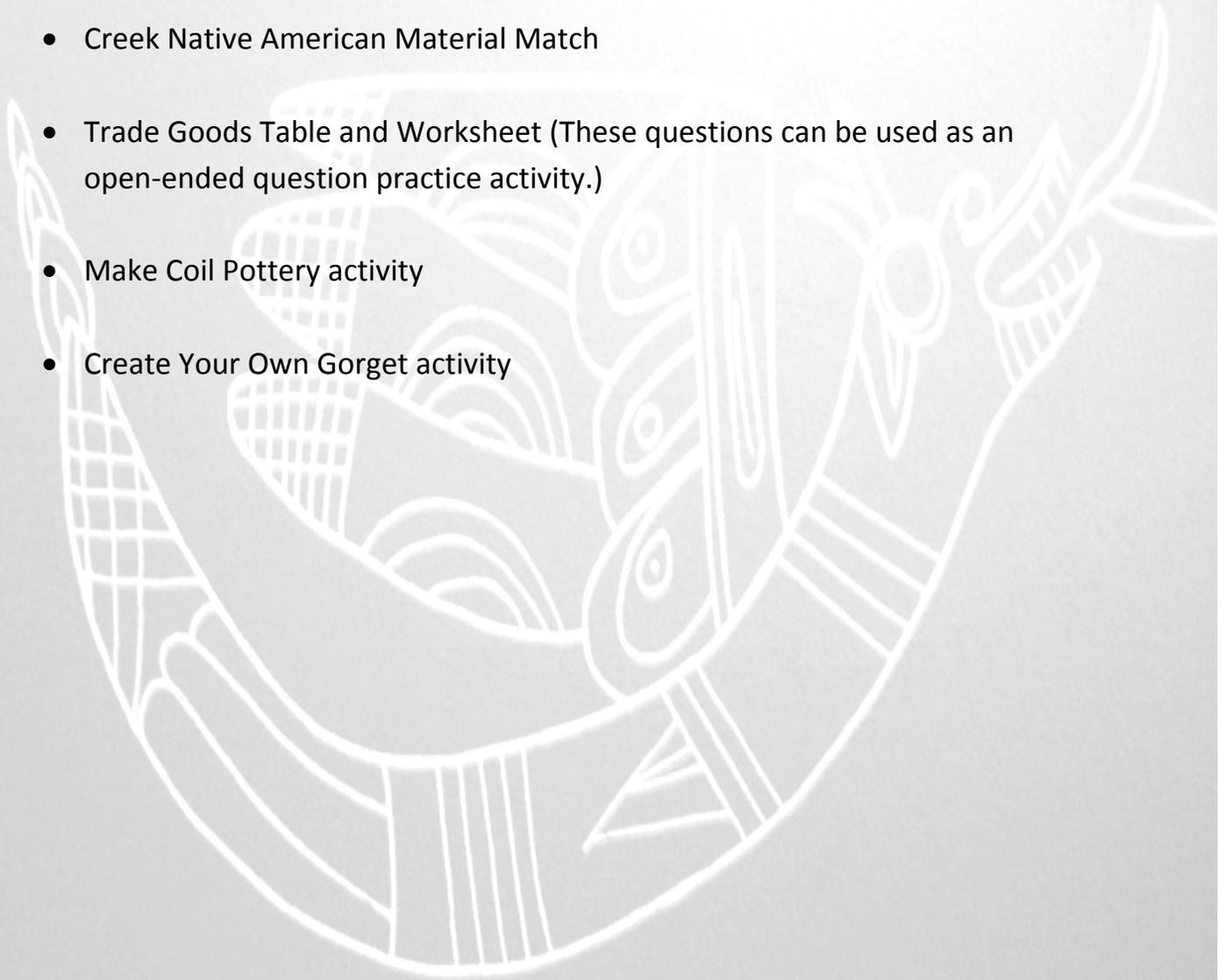


American Indian Tour

Grades 4-6

Use these **Post-Visit activities** to reinforce and enhance the ideas and concepts students encounter while at the museum.

- Creek Native American Material Match
- Trade Goods Table and Worksheet (These questions can be used as an open-ended question practice activity.)
- Make Coil Pottery activity
- Create Your Own Gorget activity



Creek Native American Material Match

Creek Native Americans used many things from nature to help them survive. Match the following materials with their use. Draw a line from the material to its use. Native Americans used one source in many ways. One material could match with many uses!

Materials



- Chert (hard rock that flakes)



- Corn



- Sweet Potato



- Deer



- Hickory Tree



- Duck



- Sandstone

Use

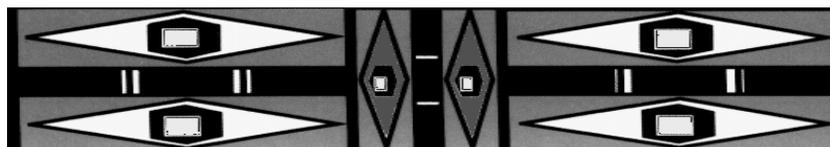
- Household items (dishes, blankets, stools, etc.)

- Weapons

- Clothing (robes, moccasins, headdresses)

- Tools

- Food



Creek Native American Material Match Answers

Chert was used to make points, scrapers, and other tools.

Corn was used to make *Sofki (boiled corn cereal)*, hominy, and grits.

Sweet Potato was used as a food.

Deer was used for meat to eat and hide for clothing. Hide was also used to make household items like bedding. Bones and antlers were used for tools and handles. Sinew and tendons were used as glue and bowstrings.

Hickory Tree oil and nuts were used as food. The wood was used for house posts, handles, bows, baskets, bowls, arrow shafts, and firewood.

Duck was used for meat to eat. The feathers and down (soft fluffy feathers) were used for clothing.

Sandstone was used as mortar and pestle. (grinding tools)

Visit The Alabama Department of Archives and History's *Indian Gallery* to learn more!



www.archives.alabama.gov

Trade Goods Table

A schedule of the stated prices of goods, as they are to be disposed of to the Indians in barter.

<u>Goods</u>	<u>Buck Skins</u>
A gun	30
A Duffield blanket	14
A hatchet	2
A narrow hoe	2
A broad hoe	4
Fifty bullets	1
A butcher's knife	1
A pair of scissors	1
Three strings of Beads	1
An axe	4
A pistol	20
A cutlass	8
A shirt	4
A calico petticoat	12
A red girdle	2
A lace hat	8
A clasp knife	1
Rum, mixed with 1/3 water	1 per bottle

By order of Savannah Town Factory, 1716

The Indians of Alabama made all the items that were essential to their lives. For instance, all of their clothing was made from the skins of local animals, and their bowls and food containers were made from clay. After the Indians came into contact with Europeans, they had the opportunity to trade for European goods that would make their lives a little easier. A barter system took hold between the Europeans and the Indians. In this system, the Europeans would provide the Indians with goods such as cloth, guns, knives, and jewelry in return for the Indians providing the Europeans with animal skins that they trapped.

Trade Goods Worksheet

Answer the following questions. Show your work.

1. If it takes 10 days to prepare one buck skin for trading, how long would it take a Creek Indian to prepare enough skins to trade for a gun?

2. A.) If a Choctaw Indian wanted a Duffield blanket, a shirt, and an axe, how many *total* skins would he need to prepare in order to trade for these items? B.) If it took 5 days to prepare one buck skin for trading, how long would it take him to prepare enough skins for these items?

3. A.) If a Chickasaw Indian wanted a gun, a pistol, a calico petticoat, and a shirt, how many deer would he have to kill in order to get enough skins to trade for these items? B.) If he could kill 3 deer a day, how many days would it take to get all of the skins he needed? C.) If it took 7 days to fully prepare one skin for trading, how long would it take to prepare all the skins that he had collected?

4. Pretend you are a Cherokee Indian, winter is approaching, and you have 3 children. If you have 54 buck skins, how many blankets and shirts could you get for your children?

5. A.) If you were a Creek Indian, and you wanted 5 guns in order to form a hunting party that could hunt more efficiently, how many total skins would you have to collect in order to trade for 5 guns? B.) If you and a friend could each kill two deer every day that you hunted, how long would it take the two of you to kill the necessary number of deer? C.) If once you collected the guns, each member of the hunting party could kill 4 deer in a day, how many days would it take to kill enough deer in order for the 5 members of the hunting party to have enough skins to trade for every item on the list?

Make a Coiled Pot

The Alabama Indians made pottery which remains beautiful today. The early designs were almost entirely in black and white, although later pieces were painted with many different colors made from natural clays. These early people made vessels of all kinds, both pots and bowls. Many of the pieces were used for cookware and storage, but the more elaborately decorated ones were probably used for ceremonial purposes. Today, archaeologists can use the designs on the pottery to track who the ancient peoples were and where they lived.

Most of the early pottery was made by a process called coiling. This kind of pottery making involves molding clay into long coils and spiraling them together in such a way as to build up the vessels.

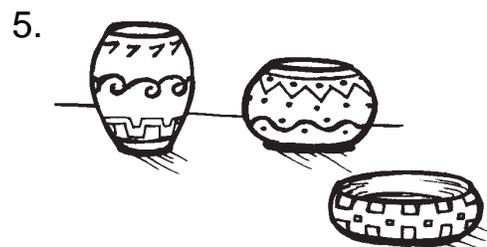
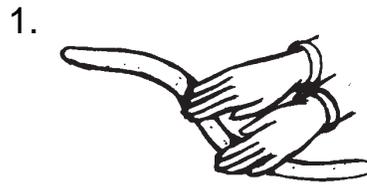
You can make pottery in this way.

Materials:

- clay
- water
- a clean, smooth work surface

Directions:

1. Roll the clay into a long, round rope, making sure it is about the same diameter throughout its length.
2. Form a flat, round piece of clay about 2" (5 cm) in diameter for the base.
3. Start spiraling your clay rope from this base and continue building up the coiled clay until it is the shape you wish to make it.
4. Wet your fingers or use a pottery knife to blend the coils together until they form a smooth surface.
5. When your piece looks like you want it to, allow it to dry thoroughly. Now you may decorate it!



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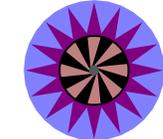
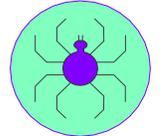
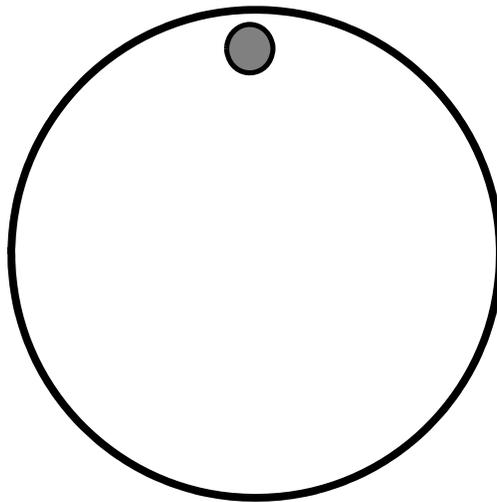


Gorgets

Indians decorated their bodies with gorgets. A gorget is a relatively large flat or gently curving object of polished stone, shell, or metal which can be worn as a neck ornament. Indians carved a design in the stone or shell gorgets. Many of the designs were symbols of the sun, animals, or held religious meaning.



Create Your Gorget Design



Make a Gorget

1. Roll a lump of clay into a ball in the palm of your hand, press to flatten into a pancake shape.
2. Use a pencil or sharp stick to draw or carve a design in the clay.
3. Let clay air dry, bake, or have fired depending on type of clay used.
4. Run an 18" length of cord through the hole in the gorget; knot the ends together and wear.