

## A Day in the Life of an Alabama Indian

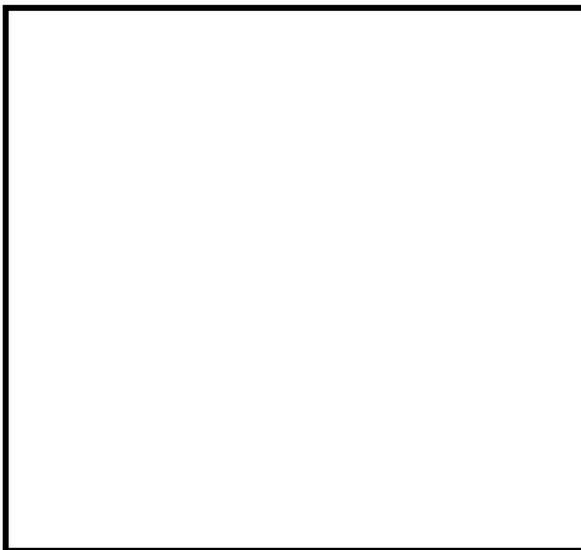
Writing activity

Write a short story about Alabama Indian life using the words or phrases from the word bank below. You must use at least 7 of the 10 words or phrases. Draw an illustration (picture) for your story in the box.

### Word Bank

|        |         |         |                   |        |
|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| Atlatl | Pottery | Chunkey | Projectile Points | Basket |
| Sherds | Spear   | Village | Pump Drill        | Gorget |

**Story title:** \_\_\_\_\_



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Use the back of this sheet if you need more space!

# Make a Coiled Pot

The Alabama Indians made pottery which remains beautiful today. The early designs were unpainted, 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.

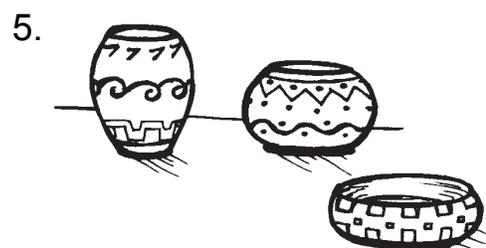
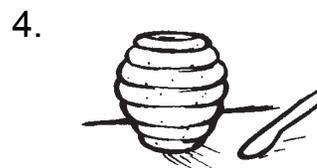
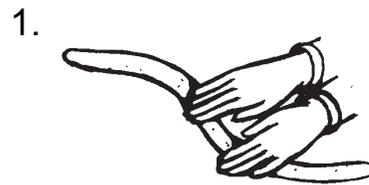
You can make pottery in this way.

## 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!



The First Alabamians Post-visit Activities It's a Trade!

Indians got some European objects from Spanish Florida through trade with other Indians. As Europeans established more settlements in the Southeast, trade with Indians increased. The Indians exchanged deerskins for cloth, ornaments, iron tools, and other European goods.

In the square below, draw a picture of a European good that the trader is showing the other Indians. Need some ideas? Look at all the items on the blanket. Which item would you choose and why?

