



Chinook Scavenger Hunt

Read the passage below and answer the questions

The Chinook inhabited the area at the mouth of the Columbia River, on the present-day border of Washington and Oregon. The river was essential in all aspects of life, especially in hunting and trading. Like other Northwest Coast tribes, the Chinook carved remarkable canoes from the abundant sources of timber, but did not carve totem poles like their neighbors to the north. Instead, the Chinook were famous from their horn carvings, which were fashioned from the horns of mountain goats and bighorn sheep.

The Chinook were prolific traders, and often traveled the network of rivers in the Pacific Northwest trading with other villages and White frontiersmen. They bartered fish products, furs, cedar, carvings, and slaves. They even evolved a special trading language known as Chinook Jargon. Used throughout the Pacific Northwest, Chinook Jargon was a combination of English, French and various indigenous languages that was useful in trading with different peoples. The Chinook used shells as a form of currency.

The Chinook practiced many interesting spiritual beliefs and ceremonies. One of the most important ceremonies was the First Salmon Rite, in which each family group welcomed the annual migration of the salmon from the Pacific Ocean through Chinook Territory. The Chinook also believed in the vision quest, a ceremony in which adolescent boys and girls ventured into the wilderness to find guardian spirits that would help give them powers in hunting or curing or bestow upon them good luck and new songs and dances. Chinook parents also engaged in the practice of flattening the foreheads of their babies by restraining the forehead in tight bandages on the cradleboard while the bones were still soft.



USE THE PASSAGE ABOVE TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BELOW

- 1.) The Chinook lived along the _____ River.
- 2.) Like other tribes living in the Pacific Ocean, the Chinook carved out incredible _____ from the forests in the region.
- 3.) The Chinook, unlike some Northwest Coast tribes, did not carve _____.
- 4.) The Chinook were famous for their _____ carvings, made from mountain goats among other animals.
- 5.) Chinook Jargon was a special language used for _____.
- 6.) Chinook used _____ for currency (money).
- 7.) The annual migration of _____ from the ocean through Chinook Territory was a time for celebration among Chinook families.
- 8.) Chinook parents engaged in the practice of _____ their babies' foreheads.

ANSWERS

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- 1.) The Chinook lived along the **Columbia** River.
- 2.) Like other tribes living in the Pacific Ocean, the Chinook carved out incredible **canoes** from the forests in the region.
- 3.) The Chinook, unlike some Northwest Coast tribes, did not carve **totem poles**.
- 4.) The Chinook were famous for their **horn** carvings, made from mountain goats among other animals.
- 5.) Chinook Jargon was a special language used for **trading**.
- 6.) Chinook used **shells** for currency (money).
- 7.) The annual migration of **salmon** from the ocean through Chinook Territory was a time for celebration among Chinook families.
- 8.) Chinook parents engaged in the practice of **flattening** their babies' foreheads.