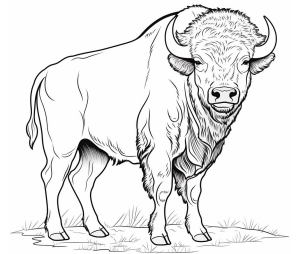


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Precolonial America**

### ***Plains Tribes***



**Directions:** Read the following passage then answer the questions.

#### **Lakota: Brave Buffalo Hunters**

The vast plains were the playground for the Lakota. Imagine galloping on horseback, wind in your hair, as you chase a herd of buffalo. For the Lakota, this wasn't just a thrilling chase; it was their way of life. Buffalo provided food, clothes, and tools. They used every part, ensuring nothing was wasted.

Their bravery wasn't just seen in hunts. The Lakota were fierce in battle, defending their land and way of life with unmatched courage. Their warriors were legendary, trained from a young age to be swift, strategic, and strong.

But their strength wasn't just physical. The Lakota held strong spiritual beliefs, turning to the Great Spirit for guidance. Ceremonies like the Sun Dance connected them to the world of spirits. To them, the earth, skies, and winds whispered stories of ancient times.

#### **Cheyenne: Starry-Eyed Wanderers**

Gazing up at the night sky, the Cheyenne tribe saw stories in the stars. They believed that their ancestors lived among those twinkling lights. When the night was clear, elders would point out constellations, sharing tales of heroes and lessons from the past.

The Cheyenne loved to celebrate. Their celebrations were filled with dancing, singing, and storytelling. They respected the land and moved with the seasons, following the herds and setting up their unique teepee homes wherever they went.

The Cheyenne also believed in the power of dreams. They thought dreams could offer guidance and reveal mysteries about life. So, if a Cheyenne told you about a dream they had, you'd know it was something special!

#### **Comanche: Whisperers of the Wind**

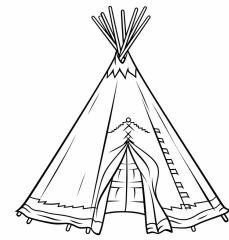
The Comanche were amazing horse riders. In fact, they were often called the "Horse Whisperers." With their swift horses, they could race across the plains faster than the wind. The Comanche were also skilled traders and hunters. They roamed vast territories and were known to be fierce warriors. But it wasn't all about fighting. They had a rich culture of songs, dances, and ceremonies that celebrated the beauty of the plains.

Their homes, called tipis, were tall and cone-shaped, made from buffalo hides. Inside, the walls were decorated with beautiful drawings and symbols, each telling a story of adventure, dreams, and nature.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Precolonial America

### *Plains Tribes*



**Directions:** Read the following passage then answer the questions.

### Reading Questions

1. What was the significance of buffalo to the Lakota? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. How did the Lakota connect with the spiritual world? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why do you think the Lakota turned to the Great Spirit for guidance? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why do you believe this?

5. What importance did the stars hold for the Cheyenne tribe? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. How did the Cheyenne celebrate and pass down their traditions and stories? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why might the Cheyenne believe so deeply in the power of dreams? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. What does the name "Horse Whisperers" suggest about the Comanche's relationship with horses?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Why do you believe this?

10. Why would the Comanche decorate the inside of their tipis with drawings and symbols?

\_\_\_\_\_