

# Life in an Indian Camp

By Mr Osborne  
www.SchoolHistory.co.uk

In today's lesson we are going to see what it was like to live in an Indian camp. Read the text in the box and then answer the questions.

The Plains Indians were people who did not like to live in one place. They liked to travel around and moved camps at least 3 times a year. For this reason they lived in Tepees, these were like big tents and were easy to put up and take down.

Inside the tepee you would find all the items the people needed to live. They would decorate the insides with pictures, store their weapons and food. They would also have a fire in the middle of the tepee to cook the food. The Indian people used to put buffalo skins on the floor to use as carpets. You would also find their beds.

In the Indian camp everyone had a job to do. The men had to hunt for food, and keep the families safe. The women had to cook all the meals, make the clothes, look after the children and whenever the camp moved they had to take down and put up the tepees.

## Questions (copy these sentences match the head to the tail)

1. The Plains Indians were like big tents
2. They moved camps people who did not live in one place
3. The Tepee were at least three times a year

Now look in the **black** section and make a list of all the items you would find in a tepee.

Now look in the **grey** section and make two lists one for men's jobs and one for women's jobs. Who did the most work?

Every tepee was personal to the family that lived in it. You could tell who lived in the tepee by the decoration on the outside. Draw your own tepee and on the outside put some pictures that would show a visitor that you lived there.