



THE PAIUTES

THE TRADE ECONOMY OF THE SOUTHERN PAIUTES

TEACHER BACKGROUND

The bands that now make up the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah have always lived in arid southwestern Utah. Because their homeland does not contain abundant natural resources, the Southern Paiutes developed sophisticated farming practices and agricultural technologies. In addition, Paiute communities traded with one another to maximize their access to plants and resources. The Paiute trade network allowed each band to meet its resource needs while helping other bands survive. This lesson has groups of students, acting as individual Southern Paiute bands, trade amongst themselves. The students will learn how to work with one another while they learn about the trade economy of the Southern Paiutes.

OBJECTIVE

The student will be able to identify the subsistence practices of the Southern Paiutes and analyze the economic and social connections between the different bands of Southern Paiutes in Utah.

TEACHER MATERIALS

At a Glance: Southern Utah and Paiute Subsistence, Agriculture, and Trade

We Shall Remain: The Paiute (chapter 2, 1:50–4:15)

Southern Paiute Interactive Map (available online at www.UtahIndians.org)

STUDENT MATERIALS

Paiute Tool and Food Cards

Paiute Trading Game Instructions and Rules

Survival Chart

TIME FRAME

Two thirty-minute periods

PROCEDURE

This lesson is almost entirely encompassed in the student activity. Start by explaining to students that natural resources are the raw materials that occur naturally in a given environment. Then explain that the Paiutes' ancestral homeland did not contain abundant natural resources, so the Paiute bands farmed and traded to make sure they had all the plants and resources they needed. Divide students into five teams, one for each band of the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah. Give each team a "cache of resources," along with the Game Instructions and Rules. Assist the teams as they work through the activity, trading with others to make sure that all their needs are met. When a band believes that they have met their needs, have them fill in the Survival Chart as a team. Once the game has been completed, bring the students back together as a class, and show them the interactive map. The students should be able to identify the resources and band territories on the map using the knowledge from the game to make connections to the new learning.



THE PAIUTES

ASSESSMENT / PRODUCTS

Group participation
Survival chart

VARIATIONS/EXTENSIONS

Have students do a research project on local resources in their area. What kinds of foods are grown in their area? What natural resources are harvested near them? Where can they be purchased?

Have students research information about one of the specific resources covered in the lesson. For example, where does a pine nut come from and where are they grown? How does one make a basket from willow?

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Holt, Ronald. *Beneath These Red Cliffs: An Ethnohistory of the Utah Paiutes*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1992.

Tom, Gary, and Ronald Holt. "The Paiute Tribe of Utah." In *A History of Utah's American Indians*. Ed. Forrest Cuch. Salt Lake City: Utah Division of Indian Affairs and Utah State Division of History, 2000. 123–66.

STANDARDS ADDRESSED

State Standards

Fourth Grade Social Studies – Utah Studies: 1/2/b; 2/1/c; 2/2/a

Accreditation Competencies

Personal Growth and Character Development / Demonstrates an Understanding of Health and Wellness / Understands how to access, analyze and use resources to promote physical, social, and emotional wellness

NCSS Standards Addressed

Early Grades: 1/a&d; 3/f; 7/a



THE PAIUTES

AT A GLANCE: SOUTHERN UTAH AND PAIUTE SUBSISTENCE, AGRICULTURE, AND TRADE

The ancestral territory of the Southern Paiutes covers parts of the Great Basin, the Mojave Desert, and the Colorado Plateau. This dry region does not contain abundant natural resources, but it is extremely diverse in types of plants and animals. Traditionally, the Paiutes lived in small communities that traded amongst one another to maximize their access to the diverse resources of their southern Utah homeland. Some Paiutes diverted streams to farm a variety of vegetables, while others living in the mountains had better access to fish, wild berries, and game. A strong Paiute trade network allowed each band to meet its resource needs while helping other bands survive.

Skilled botanists, the Southern Paiutes cultivated and gathered ninety-six varieties of edible plants, using them both for food and to build tools. Some of the tools Paiute traditionally used were milkweed nets for hunting, mahogany shovels for guiding streams and digging potatoes and bulbs, and willow baskets for storing grains, carrying water, and processing seeds. Paiute basketry was particularly specialized and inventive. The portability of resources was essential to the Paiute trade network, and baskets allowed the Paiutes to transport goods and travel distances that would not have been possible with heavy, fragile pottery. (For more information on Paiute basketry, see “The Art and Technology of Utah’s Five Unique Indian Cultures” lesson plan).

Invariably, the resources available to a particular Paiute band were linked to their location and

habitat. Historically, Paiute bands that lived near rivers and streams built complex irrigation canals to plant and harvest a variety of vegetables, including several types of squash and four different colors of corn. There is evidence that the Paiutes dammed rivers and diverted water for up to a half-mile. The Paiutes prepared fields for planting by burning off the existing brush, tilling the soil, and digging out irrigation rows. Communities that did not live near rivers utilized a method of irrigation in which they dug pits three feet across and six inches deep. Rainwater collected in the pits and was used to water the plants. Once the land was prepared and planted, the Paiutes left their farms and gardens unattended until it was time for weeding. They used the time between planting and weeding to hunt and gather.

The Paiutes were prodigious hunters and gatherers. They gathered many types of fruit in southern Utah, including raspberries and strawberries, which could be eaten fresh or dried for wintertime. They even used chokecherry and elderberry; the latter can be made into a delicious fruit beverage.

Often, seasonal subsistence activities offered the Paiutes an opportunity for social and trade gatherings. Bands held community rabbit hunts, and rabbits then were used for food, clothing, and warm fur blankets. The Paiutes also came together to gather pine nuts in the fall, and harvesting pine nuts was an especially important Paiute subsistence practice. Pine nuts are a rich



THE PAIUTES

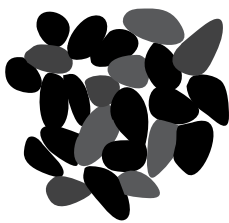
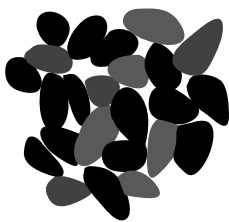
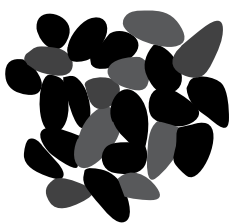
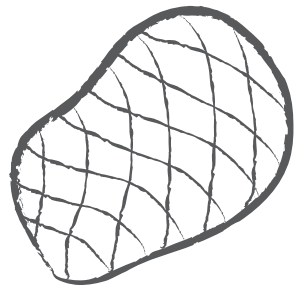
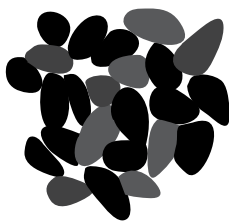
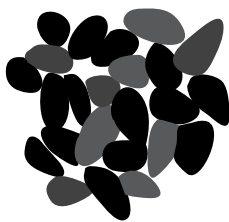
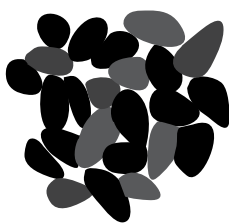
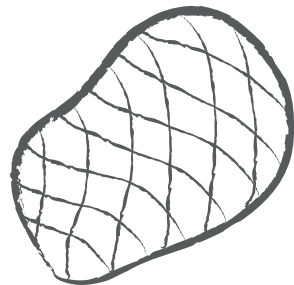
source of protein, stay preserved in their shell for months, and have a delicious, nutty flavor. Another important social and economic event occurred in the springtime, when the Paiutes traditionally gathered around Fish Lake, Utah, for the beginning of fish-spawning season. Fish Lake serves as the largest body of water in the Paiutes' territory in southern Utah.









In addition to maximizing the food resources of their homeland, the Paiutes found a variety of additional uses for local flora. Some were used as medicine. Yarrow treated wounds and eased infections. Strawberry leaves and roots were helpful for upset stomachs when steeped in water and consumed as a tea. Other plants were used as tools that improved the Paiutes' quality of life. The Paiutes burned juniper bark to ward off insects. They used bark from the Fremont cottonwood to make clothing. They cut cedar poles to support their teepees and wickiups.

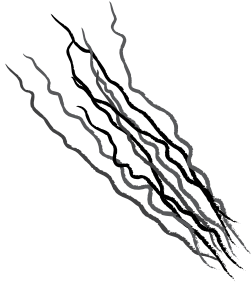
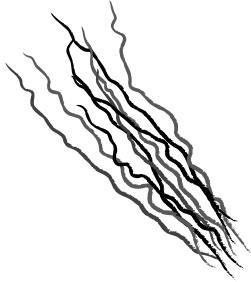
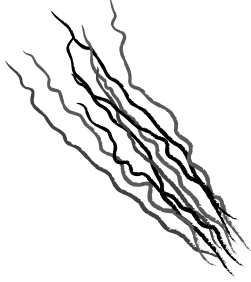


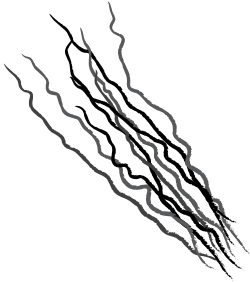
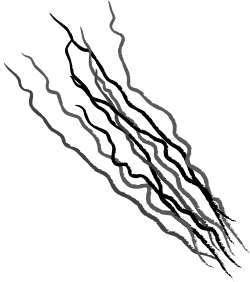
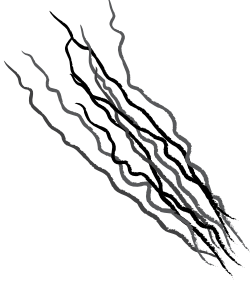
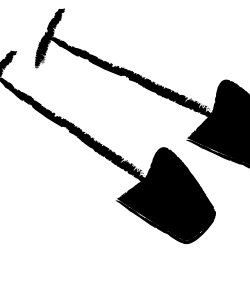
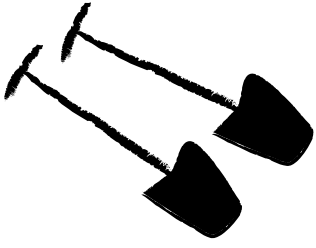
Clearly, the subsistence and trade practices of the Southern Paiutes allowed them to maximize the resources of their arid southern Utah homeland, but this lesson also seeks to teach students the current locations of the Paiutes by using the five contemporary bands of the Southern Paiute—Cedar, Indian Peaks, Kanosh, Koosharem,

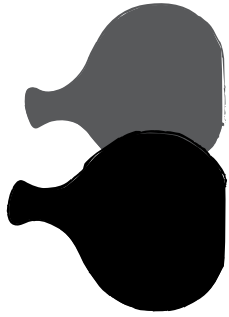
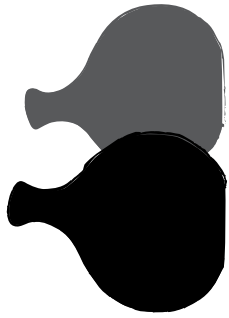
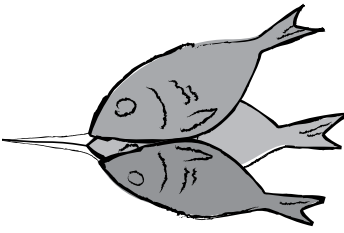
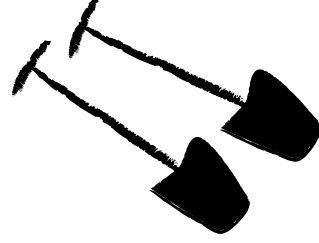
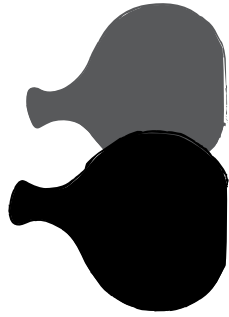
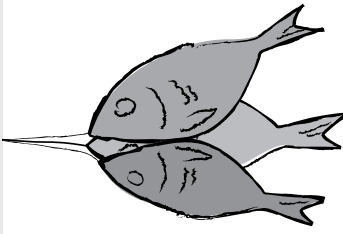
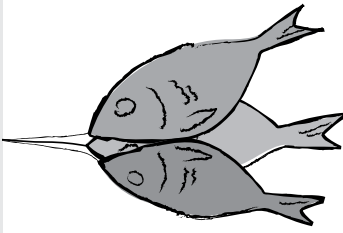
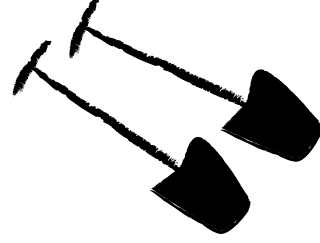
and Shivwits—as the teams that trade with one another. It is important for students to realize that the Paiutes still live in southern Utah. In the 1950s and 1960s, due to the federal policy of Termination, the Southern Paiutes almost lost their last remaining Utah homelands. Today, however, after decades of struggle, the Southern Paiutes are again federally recognized, and they have regained some of their lands and are rebuilding their reservation communities.




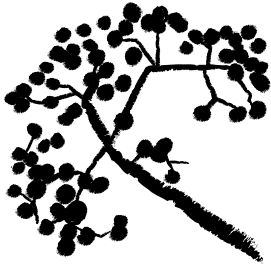






The persistence and adaptability of the Southern Paiutes is still evident today. For more information on the history and current location of each of these bands, see the Southern Paiute Interactive Map, available at www.UtahIndians.org. For more information on the termination period, see “The Southern Paiutes of Utah, from Termination to Restoration,” lesson plan.

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | PINE NUTS 2 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | PINE NUTS 2 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | PINE NUTS 2 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | NETS FOR HUNTING 6 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | PINE NUTS 2 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | PINE NUTS 2 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | PINE NUTS 2 POINTS |
| INDIAN PEAKS BAND |  | NETS FOR HUNTING 6 POINTS |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|
| CEDAR BAND |  | CEDAR BAND |  | CEDAR BAND |  | CEDAR BAND |  |
| CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 2 POINTS | CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 2 POINTS | CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 2 POINTS | CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 4 POINTS |
| CEDAR BAND |  | CEDAR BAND |  | CEDAR BAND |  | CEDAR BAND |  |
| CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 2 POINTS | CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 2 POINTS | CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 2 POINTS | CEDAR FOR MAKING SHELTER | 4 POINTS |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND | CEDAR BAND |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | STRAWBERRIES 4 POINTS |
| SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND | SHIWITS BAND |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | WILLOW FOR BASKETS 2 POINTS | SHOVELS FOR BUILDING 4 POINTS |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KOOSHAREM BAND | SHIVWITS BAND |
|  |  |  |  |
| WATER JARS "OLLAS" 4 POINTS | WATER JARS "OLLAS" 4 POINTS | FISH 4 POINTS | SHOVELS FOR BUILDING 4 POINTS |
| KANOSH BAND | KOOSHAREM BAND | KOOSHAREM BAND | SHIVWITS BAND |
|  |  |  |  |
| WATER JARS "OLLAS" 4 POINTS | FISH 4 POINTS | FISH 4 POINTS | SHOVELS FOR BUILDING 4 POINTS |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KOOSHAREM BAND |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | ELDERBERRIES 2 POINTS |
| KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KANOSH BAND | KOOSHAREM BAND |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | PUMPKINS 2 POINTS | ELDERBERRIES 2 POINTS | ELDERBERRIES 2 POINTS |

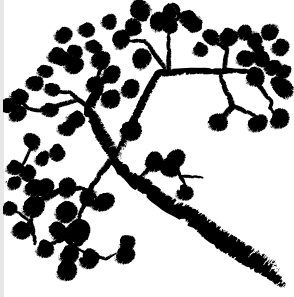
KOOSHAREM BAND



ELDERBERRIES

2 POINTS

KOOSHAREM BAND



ELDERBERRIES

2 POINTS

KOOSHAREM BAND



ELDERBERRIES

2 POINTS

KOOSHAREM BAND



ELDERBERRIES

2 POINTS

PAIUTE TRADING GAME INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES

Each band must elect a representative.

The band representative is the ONLY band member allowed to talk to the other bands.

The remaining band members are the called the council and they must approve all trades.

Each band must collect through trade at least four points from each band.

Each representative must be careful to not trade an item before getting approval from the council.

No band has completed their task until all their needs have been met.

Each band must be able to carry water and food.

Each band must have tools for farming or building shelter.

Each band must have a healthful diet.

SURVIVAL CHART

NAME: _____ **DATE:** _____

Band Name: _____

Representative: _____

Council Member: _____

Council Member: _____

Council Member: _____

Council Member: _____

Council Member: _____

Council Member: _____

List of ALL Resources: _____

We can carry food and water because: _____

We can build shelter or farm because: _____

We have a healthful diet because: _____
