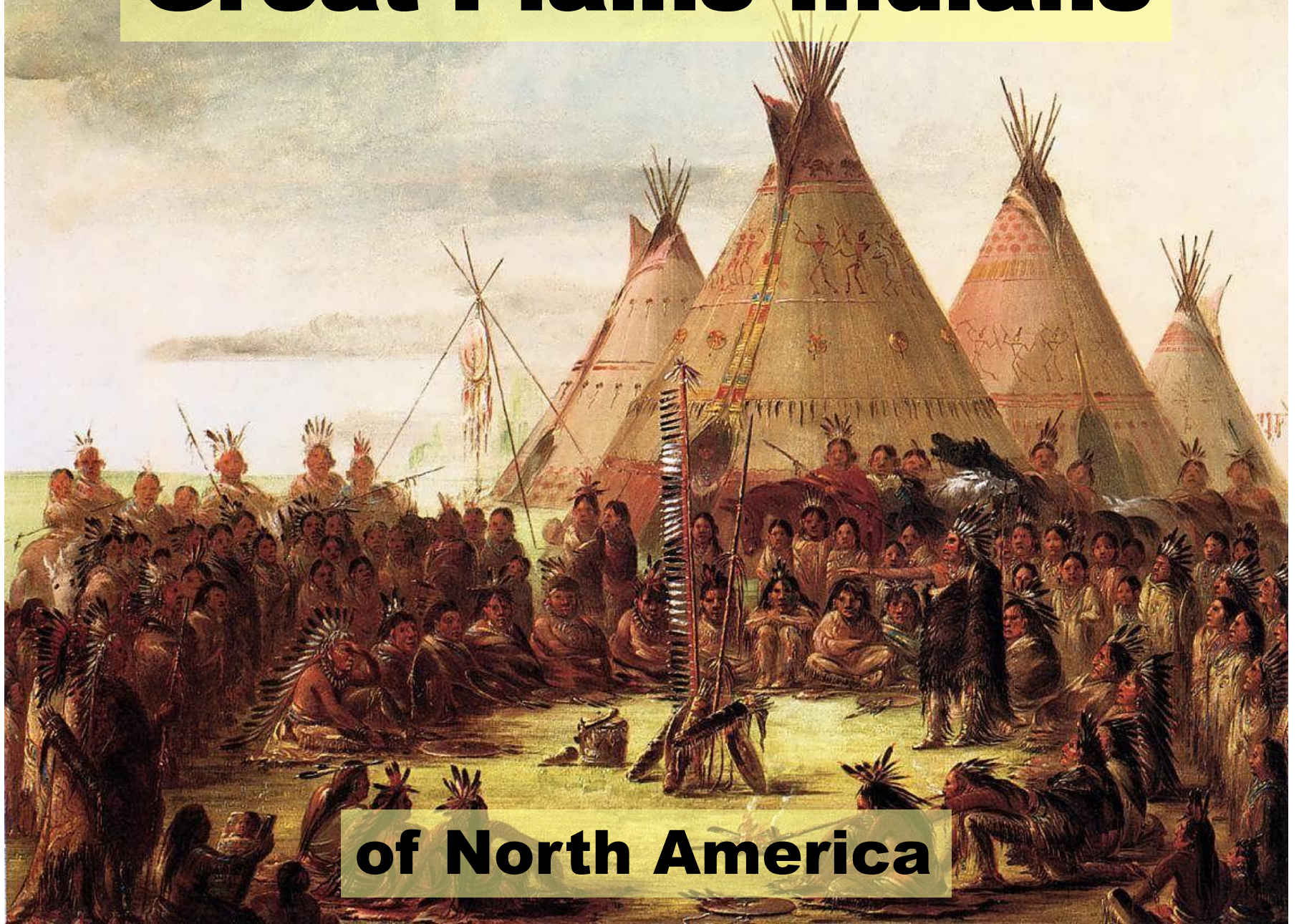


Great Plains Indians



of North America

Native Americans: Great Plains

Most of the tribes living in the Great Plains shared many cultural commonalities with other tribes. Examples are: the use of tepees, hunting buffalo, and using horses (after Spanish arrival in the 1500s).



Native Americans: Great Plains

Some major native tribes of the Great Plains include:

Arapaho	Mandan
Arikara	Omaha
Assiniboine	Osage
Blackfoot	Otoe
Comanche	Pawnee
Cheyenne	Ojibwe
Crow	Cree
Gros Ventre	Ponca
Hidatsa	Quapaw
Ioway	Sarcee
Kaw	Sioux
Kiowa	Stoney
Kitsai	Tonkawa
Missouria	Wichita



Native Americans: Great Plains

Hidatsa



Comanche



Sioux



Blackfoot



Cheyenne



Pawnee

Mandan



Arapaho

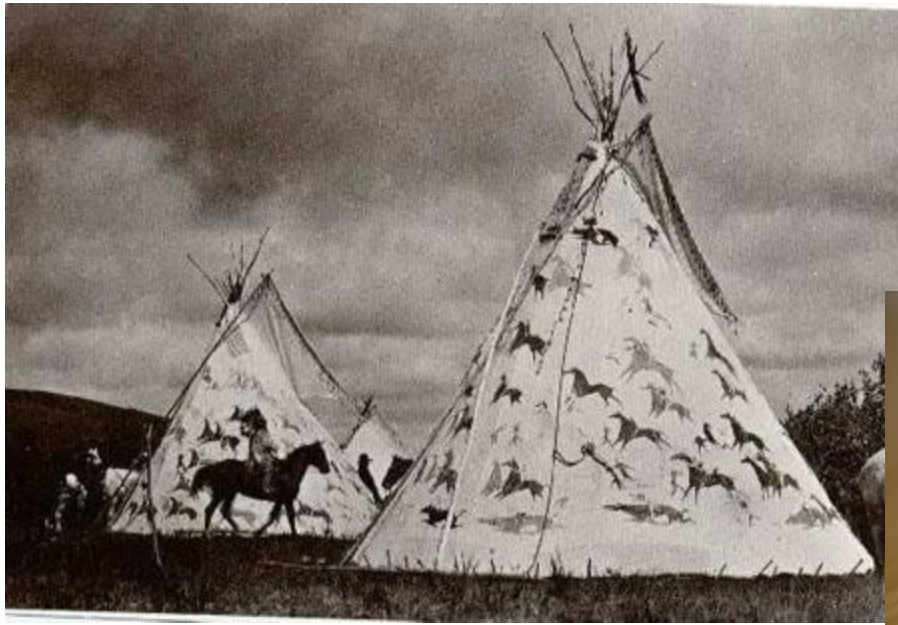
Crow



What did the **Great Plains Indians** live in?

- The tepee is a portable house, great for the nomadic life of a Plains Indian.
- It is made up of 3-4 poles and up to 12 buffalo skins sewn together.
- The opening of the tepee always faced the morning sun
- It took about one hour for women to assemble the family's tepee.





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BMG6yXgkTPY> (2:57 – end)

How did the Plains Indians travel?



- **The Plains Indians traveled by horse.**
 - The Plains Indians traded or stole them from the Spanish settlers.
- The horses helped with hunting, trading among tribes and fighting wars.
- **Warriors would paint their horses to show their history of battles.**

Native Americans: Great Plains

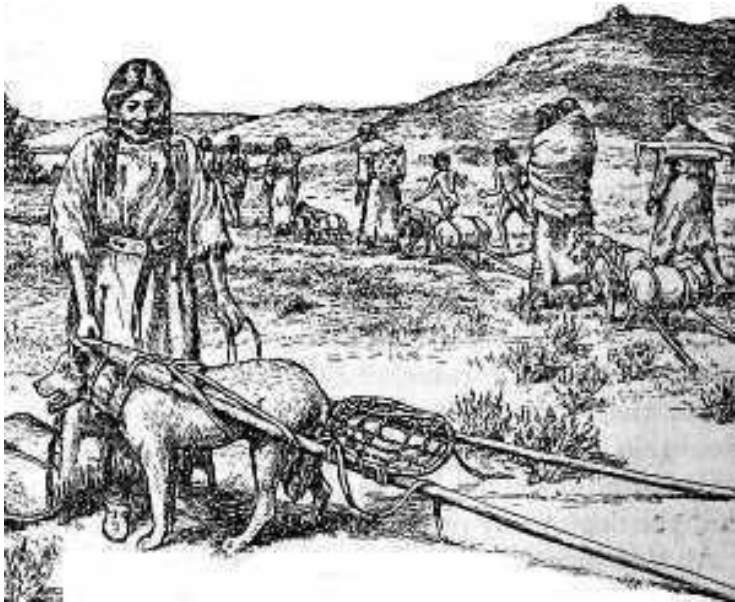


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-xp90gANgl> (:00 – 4:00)

Everyday Life - Plains Indian Men



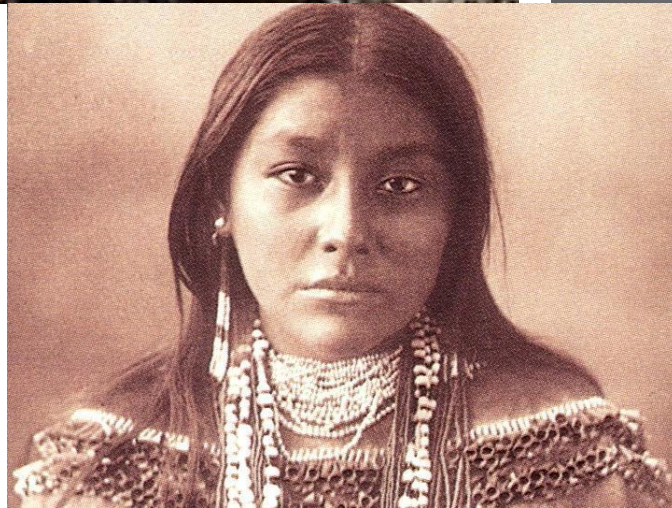
- The best hunters had the highest rank in the Plains Indian tribe.
- Men hunted deer, rabbit and elk.
- A man was also judged by how many horses he was able to obtain, and if he shared them.
- Dogs would pull their catch back to camp.



Everyday Life – Plains Indian Women

- ✘ The Plains women excelled at sewing and quillwork.
- ✘ These quills were sewn into clothing and used for artwork on tipis.
- ✘ Women chores were fetching water, sweeping, tending the fields, cooking and sewing.
- ✘ They mostly picked berries and nuts
- ✘ Women were seen as inferior, not to speak unless spoken to



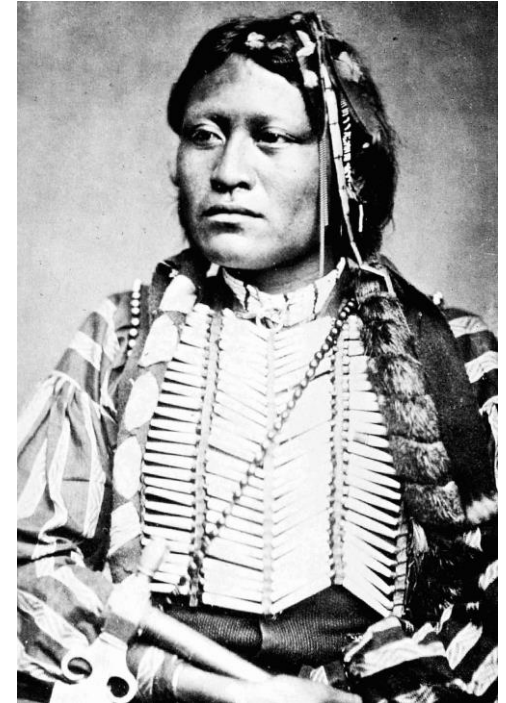


Everyday Life – Plains Indian Children

- Babies were taught at a very young age not to cry because it might scare off the food.
- At four years old, the girls would start helping their mothers with her chores
- The boys would listen to war stories and practice using their bow and arrows.
- Like the Algonquians, at the age of 13 boys went on Vision Quests
- Boys played a game like stick ball (hockey)
- Boys and girls never played together; they knew they had separate roles in life.

Plains Indian Fashion

- ✘ **Summer = deerskin and winter = buffalo.**
- ✘ Every Indian wore a belt to hang tools, knives or cups off of, since there were no pockets.
- ✘ Each tribe made different moccasins - they were made from deerskin, quills, and beads.
- ✘ **Hairpipes**, long thin beads made from bones, **were woven into the hair and kept their hair for life.**
- ✘ If a man was a great warrior, he would wear a war piece made of eagle feathers.
The greater the warrior, the more feathers.





These shirts are made from several human scalps...you don't want to be a Plains Indian's enemy!



The Buffalo



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iW10cp223So>

- Before each hunt they performed a buffalo dance.
- On foot it took a whole tribe to catch a buffalo; buffalo are very dangerous.
- The buffalo heart was left on the plains as an offering to the gods.
- Men and women would record their lives on buffalo hides using pictographs.

