# **Southwest Desert Indians** of North America

#### **Native Americans: Southwest**

The Indian tribes of the Southwest shared many cultural similarities.

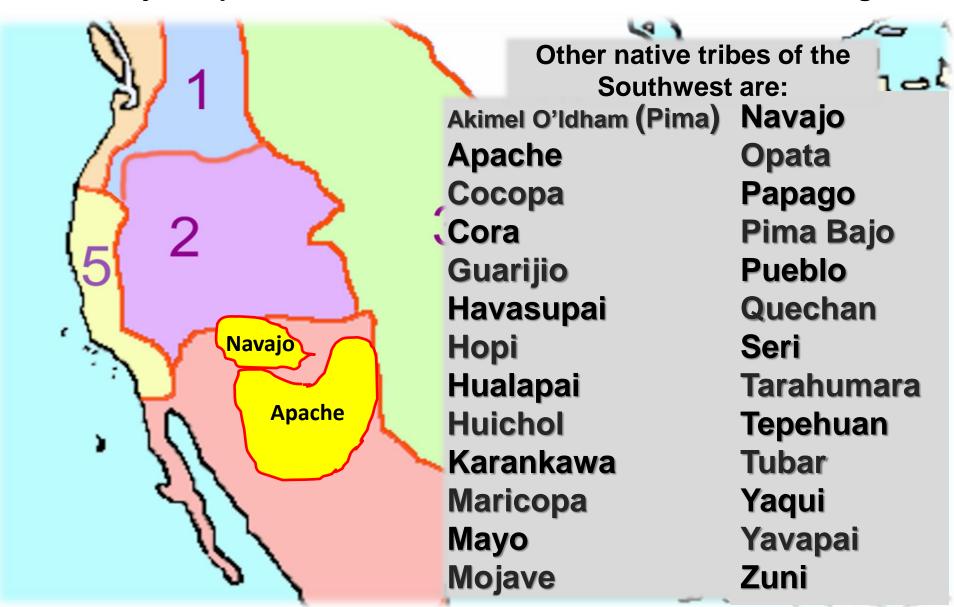
Many of the tribes farmed near rivers of the region.

Like the Great Plains
Indians, horses were
introduced to the
Southwest tribes by the
Spanish.



#### **Native Americans: Southwest**

The Navajo & Apache were dominant cultures of the Southwest region

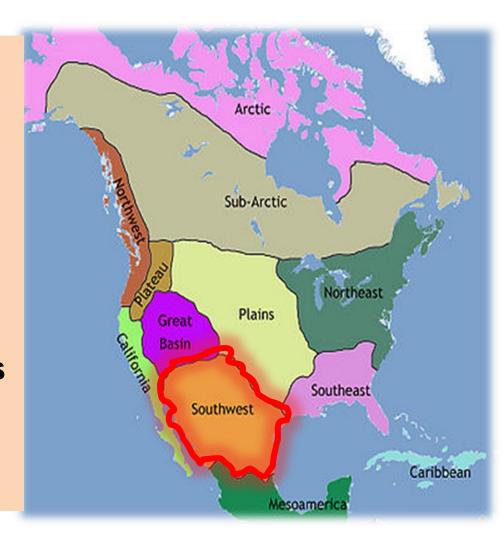


#### **Native Americans: Southwest**

The introduction of horses led to some Indian groups to develop an identity around horses:

- the breeding of horses
- the trading of horses
- the stealing of horses

In fact, the Pueblo tribe was successful in stealing thousands or horses from the Spanish.



#### The Desert Tribes

- The earliest Southwest tribe were the Anasazi.
   They were the first basket makers and cliff dwellers.
- The Anasazi were peaceful Indians.
- Other Southwestern tribes included.....
  - Pueblo
  - Navajo
  - Apache
  - Hopi

## Everyday Life – Southwest Desert Indian Men

- Invented ways to irrigate their crops, mostly by digging canals from nearby rivers – farmers.
- Men hunted, but it wasn't important to the Desert Indians; there weren't any large animals to hunt, only rabbits and prairie dogs.
- Men also created beautiful belts, pottery, and blankets.





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U
WHbSSy8VSU (2:30 - end)





# Everyday Life - Southwest Desert Indian Women

- Planted gardens at the bottom of hills to catch the run-off rain
- Gathered berries, nuts, bulbs and seeds to grind into food.
- Corn was 80% of their diet.
- Women dyed the cotton for clothes, but didn't make them.
- Women also made beautiful baskets, clay bowls, and jewelry.



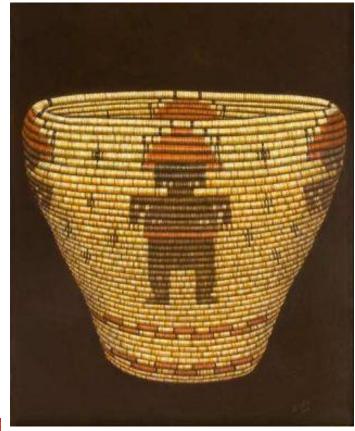




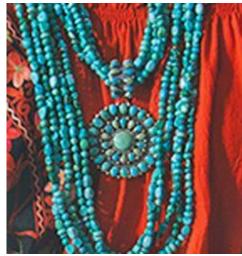












## Everyday Life - Southwest Desert Indian Children

- Children only grew to be about 5 feet tall because of their plant-based diet.
- Boys and girls played with Kachina Dolls. These dolls were carved out of roots to look like spirits (next slide).
- Boys went on Vision Quests at the age of 13
  - From your notes, can you remember what other two Native American regions we have learned who also sent their boys on Vision Quests?

# **Kachina Doll Spirits**



- Kachinas were Hopi spirits or gods which lived within the mountains.
- Hopi dancers would dress like Kachinas to represent, or stand for, the gods.
- Wooden Kachina dolls were made to teach the children about the gods.
- Hopi Kachinas talked to the gods by singing and dancing.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v =boVleXn8m8w

# What Did They Live In?

 The Southwest Desert Indians lived in two different kinds of houses – pueblos and hogans.





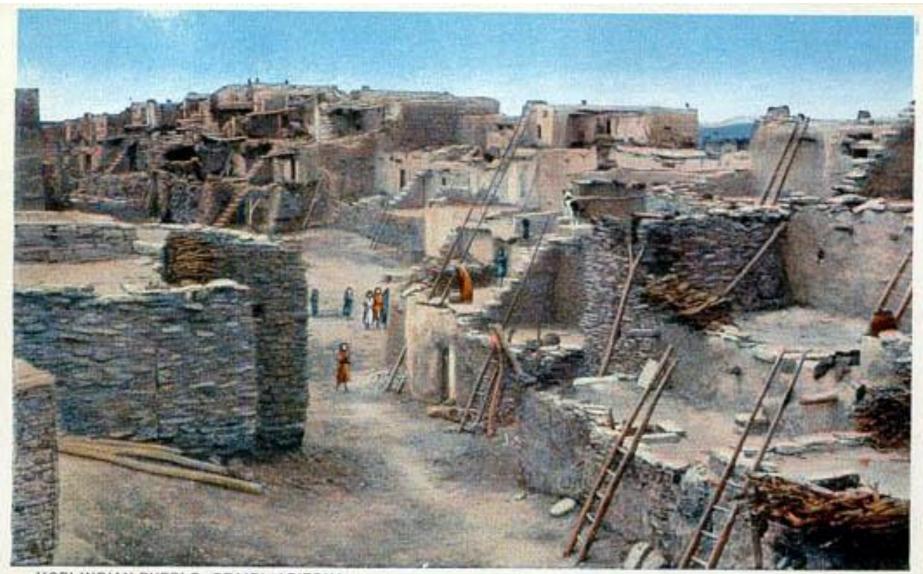
Pueblo Hogan

#### **Pueblos**

- Pueblos are villages made up of sandstone.
- Pueblos are like apartments, and can have 800 rooms joined together in one building!
- Pueblos ladders getting from place to place, and they could be pulled inside in case of an attack.



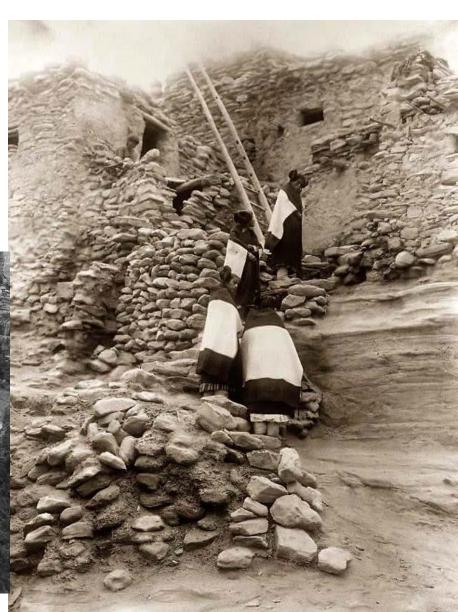




HOPI INDIAN PUEBLO, ORAIBI, ARIZONA,

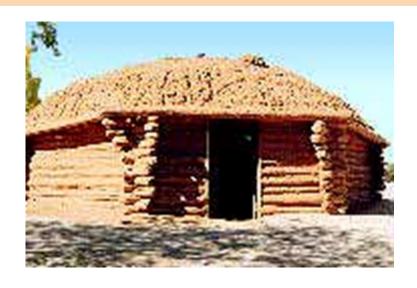




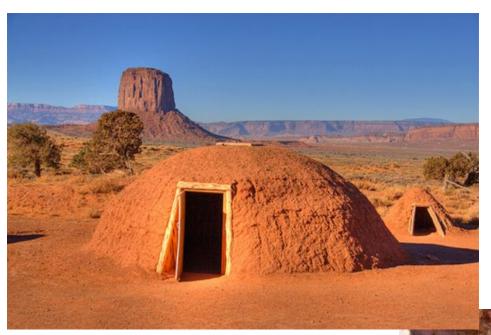


#### Hogans

- Some smaller Southwest Desert Indian tribes lived in hogans.
- Hogans are built at the base of hills, and are made of everything from nature (dirt, animal, wood...)
- A village would spread out over a large piece of land, but families would cluster together.









# For Men Only – The Kiva

- A kiva was a round room built underground at the base of the homes.
- Only men were allowed into the kiva.
- To get in and out, the men had to go by ladder through the roof.
- Religious ceremonies happened here, and laws were made.



