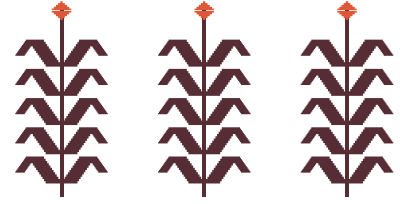


Name _____

Date Sample Answers

Find the Main Idea: Native American Foods



Directions: Read the passage, underlining according to the color code instructions below. Then answer the questions that follow.

Underline the main idea in red. • Underline the supporting details in blue.

• Underline an interesting piece of information in yellow.

Native Americans ate a wide variety of foods before there was any contact with Europeans. Tribes like the Iroquois, Algonquin, and Cherokee grew corn, beans, and squash as a major part of their diet. These three foods were called the three sisters and were often grown together. Both corn and squash were only found in North and South America before trade with Europe.

Many other tribes were hunter-gatherers, who did not farm. Some followed herds of buffalo, deer, or other game for food, and picked berries or other edible plants. Others, in the north and on the coast, hunted seal and other sea life and ate sea plants. No one knows exactly what was eaten when the Wampanoag had their famous meal with the Pilgrims, but it was likely they ate squash, corn, beans, or deer.

Modern-day native people eat variations of traditional foods. Some foods, such as fry bread, are still an important part of Native American social gatherings.

Questions

1. What is the main idea of this reading passage?

Native Americans ate a wide variety of foods before there was any contact with Europeans.

2. List three details from the text that support this main idea.

a. Tribes like the Iroquois grew corn, beans, and squash.

b. Some tribes followed herds of buffalo, deer, or other game.

c. Some northern and coastal tribes hunted seal and other sea life and ate sea plants.