



Native American Tribes: Cheyenne



The Cheyenne tribe of Native Americans were originally farmers from the Great Lakes area of the United States. They moved slowly west, eventually reaching the Great Plains in the 1600s. Once they arrived on the Great Plains, they began using horses. They stopped farming and began hunting buffalo for food.



Cheyenne using a travois, or wooden frame, for carrying goods.



Painting of the Cheyenne at the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876

They traveled across the Plains, from Colorado to North Dakota, following the buffalo herds. The U.S. Government tried to put restrictions on where the Cheyenne could hunt and live, which was a big problem for the Cheyenne because they were a nomadic, hunting tribe. The Cheyenne resisted these restrictions, and many battles were fought between the U.S. Army and the Cheyenne. One of the most famous was the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876. In this battle, the Cheyenne joined with other tribes, such as the Lakota, to defeat the U.S. Army. Eventually, the Cheyenne were forced to surrender. By 1900, the Cheyenne lived on reservations in Oklahoma and Montana.



*Morning Star
(Cheyenne name)
or Dull Knife
(Lakota name)
about 1810-1883
Chief of the
Northern Cheyenne*



Q&A

What did the Cheyenne carry goods on?

What was the name of the battle where the Cheyenne defeated the U.S. Army?

What did the Cheyenne hunt?

Where are the Cheyenne reservations?

Secret Code Word

Use the secret code to find a word about the Cheyenne. Write the letter in the blank that matches the number from the code.

8 21 14 20 5 18 19

Secret code

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 = A | 8 = H | 15 = O | 22 = V |
| 2 = B | 9 = I | 16 = P | 23 = W |
| 3 = C | 10 = J | 17 = Q | 24 = X |
| 4 = D | 11 = K | 18 = R | 25 = Y |
| 5 = E | 12 = L | 19 = S | 26 = Z |
| 6 = F | 13 = M | 20 = T | |
| 7 = G | 14 = N | 21 = U | |