

Name _____



Native Resistance

When European settlers arrived in North America, they changed the land and the lives of Native American tribes. Some tribes adapted by trading and forming alliances, while others resisted to protect their land and way of life. Their actions helped shape history in ways that are still remembered today.

Adapting to Change

Many Native American tribes found ways to work with the settlers. They traded fur, food, and handmade goods in exchange for metal tools, weapons, and cloth. Some tribes, like the Iroquois Confederacy, formed alliances with the British or French to protect themselves from other groups. Others learned new farming techniques and used horses brought by the Spanish to make hunting easier.

However, adapting wasn't always easy. Settlers took more land, and Native Americans had to move to new places. Some tribes changed how they lived, shifting from farming to hunting more often, or moving west to stay away from settlers.

Fighting Back

Other Native American tribes resisted colonization. They fought to keep their land and protect their people. One example is King Philip's War (1675-1676), when the Wampanoag leader Metacom (King Philip) and his allies fought against the English settlers in New England. The war was one of the most destructive conflicts in colonial history.

Another example is the Powhatan Wars in Virginia. The Powhatan Confederacy, led by Chief Powhatan and later his brother Opechancanough, fought against English settlers who were taking their land. Though Native Americans won some battles, they lost many lives and land.

Lasting Effects

The resistance and adaptation of Native American tribes shaped colonial America. Some tribes moved west, while others remained and continued to fight for their rights. Today, Native American culture, languages, and traditions still survive despite many challenges. Their history reminds us of their strength and resilience in the face of change.