Native American Tribes in Texas



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Clues

Comanche

- Occupied Northwestern Texas and eastern New Mexico
- Known for riding and training horse
- Hunted buffalo for food, tools, and clothing

Apache

- Occupied the southwest desert regions of Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico
- Built homes called wickiups (much like a tepee) made from sticks and dried native grass
- Hunted buffalo for food and traded with other tribes for corn and other produce

Jumano

- Occupied western Texas between the Pecos River and the Rio Grande
- Name has been spelled many ways including, Xumana, Jumana, and Chomano
- Often ate native plants including the prickly pear fruits from cactus

Tonkawa

- Occupied Central Texas along the northern part of the Brazos River
- Built rafts to travel on the rivers and sleds called, travois, to carry their belongings on land
- Rattlesnakes were considered a special and tasty meal for this tribe.

Coahuiltecans

- Occupied the Coastal Plains of South Texas and Northeastern Mexico
- Believed that these groups spoke around 7 different languages, or dialects, between them
- Diet primarily consisted of native plants like pecans, prickly pear fruit and mesquite beans

Karankawa

- Occupied the Gulf Coast of Texas from Galveston Bay to Corpus Christi
- Kept small dogs as pets that were described as fox or coyote-like
- Migrated to hunt for food but their diet consisted mainly of fish, shellfish, and turtles

Atakapa

- Occupied Southeastern Texas and parts of Western Louisiana
- Hunted alligators for their meat, oil, and hides. (The oil was used as insect repellant!)
- Main food source was seafood, such as oysters, shrimp, crabs, and alligators

Caddo

- Occupied the forested areas of Northeast Texas and parts of Oklahoma
- Known for building large earthen mounds for burials or special ceremonies.
- Mainly farmers, though they also hunted bears and deer that roamed in East Texas

