

What was Mahican Culture?

Mahicans lived communally; women had equal rights as men, there was no slavery, all group members were cared for equally.

Village or group elders managed activities of daily life, restricting overuse of resources so as to preserve them for the next seven generations.



(left) Mahicans greet early Settlers on the Hudson



(right) Mahican Spirit tool

- **Discussing the perspective of American Indians that the Earth is a home to all living creatures, trees and plants, students may be encouraged to describe and explore various habitats, or places where we all live, meet our needs and find or create shelter - near woods or fields, in towns or cities, with trees, bushes or perhaps a stream or river nearby.**
- **Some suggested activities might include: planting seeds and caring for them; making lists and drawings of all trees, birds, small creatures, flowers and plants that live in students' backyards or neighborhoods; getting acquainted with a nearby tree, creating gentle bark rubbings with a crayon and paper, making a leaf print by dipping one side of a leaf into paint and then pressing it onto paper.**
- **Make a list of favorite foods and trace their origins.**
Examples:
cheese = cow
bread = *grain (what kind? wheat/corn/rye/spelt/oat, etc)*

- **Listen for the songs of birds, trying to see where they are perched when singing and noticing what times of day they sing most. Can you spot them?**

- **Clean up litter along sidewalks or near trees and plants in the neighborhood.**

- **Do you have a story about your family/ancestors passed down orally?**

- **(in reference to archaeological artifacts) do you have a favorite object that has a story to go along with it?**