Native American Culture

European settlers were not the first people to live in North America. Native Americans had been living in North America for ten thousand years before Europeans got here. There were many different Native American groups in North America. Each group had their own ways of life. They were the earliest Americans.

Today there are almost six hundred Native American governments in the United States. Some have their own constitutions. Their lands are mostly under the control of the United States government. The Bureau of Indian Affairs manages Native American reservations. The Bureau also helps send many Native Americans to school.

Native American nations often get together at powwows. People from Native American nations all over the United States come together at these powwows. There they tell stories and sing songs from their nations’ earliest times. They use the languages of their nations. They talk about issues such as health, culture, and society. They celebrate their unity as a people.

1. Who were the first people to live in North America? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the purpose of the Bureau of Indian Affairs? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. What are two things you might hear at a powwow? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is something unique or special about Native Americans?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_