

Sac fox

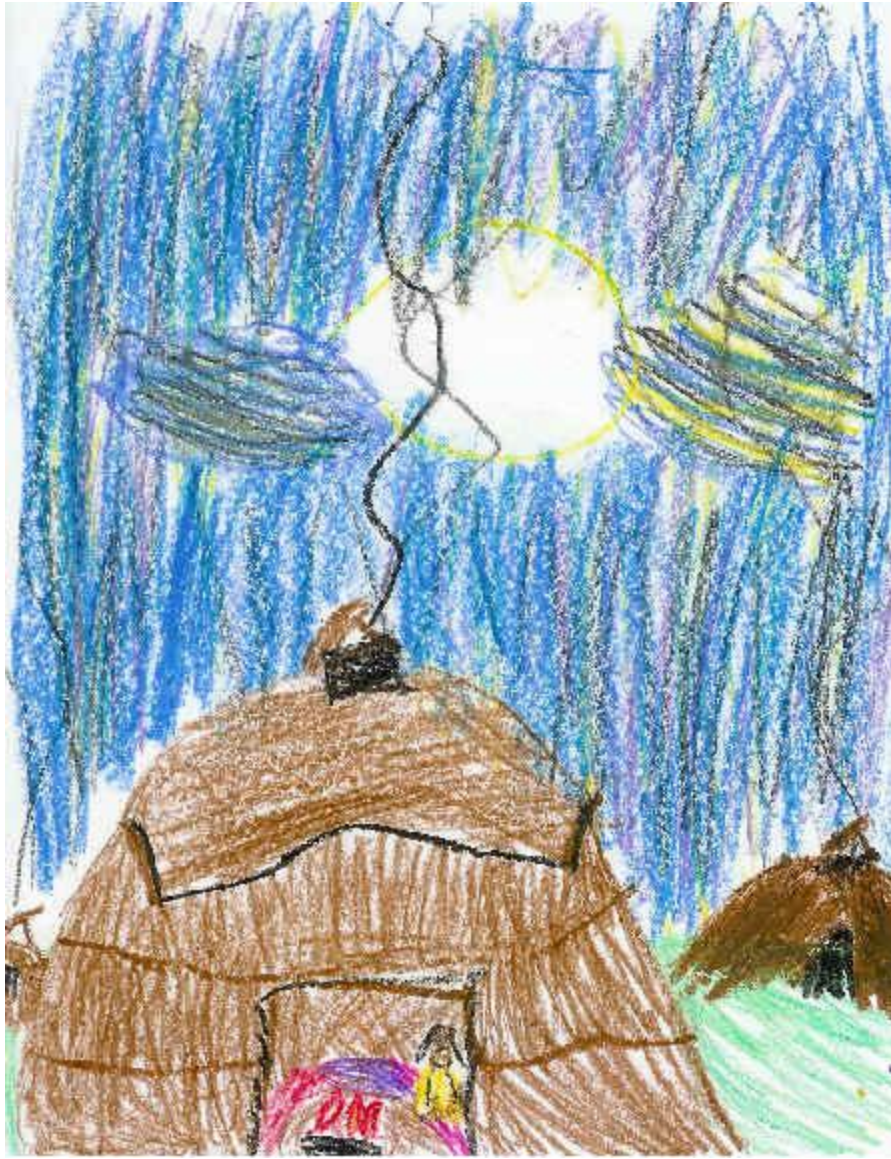
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by



Religion

Religion was an important part of the Sac Fox tribe's daily life. They believed that every person, animal, and thing had its own "manito" or guardian spirit. When a hunter killed a bear, a deer, a buffalo, or any animal he thanked the "manito" of the animal for the gift it was giving to the people. Children began learning the religion of their people at an early age. Boys were taught to fast and to keep holy vigils to bring their soul closer to the Great Spirit. When the boy was old enough he made a special vigil quest. The Great Spirit would show him his personal manito, which would stay with him the rest of his life. At that time, he chooses his manhood name and began to collect the sacred things that would go into his medicine bag.



Dwellings

The Sac Fox tribe lived in large bark covered wigwams with rounded roofs that let the rain and snow roll off easily. Most wigwams were forty to sixty feet long and had several families living in them. Each family had its own cooking fire in the center of the wigwam. Sleeping benches covered with skins and blankets ran along the sidewalls.



Food

The Sac Fox tribe lived in a rich valley where deer, buffalo, and smaller animals provided food. The nearby streams were also filled with fish. The valley also had rich soil. Using the shoulder bone of buffalo or deer, the women broke the land and turned over the soil. They grew corn, beans, squash, pumpkin and tobacco. OF all the crops corn was the most important. It could be boiled, roasted, or made into soup or dumplings. Also, the kernels were stripped away from the cob. It could be dried and pounded into meal or stored away for later use.

