

Cherokee



by Johnny

When Columbus reached America he discovered Indians. They are the true Native Americans. Indians had straight black hair and high cheekbones. Indians are members of the ethnic race of people called Mongols. The Cherokee were an intelligent, hard-working and peace-loving tribe.

Indians migrated to a state that would one day be called Oklahoma. Their houses were made on mounds in the center of town. They were built of lightweight materials such as tree bark, reeds, and grasses. Mud houses were also built. These were made from upright poles with reeds woven between the poles. The mud was layered over the poles and reeds. The roof was made of thatch or over-lapped bark.

The Cherokees were great farmers who lived in permanent towns. They raised corn, beans, squash, pumpkins, sunflowers, and tobacco. The men hunted deer for food and clothing.

The Indians made most of their clothes from various animals or from woven fibers of the hemp plant. The women wore wrap-around and knee-length skirts. Both men and women wore deerskin moccasins. They reached halfway to the knee. Men wore a breechcloth which is a piece of fabric about 19 inches wide that passes between the legs and was held at the waist of the belt. The ends hung down in front and back almost to the knees.