

Cherokee by Eli



In the past, the Cherokee Indians lived in Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, and Arkansas, but now they live in Oklahoma. The area has a lot of rolling hills and productive farmland. It also has the Appalachian Mountains.

The Cherokee men did the hunting, fought in wars and made decisions for the tribe. The Cherokee women did the farming, looked after their homes and children. They both took part in the storytelling, artwork, making music and traditional medicine. The children enjoyed hunting and fishing with their uncles. They played a fun game of throwing a dart through a moving hoop.

The Cherokees were farming people. The women harvested crops of corn, beans, squash and sunflowers. They collected berries, nuts and fruits. The men hunted deer, turkey, elk, fox and bear. They also fished in the rivers. The dinners also included cornbread, soups and stew cooked on stone hearths.

The Cherokees lived in small round houses in the summer. They also lived in wigwams made of bark off trees and wood. They would only live in these before moving on.

In the 18th century, white settlers began to arrive in the Cherokee lands in large numbers. In the 1800's, it was thought the gold could be found in Cherokee land in Georgia and so they were pushed out and forced to leave and walk far away to lands the government gave them. Many Cherokee Indians died along this journey and found the new land no good for farming or hunting. This journey has been called the Trail of Tears.

Interesting facts that I learned about the Cherokee Indian tribe was that it was on the Cherokee's land that the first gold rush happened at New-echoya and lots of people came, took gold and pushed them off their land. Also, villages had 2 chiefs, a "red chief" in the winter and a "white chief" in the summer, and during the revolutionary War, the Cherokees fought on the same side of the British.