

# *Chickasaw*

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**By Sara**

For many years archaeologists and other people who study early Native American cultures agreed that the first human alive was about 11,500 years ago. These first Americans were believed to have been big game hunters who lived by hunting animals. One of these tribes was called the Chickasaw. They lived in the southeast because of the weather and lots of space to grow corn. The area where they lived is now Mississippi and Alabama and Tennessee.

The Chickasaw families each had their own gardens to plant corn. They also had two kinds of homes. There were winter homes which kept them warm because they lived in the Ice Age. There were summer homes to keep them cool. The winter homes were made out of woven saplings. The summer house was made out of bark and grass.

The Chickasaw men hunted. Next to being a warrior, the most important thing about a Chickasaw man's life was to hunt for deer, fish, and bear. This is what they fed their families.

The Chickasaw women wove. They made clothes for their families. The children were taught to be responsible. The boys were taught to be good hunters and warriors. The girls were taught to weave, cook, and take care of the family.

One of the Chickasaw games was called toli. A toli was a round stick that had a hoop at the end. Toli is not the only game they played. They had chunky ball. They threw a stone down a hill and threw arrows at it.