

Creek

By Bryce

The Creek Indians live in what are now the states of Georgia and Alabama. When the Europeans first began to settle North America in the 1600's, the Creeks were not a closely knit nation. The Creeks were different independent groups that formed friendships or alliances with each other.

The Creek Indians lived in valleys near rivers. Here the land had good soil and was easy to farm and produced many crops. Their life was centered around providing food for themselves.

The Creek Indians built family compounds in Creek communities called Itawis. Later on English settlers called the Creek communities towns. Every Creek town had an open space called the square ground. The compounds had several buildings, gardens, and huge fields. The compounds were built from tree wood and branches.

The Creek Indians' food came from the men hunting and from fishing. The men hunted in the forest for deer, bears, rabbits, and squirrels. Men caught fish by using spears, bows and arrows. Sometimes the men would grind a special kind of plant root. They put the powder in the creek. They put the powder in the creek and the fish would eat it and they would float on top of the water and they would die. The women and children planted the garden. They used sticks to dig up the soil. They planted berries, roots, nuts, and vegetables.

Before European explorers came, they used animal furs and plant fibers for clothes. The Creeks were introduced to many new things such as glass and beads, wool and cotton fabric. The Creeks blended the European fabrics with their own.