

# NEZ PERCE

by

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The Nez Perce Indians were known for the well made hunting tools. They made bows and arrows. They were made out of wood of a yew, ash or willow tree. The best bows were made out of the Bighorn sheep's curved horn. This could last the hunter for a lifetime. It could shoot very far away.



The Nez Perce had no real religion. They worshipped the land instead. They thought the earth was as mother who gave them what they needed to live. They believed they were brothers to the animals, trees rocks and anything that was nature.



They also believed in people called Shamans. They could control the weather and give good health or bad health.



Gathering food was a full time job for the whole tribe. Their main food was fish called salmon and two kinds of plants called kause and camas bulbs. Kause tasted like turnips and they ate it raw. Camas had blue flowers on it and it was sweet and they would make cakes for everyone. They caught most of the salmon in the summer and that lasted them all year long. They would use spears and nets to catch the fish for everyone. Everyone helped.

The Nez Perce Reservation and its location.

