By **Shawn**

The Penobscot Indians lived along the longest river in Maine. The river runs 350 miles to the Atlantic Ocean. The river was named the Penobscot River, after the people who lived along it. The Penobscots called themselves Panawampskiky, which means People of the Rocky River.

The Penobscot lived in many places. In the spring they lived in wigwams along the river. A wigwam was a hut with a wooden frame covered with bark. In the fall, they moved to the woods farther north. Their shelters were made from tree branches and animal furs to keep out the cold. In the winter when it snowed, the families returned to their villages along the river.

Penobscot Indians were hunters, trappers, fishermen, and gatherers. In the fall, they hunted for moose, deer, caribou, and bears in the forest farther north. Boys and girls were taught to make traps to catch smaller animals like beavers and rabbits.

The Penobscot paddled down the Penobscot River in canoes made from bark to the seashore. They caught many kinds of fish with spears and wooden traps. They gathered fruits, grapes, and wild berries that grew everywhere. They also had gardens where they grew corn, squash, beans, and other vegetables.

Today, there are about 2,000 Penobscot living in Maine.