

## American Indians- Timeline for Students

### American Indians—A Timeline for students

1570s	<p>Spanish Jesuits start Indian mission on the York River. They are killed by Indians and the mission was abandoned.</p> <p>Chief Powhatan inherits a chiefdom of six tribes.</p>
1606	<p>King James I grants charter to the Virginia Company to establish colonies in America.</p>
1607	<p>Chief Powhatan has by now conquered about 25 other tribes, forming the largest Indian confederacy in North America.</p>
May 13, 1607	<p>English colonists begin building their new settlement on Jamestown Island. They engage in both friendly and hostile relations and trade with the Powhatan Indians over the next years.</p>
1616-19	<p>Short of cash, the Virginia company begins paying shareholders and settlers in acres of land.</p> <p>In 1619 George Yeardley becomes governor of Virginia and establishes a plan of settlement and land reform.</p>
1622-34	<p>Periodic warfare between English and Indians, despite official peace.</p>
1634	<p>Cherokee migrate from areas around Great Lakes into the southeast, where they meet English colonists in Virginia.</p> <p>Virginia is divided into eight shires (counties) with a colonial sheriff's office.</p> <p>Tobacco farming grows and expands into a plantation economy.</p>
1654	<p>English settlers from Jamestown and Pamunkey Indians are defeated in an attack on a neighboring Indian village.</p>
1677	<p>Treaty made at Middle Plantation (Williamsburg) with Indians who had been under attack. Indians cede their lands and are confined to small reservations as tax-paying subjects of the King of England.</p>
1691	<p>New law outlaws marriage between English and Indians.</p>
1700-1723	<p>College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, begins educating small numbers of Indian students in efforts to "civilize" and "Christianize" them. Indian students live with local families and take classes at the University.</p>
1711-1715	<p>Cherokee join other tribes and European militias to fight Tuscarora, forcing</p>

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	<p>Tuscarora to migrate northward.</p> <p>In 1714, Virginia Lt. Gov. Spotswood establishes Fort Christanna, with a school intended to educate, Christianize, create dependency, and maintain peace with local Indians. The school attracts up to 100 Indian students in a year.</p>
1721	Cherokee sign a Treaty ceding land to the Province of South Carolina.
1722	Tuscarora join Iroquois Confederacy as Sixth Nation (New York).
1723-1779	Indian students of the College of William and Mary are moved to a separate building, the Brafferton Indian School. However, they continue to share other common spaces with William and Mary students. Thomas Jefferson was a student during this time.
1730	Sir Alexander Cumming takes seven Cherokee leaders to London to meet with King George I, where they sign Articles of Trade and Friendship.
1738	Augusta County (west of Charlottesville, VA) is formed as the westernmost colonial territory.
1739	British Crown land grant of 92,000 acres given to Benjamin Borden to bring settlers to modern-day Rockbridge County, Virginia
1742-45	Colonel James Patton receives two large land grants totaling 200,000 acres to encourage settlement in the Roanoke and New River valleys.
1744	Treaty of Lancaster with Iroquois Confederacy affirms use of "Warriors' Path" and allows English settlements west of the Appalachian mountains.
1750	Dr. Thomas Walker partners with land surveyor Peter Jefferson (father of Thomas Jefferson) to form the Loyal Land Company and find 800,000 acres in southwest Virginia. They build a small cabin in Kentucky.
1754-1763	French and Indian (Seven Years') War. Cherokee initially fight with British against France, but British mistreatment of Cherokee causes the Anglo-Cherokee War between them. The British win both wars.
1761-62	<p>Cherokee sign Treaty of Long Island-on-the-Holston with Colony of Virginia and Treaty of Charlestown with South Carolina.</p> <p>English-American explorers establish hunting camps in Kentucky region.</p>
1763	King George III issues Royal Proclamation of 1763, forbidding colonists from settling west of the Appalachian Mountains.
1768-73	Cherokee cede, lease, and sell millions of acres of land in Virginia, Tennessee,

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1773	<p>Kentucky, and Georgia by signing treaties with the British Indian Superintendent and private companies.</p> <p>Explorers following Daniel Boone and William Russell to settle in Kentucky are attacked and killed by a mixed band of Shawnee, Delaware, and Cherokee.</p>
1774	English forces defeat the Shawnee in Lord Dunmore's War, and allow for English settlement of Kentucky.
1775-83	<p>Cherokee support British forces against American colonists during Revolution.</p> <p>General George Washington orders destruction of 40 Indian villages, crops, food stores, and fruit trees.</p>
1775-1810	200-300,000 white settlers pass through Virginia on their way to new settlements in Kentucky.
1779	Brafferton Indian School at College of William and Mary closes for good, unfunded and deemed as "unsuccessful." Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and work together on its closure.
1783-85	Cherokee cede more land in Georgia to United States.
May 23, 1789	Secretary of War General Henry Knox sends report to president, warning of potential of southeast Indian tribes to form a confederation like those of the northeast, and recommending a large army presence to "reduce the Creeks to submit to the will of the United States and to acknowledge the validity of the treaties stated to have been made by that nation with Georgia" and to "quiet the hostilities". He also notes that [white] population "shall increase, and approach the Indian boundaries, game will be diminished, and new purchases may be made for small consideration."
1791	Cherokee establish terms of relations between the tribe and the United States in the Treaty of Holston, making the United States responsible for managing Cherokee foreign affairs.
Sept 25, 1793	Over 1000 Cherokee and Muscogee warriors led by John Watts attack small fortified homestead Cavett's Station in Tennessee. After Watts negotiated surrender terms, a Cherokee chieftain attacked and killed the homesteaders.
1795	Wyandot and other Indian groups cede large parts of what we now know as Ohio and Chicago in Treaty of Greenville after heavy losses at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, led by General Wayne under orders from President Washington.
1796	President George Washington begins "civilization campaign" among Cherokee.

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1802	President Thomas Jefferson nullifies titles of Muscogee and Cherokee to their lands in Georgia in exchange for Georgia's surrender of claims to western lands. The Indians have no say in this matter.
April 1803	Louisiana Purchase adds 828,000 square miles of land to United States.
August 1803	Lewis and Clark begin exploration of western territory acquired in Louisiana Purchase, with Sacagawea as their Indian interpreter. Jefferson instructs them to forge peaceful relations with any Indians they may encounter.
Oct. 24, 1804	Cherokee cede more land to the United States in a new Treaty of Tellico.
1805	Louisiana Territory Governor Wilkinson moves Cherokee living in southeast Missouri to what later became the Arkansas Territory.
Oct. 25 and 27, 1805	Cherokee sign two more Treaties of Tellico, ceding more land to the United States.
Jan. 7, 1806	Cherokee cede more land to the United States in the Treaty of Washington.
1807-08	Cherokee individuals make illegal land deals for personal profit, provoking political instability, assassinations, and various other violent acts among both Cherokee and U.S. officials.
1811	Tecumseh's War: Shawnee leader Tecumseh leads confederacy of tribes in unsuccessful war against U.S. forces led by William Henry Harrison. Tecumseh flees to Canada.
August 1812	President James Madison addresses Delegations of Several Indian Nations as "My Red Children," stating that the "white people of the 18 fires [states]" want peace and will provide protection to peaceful Indians, but will punish violence with violence. He further provides justification for the war with Great Britain, reminds the Indians of the strength and numbers of the white Americans, and recommends that they settle into peaceful farming communities. <a href="http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Madison/03-05-02-0137">http://founders.archives.gov/documents/Madison/03-05-02-0137</a>
1813	Shawnee chief Tecumseh is killed in Battle of the Thames in Canada. This ends British and Indian control in Northwest and Upper Canada.
1813-14	Cherokee join with Muscogee and Andrew Jackson's army against the Red Stick Creeks in the Creek War.
1817-18	Secretary of War Calhoun orders Gen. Andrew Jackson to stop Seminole uprisings in Florida and southern Georgia. Jackson pursues Seminoles into Spanish Florida, executes a Scot-Indian trader, and captures the Spanish capital.

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1820s	Cherokees become most “civilized” of the five “Civilized Tribes” (Creeks, Chickasaw, Seminole, Choctaw, and Cherokee). Cherokee have a newspaper and many convert to Christianity, they adopt a Constitution, they have farms, and many own slaves.
1825	President Monroe expresses opinion that the only way to solve conflicts with the Indians is to move them west of the Mississippi.
1828	Andrew Jackson elected President and declares support for Indian removal  Georgia extends state power over Cherokee Nation and nullifies Cherokee law.
1830	Indian Removal Act passed, relocating all tribes to “Indian Territory” west of the Mississippi River.  Individuals allowed to stay in their homes if they give up all tribal claims and allegiance and agree to become citizens of the states they lived in.
1832	Cherokee win case in <i>Worcester v. Georgia</i> . U.S. Supreme Court led by Chief Justice John Marshall upholds Cherokee sovereignty in Georgia. President Jackson ignores the ruling.  Treaty of 1832 calls for removal of all Shawnee to the west. The US government sends troops to forcibly remove Indians from Ohio and the Ohio River Valley if necessary. Some Shawnee families escape to live with Cherokee or “mixed blood” relatives in the area. Many “mixed-blood” families of Cherokee, Shawnee and English/Scots/Irish heritage were formed at this time.
1836	Treaty of New Echota sells all Cherokee Tribal lands east of the Mississippi to the U.S. government. It is signed by a small group of Cherokee and considered invalid and in violation of Cherokee Law. Most the signers were killed by Cherokee vigilantes. Chief John Ross leads 15,000 in protesting treaty.
1837-39	Trail of Tears. Federal Troops under Winfield Scott round up the Cherokee in Tennessee, Georgia, and the Carolinas and march them to what is now Oklahoma. Thousands (1/4 to 1/3) die of starvation, disease, and exposure. Some Cherokee resist and hide in the hills or North Carolina. In 1838 President Van Buren states, “It affords sincere pleasure to apprise the Congress of the entire removal of the Cherokee Nation of Indians to their new homes west of the Mississippi. The measures authorized by Congress at its last session have had the happiest effects.”
1863	Founding of West Virginia as an officially “segregated state.” “Indians” by law do not exist and it is not legal to register a child as “Indian” at birth. Therefore, Native Americans are classified as “white” or “colored.”

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