

The Fur Trade

Focus Questions

- How did economic competition shape the fur trade?
- What roles did French, British, First Nations and Métis peoples play in the fur trade?
- What impacts did the fur trade have on diverse peoples?

Economic Competition and the Fur Trade

What is Competition?

Is competition good or bad?

What are some of the bad aspects of competition?

How can competition be used to encourage positive results?

Aside from creating economic competition throughout the land, competition also had an affect on the people involved. To help us understand the impact, the fur trade has been broken into 5 phases.

Phase 1 -

Phase 2 -

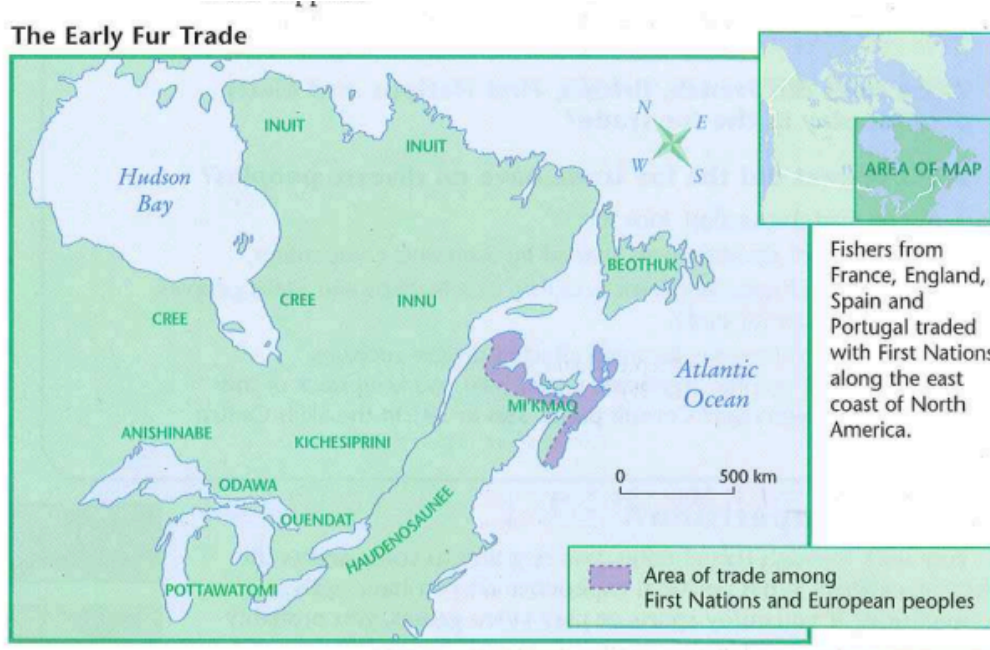
Phase 3 -

Phase 4 -

Phase 5 -

Phase 1: The Early Fur Trade 1500 - 1603

- Fishers from France, England, Spain and Portugal trade with First Nations



When the British first arrived to _____, they would come ashore to _____ their fish. This was the first interaction between the _____ and the _____. Even though permanent settlements were not established, the trading began amongst the two societies. Because the French used _____ to prepare their fish for shipping, there was no reason for them to come to shore except to refresh water supplies.

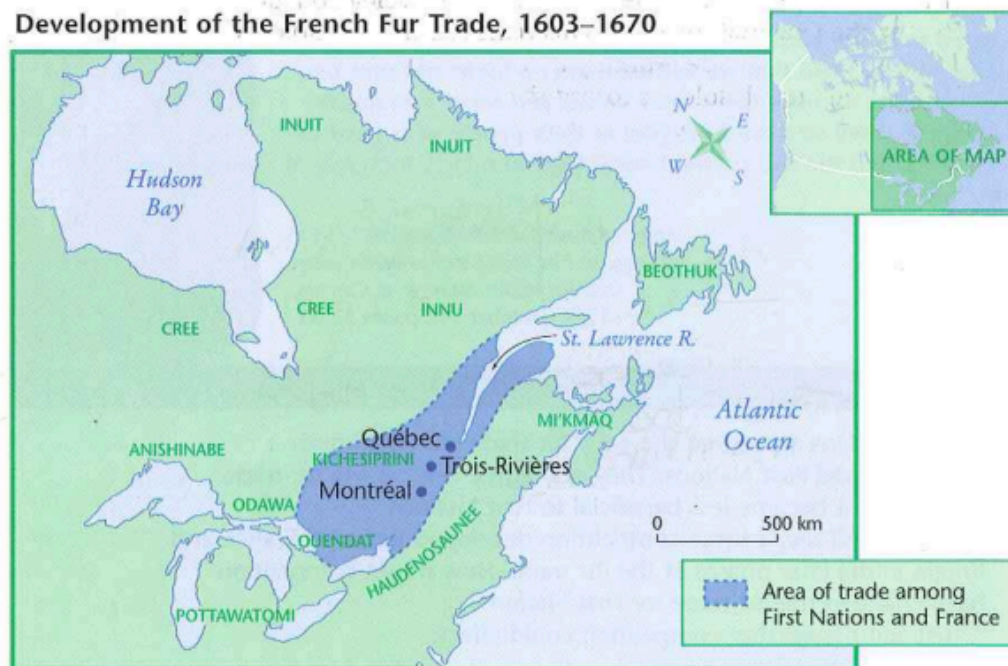
By _____, Cartier worked to establish some form of trading with the First Nations, eventually trading with the _____ (near what is now Québec City)

Items that were traded:

-
-
-
-

Phase 2: Expansion Inland 1603 - 1670

Development of the French Fur Trade, 1603–1670



Why do you think fur trade routes followed lake and river systems?
What geographic challenges did this solve? To what extent did it
make the best use of technology?

The French continued to establish strong relationships with the First Nations.

The _____ of New France was based around the fur trade network. Their trade route took them from the _____, up the _____ to _____ and then onto _____. The goods from France were taken off ships in Québec City and transported by small boats to Montréal for _____. The Anishinabe were further _____ than most of the First Nations which led the _____ to become the middlemen between the French and the Anishinabe.

The French - Haudenosaunee War

It is _____ exactly why this war started. Some believe it was because of France and the fur trade, while others feel the French became involved in an on-going _____ between the _____ and other First Nation fur trade _____.

What Happened As a Result

1. Haudenosaunee gained support from the _____, then the _____
 - This caused a _____ in the domination of the fur trade
2. The Haudenosaunee _____ the Ouendat, removing the middleman (1649)
3. By 1701, military action forced the Haudenosaunee to seek a _____ with the French and the Anishinabe

With the loss of a _____, a new partner was needed to assist in the trading of the furs. The _____ were given opportunities as independent traders, bringing the goods to the French ships. Similar to today's practices, these middlemen were paid a portion of the goods/sales. Eventually, trading posts became the _____ and the practice of the coureur de bois became illegal.

Think about the purpose of the Alberta Fisheries and Wildlife. What is the purpose of this important Office?

Similar to what we see happening today, eventually the furs and food became scarce with over trapping and hunting. This pushed the middlemen further west in search of new regions to trade with.

Homework

Name: _____

Read page 113 and 114. Respond to questions 1,3, and 4 on page 114.

1. What is the difference between a need and a want? Use examples from your own life to clarify the difference.
2. List some examples of needs and wants in the trading relationship between the French and First Nations peoples during this phase of the fur trade.
3. How would you say these needs and wants affected their relationship?