

Grade 4 Family Letter: American Indians

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

Our Focus

During the first and second nine weeks in Social Studies, fourth grade students will begin developing an understanding about the American Indian groups in Texas and North America before European exploration. Students will begin to understand the similarities and differences of American Indian groups and their way of life. This will be helpful for students to be able to analyze historical periods and patterns of change over time and across nations and cultures.

Instructional Approach

Your child will develop his or her understanding of the American Indian groups by collecting information to identify and explain the origins of the American Indian tribes in Texas. Students will compare the ways of life of the American Indian groups. They will also learn about the regions in which the Indians lived and understand how people adapt to their environment to meet their needs. Students will use this information to analyze an image to explain about the American Indian tribe represented.

Family Support

Your support is always appreciated in your child's learning. Here are some ways you can help:

- Research information on the Lipan Apache, Caddo, Karankawa, and Jumano tribes
- Notice the similarities and differences between tribes and their way of life
- Talk about how geography, climate, and natural resources affected the way they live

It's our hope that you will enjoy helping your child discover how this learning connects with their everyday lives.

Sincerely,

Fourth Grade Team