

Name _____

Longhouses

Iroquois tribe members lived in longhouses. The longhouse became a very powerful symbol following the creation of the Iroquois Confederacy. Known as Haudenosaunne, of "people of the longhouse", the members of the Iroquois Confederacy viewed themselves as serene nations who lived in one, tremendous longhouse. Young trees were harvested to build a longhouse.

Flexible poles were sharpened on one end and placed in the ground while other ends were bent. Damp bark was intertwined to create a roof.



Longhouses were about 20 feet wide, 20 feet high, and would range from 40 to 200 feet in length! The number of family, or clan members living in the longhouse would determine the length.

1. Who lived in longhouses? _____
2. The longhouse became a _____ symbol of the Iroquois _____.
3. Haudenosaunne meant "people of the longhouse". True / False
4. What term could be substituted for serene?
A. peaceful B. argumentative C. pretty D. none of these
6. Describe, in one word, the bark used for the roof of the longhouse. _____
7. The longhouse was about _____ feet wide.
8. What determined the length of the longhouse?

History

Historical and archeological findings indicate Iroquois tribes may have constructed their homes, called longhouses, as far back as 1100. The Iroquois Confederacy was established sometime between 1400-1600 when Iroquois tribes united. It was about this time that the longhouse became a symbol for this original five member peaceful group.

Following the Iroquois Confederacy, the Iroquois began to call themselves Haudenosaunee, which meant "people of the longhouse." Young cedar trees were harvested and ultimately framed upright wooden poles. These poles were then sharpened and secured into the ground. Flexible poles were bent to form the frame of a roof and long strips of damp bark were fastened together to construct a roof.

1. As early as _____ there is evidence of Iroquois longhouses.
2. The home of an Iroquois tribe member is called
A. longhouse **B.** shorthouse **C.** tent **D.** none of these
3. Five tribes united between _____ to form the Iroquois Confederacy.
4. The longhouse became a symbol of the Iroquois. **True / False**
5. What does Haudenosaunee mean? _____
6. What type trees were harvested to construct the longhouse? _____
7. The roof of the longhouse was made from _____ bark.
8. What was necessary for the poles to be in order to be placed in the ground?
A. dulled **B.** sharpened **C.** cut **D.** none of these