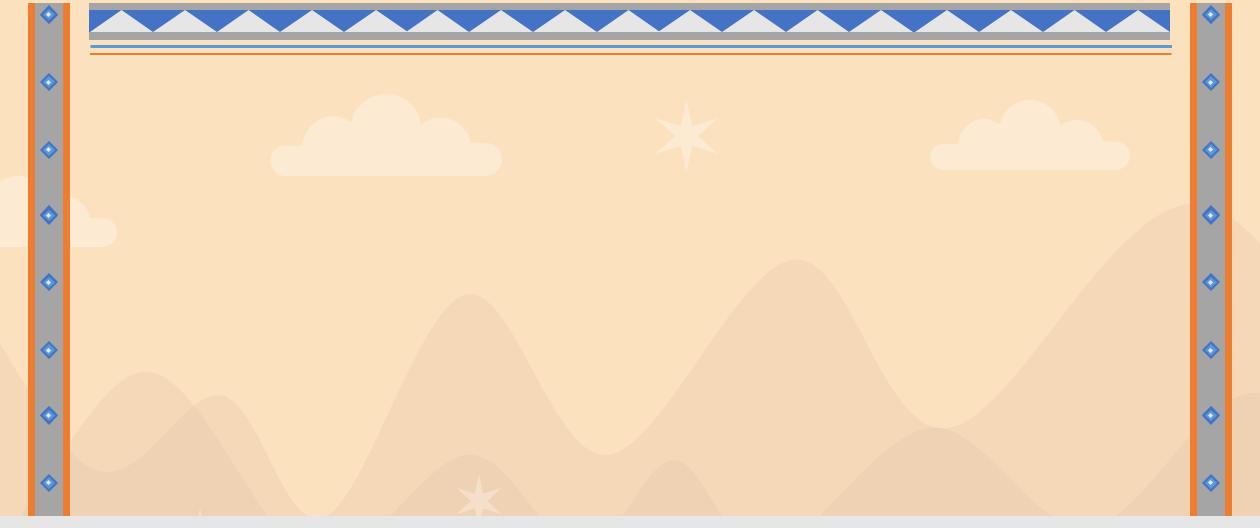


## 1.2

# Changes in the West



### As a Young Historian, I will be able to...

- Discuss the differences between the 3 Western groups of peoples
- Define the social structures of tribes & their spirituality
- Analyze the advancement of technologies in these regions

#### California Indians

By 5000-4000 BCE, large-scale diversity in western North America began to take shape

California Indians began to create semi-permanent villages & focused on coastal & inland resources

They gathered shellfish & began to develop bow & arrows & harpoons to hunt large animals

Women were responsible for gathering acorns & grinding them down for food processing

#### California Advances

As tribes became more independent, more advanced tools were invented & population in the area skyrocketed

Due to the rise in populations, people developed new forms of subsistence with small-scale agriculture

Agriculture gave way to ranked societies with chiefs allocating resources & land

Long-distance trade became important in the region & throughout the Americas

#### The Northwest

What do burial grounds show us about society?

Around 1000 BCE, Northwestern tribes began intricate woodcarvings & shells to indicate stories & status

The difference & abundance of wildlife lead societies to create socially specialized jobs & the need for specialized tools & weapons

The need for fishing & the hunting of large oceanic animals led to the invention of the canoe

#### **Northwestern Societies**

Specialized craftsmen began decorating homes with animal furs & different colored woods

Clans- Groups that associate descent within one or two specific lines. Familial units

Totem- A spiritual symbol, commonly an animal, used to represent clans

Social ranking systems grew with populations creating elites & non-elites within a community

# Ceremonies & Culture of the Northwest

Potlach Ceremonies- Families with surplus food & prestige goods create a gathering to tell stories & histories

Goods were then distributed to families of lesser wealth to strengthen community

Salmon became a significantly cultural important animals & an important trade item

Interior Plateau- Region east of the Northwest coast of the wooded North. Items were typically traded in this region

## **Vision Quests**

Trade locations became sacred areas that tribes held in high respect

Pictographs- Painted artwork used to tell stories or myths

Petroglyphs- Carved artwork of animals, people, & nature to explain ritual & spirituality

Vision Quests- Spiritual journeys to honor the guardian spirits & gain balance & gifts

#### The Great Basin

Great Basin people were those who lived between the Rocky Mountains & the Pacific Coastal range

People developed different ways of life & focus due to the large difference of climates in the region

Pit houses- semi-subterranean dwellings offering protection from the heat & cold

#### The Plains

The people here dispersed into bands to follow animals in large hunting ranges, leading to changes in arrows & spearhead hunting

The people began life hunting small game & setting up semi-permanent dwellings near rivers, such as the Missouri to grow crops

The plains people had a rich spiritual life surrounded by respect towards animals & nature