

Native Spirituality

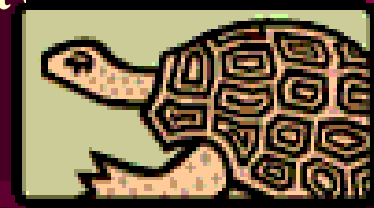
Six Distinct Cultural Groups

The North East Woodlands



The North East Woodlands

- Iroquois and Algonquin live along the St. Lawrence River and the Great lakes.
- Lived in longhouses.
- The Ottawa tribe were a part of the Algonquin.
- They believe that after a great flood, water covered the earth.
- Several water animals and birds tried to bring some mud to the surface of the water.
- Eventually, a muskrat succeeded.
- Sky woman then spread the mud on the back of a turtle and created North America, or Turtle Island.



The North West Pacific Coast



North West Pacific Coast

- They believe that a Raven coaxed the original people off of a clamshell onto the land.
- Creators of the totem pole.

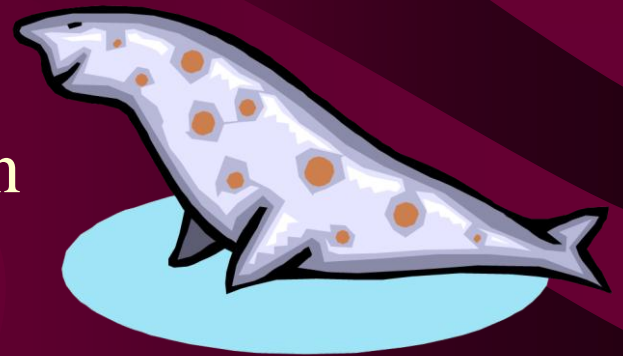


The Arctic



The Arctic

- The Inuit people pay homage to the souls of killed animals by facing the animal in the direction from which it came so that its soul can return.
- During their annual festival, the Inuit collect all seal bladders caught the previous year and throw them back into the sea, so that the seal can reproduce.



The Subarctic



The Subarctic

- They inhabit the middle of Canada, which includes thick forests and mountains in the East, the Canadian Shield of rock and swamp, and the northern prairies.
- Similar beliefs to the Arctic group.

The Great Plains



The Great Plains



- Over 30 nations of the great plains.
- Familiar names are: Sioux, Cree, Blackfoot.
- Very dependent on the buffalo.
- Buffalo provided coverings for moccasin soles, shields and homes called tipis.
- Buffalo ribs became sled runners.
- The skull of the buffalo was used for the Sun Dance, a ceremony that involves chants and purification.
- At death, they believe that 4 souls depart from the body, one of which enters into a newborn and that soul lives on.

The Plateau





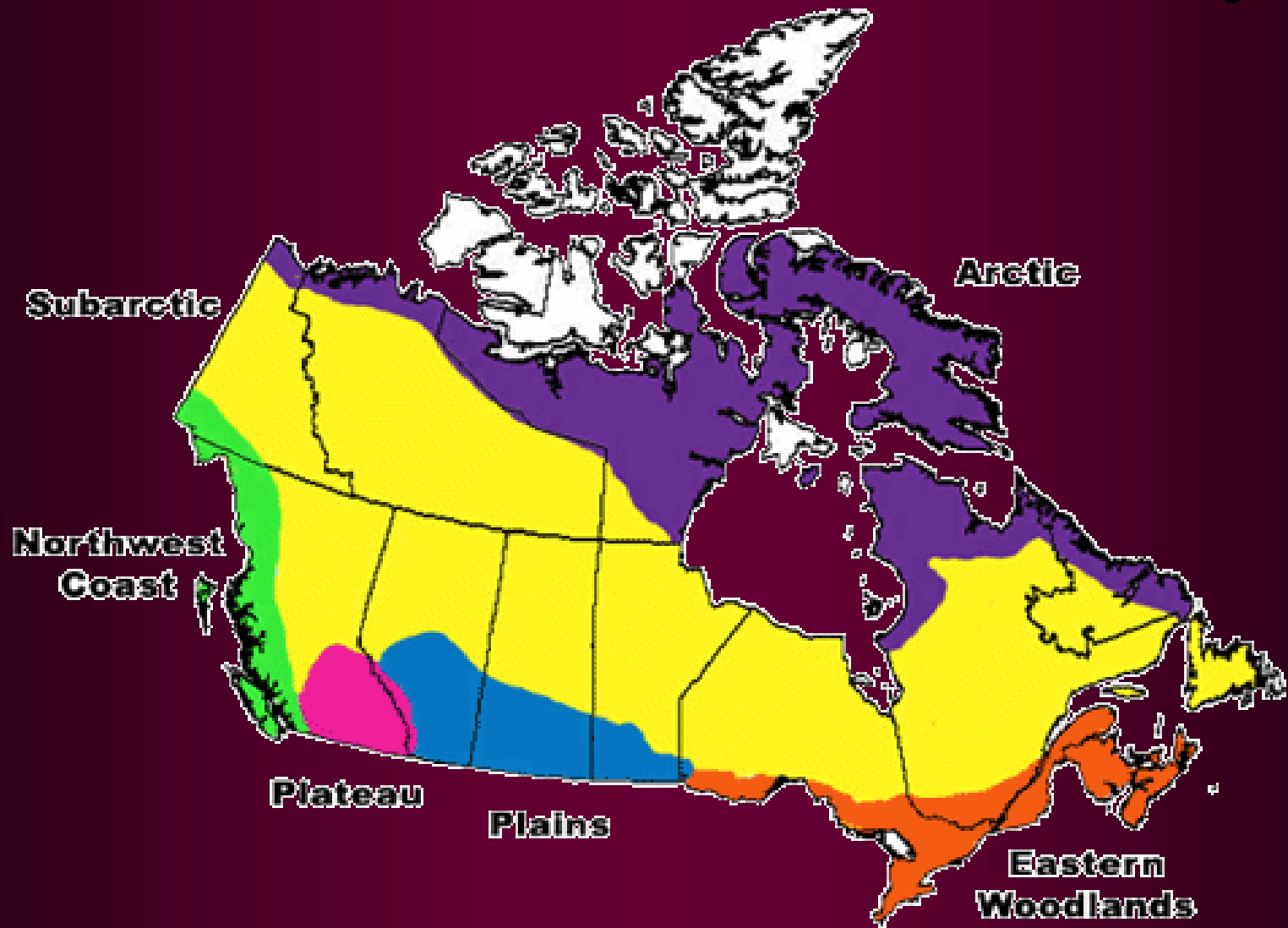
The Plateau

- Live in the foothills of the Rocky mountains.
- Hunters of elk, bear and caribou.
- Similar beliefs to the Great Plains.





Aboriginal Cultural Groups in Canada – Portfolio Activity



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