

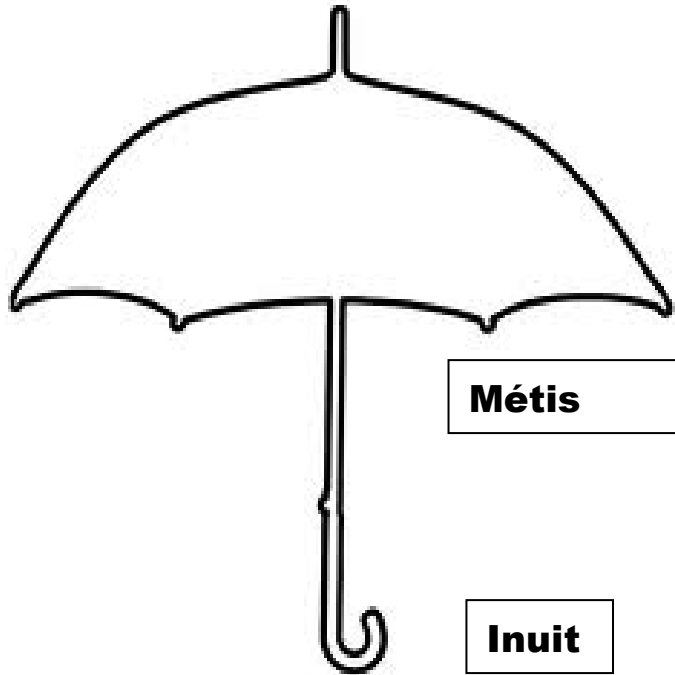
Métis

The Art of the Plains

Student Note

First Nations:

Cree
Ojibwa
Blackfoot
Haida
Iroquois
Algonquin



Métis

Inuit

Who Were the Métis?

- A Nation of people who were formed following contact between the _____ and _____
- Occurred before _____ was a country
- Was primarily _____ and _____ Europeans
- Métis means “_____”
- The term was initially described to describe any First Nations and European _____
- Over time, a new culture developed with its own _____, traditions and lands
- Métis is _____ a term to describe any mixed-race

Métis Unions

Mothers

Cree

Ojibwe

Algonquin

Saulteaux

Menominee

Mi'kmaq

Maliseet

Fathers

Métis History

- Métis come from _____
- A Native man could marry a white woman and keep his _____
- A Native woman would _____ her rights when they married a white man
- The _____ were often voyageurs, and moved back home and left their Métis _____ behind
- The _____ were more honourable
- Most unions were created when the **coureurs des bois**, transporting goods for the fur trade, married _____ women
- This was encouraged by the Northwest Company (_____ based fur trading company)
- Discouraged by the Hudson's Bay Company (_____ fur trading company)
- The new Métis formed _____ near trading or _____ sites or lived on land not controlled by the _____
- They lived across many geographical locations including the _____, _____ and _____

Originally there were two groups:

- French Métis /Voyageurs (_____ fathers)
- Anglo-Métis /Countryborn (_____ / _____ fathers)

Occupation Within the Fur Trade:

In the _____'s Métis families settled around the Great Lakes:

- Interpreters or guides
- Suppliers of goods
- Transporters of fur

Work after 1821:

- The two fur trading companies amalgamated and many _____ were laid off
- Many began work in commercial _____, logging and _____
- Others continued working in fur trading in:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____ (southern Manitoba)

Life in Red River:

- _____: A nutritious and light weight food
- Dried _____ meat and berries
- Fuelled the men working in the fur trade who transported _____ long distances
- Managed the Bison _____
- The Bison hunt helped the Métis by selling the goods (robes and tongues) to the fur traders in _____ River



Métis Symbol (above): The horizontal figure or **infinity symbol** featured on the Métis flag was originally carried by French 'half-breeds' with pride. The symbol, which represents the immortality of the nation, in the centre of a blue field represents the joining of two cultures.

Loss of Land:

- During the 1860's the _____ was acquiring land and planned to give the Métis land at Red River to the English
- _____ led the Métis who formed their own government and tried to protect their land (which was still owned by the British)
- An agreement was made in _____: *The Manitoba Act*

The Manitoba Act:

- _____ 1870
- Confirmed Métis _____ of lands they already owned
- Promised an additional 560 000 hectares of land for Métis _____
- The government continued to _____ away their land!

Conflict in Saskatchewan:

- In 1885, Riel moved west and assembled an armed force and government hoping to _____
- The Plains Cree, led by Chief Mistahimaskwa were trying to _____ fulfill the Manitoba Act promises
- The federal government sent in the Mounted Police and several _____ ensued
- The Métis surrendered after being _____
- Riel was _____, Chief was _____
- The Métis continued to move further west to _____ land

Scripts:

- Scripts were pieces of _____ that certified _____ possession
- Given to the Métis by the government for lands in _____ Canada
- They could also be exchanged for _____
- A scrip was for _____ hectares of unknown land
- The land was often _____ or unfarmed prairie
- Many Métis _____ up the land and lost most of their lands

Ongoing Land Ownership Disputes:

- By 1936, the _____ government established farming settlements for the Métis
- The areas would support farming and would be free from _____ from settlers

Current Land Ownership:

- In the 1990's ownership of the 8 _____ from transferred from the government to the Métis
- In 1993, 41 437 square kilometres of land in the Northwest Territories was given to the Métis and the Sahtu Dene with _____ and fishing _____
- In 2004, Ontario issued _____
- Gives the right (to select Métis) to _____ animals, plants, medicines, fish and firewood for personal use within their _____ territories

Definition of a Métis:

- Definition of Métis in the 1930's: "anyone with any degree of Indian ancestry who lives the life ordinarily associated with the Métis" (living off the land, hunting, and fishing)
- Current definition of a Métis: "a person who self-identifies as Métis, is of historic Métis Nation Ancestry, is distinct from other Aboriginal Peoples, and is accepted by the Métis Nation"

Currently:

- 1/3 of all Aboriginal self-identify as Métis
- 86 000 Métis living in _____
- Granted citizenship _____ from their provincial group/community
- Must have _____ Métis parents

Culture:

- Each generation of Métis embraced the culture of _____ sets of parents, as well as the influence of the _____
- New language: _____
- New traditions
- Jigging, music, clothing

Language:

- French or English
- A First Nations Language
- Michif Language
- Also _____ and _____