

# **U.S. History Map Activities**

**E. RICHARD CHURCHILL  
LINDA R. CHURCHILL**

J. WESTON  
**WALCH**  
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# To the Teacher

The study of history is always more meaningful when it includes geography. These map activities are designed to supplement the study of United States history, and the authors have used them successfully with students of varying abilities. With fifty reproducible maps and worksheets at hand, you can select appropriate activities for able and well-motivated students as well as for less accelerated learners. The number of activities also gives your students ample opportunity to reinforce their historical knowledge and their map-reading and research skills.

If you are using these materials for the first time, here are three helpful tips:

1. The worksheets accompanying the maps are simply suggestions. You should feel free to add or subtract items according to your individual teaching goals, the needs of your students, and the available resources.
2. Before assigning a map, check on the resources available to your students. While most of the necessary information can be found in standard American history texts or classroom atlases, some details may require students to do library research.
3. Many of the activities require students to mark regions and features in different colors. Students will need access to a variety of colored pencils.

We hope that you and your students will find these map exercises useful and enjoyable.

# 1. Early American Indians and Their Culture

1. Color the bodies of water blue and label the following:

Atlantic Ocean	Gulf of Mexico	Gulf of California
Pacific Ocean	Lake Superior	Lake Michigan
Lake Huron	Lake Ontario	Lake Erie
Lake Champlain	Puget Sound	Chesapeake Bay

2. With a blue colored pencil, trace the following rivers and label them on the map:

Ohio	Mississippi	Susquehanna	Mohawk
Hudson	Columbia	Colorado	Missouri
Rio Grande	St. Lawrence		

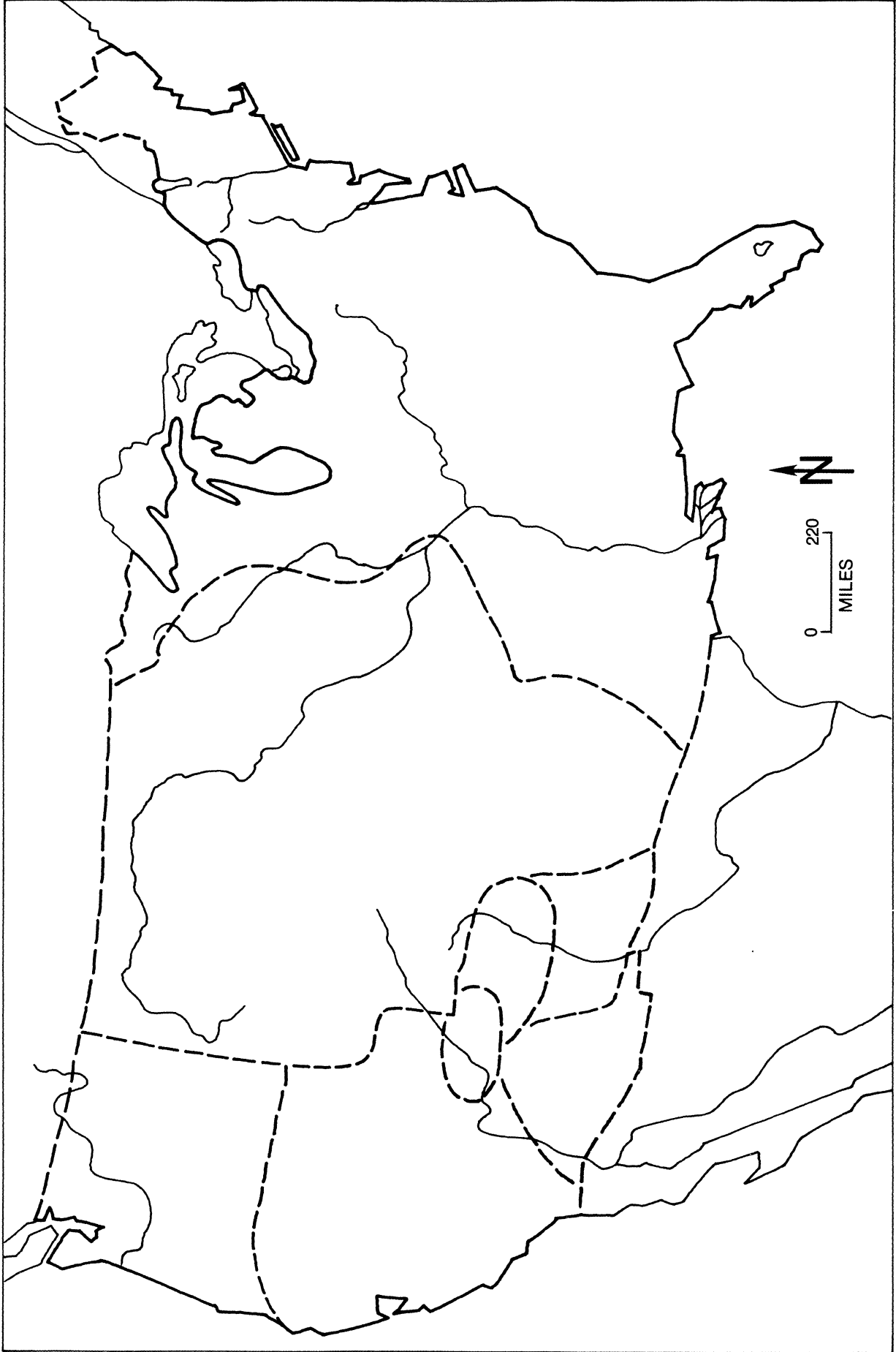
3. There were eight major American Indian cultures in the United States in 1650.

- Along the eastern coast were the Woodsmen of the Eastern Woodlands. On your map, color this area yellow.
- The next large group west of the Mississippi River was the Hunters of the Plains. On your map, color this area pink.
- Along the northwestern coast were the Northern Fishermen. On your map, color this area green.
- South of the Northern Fishermen were the Seed Gatherers. Color this area orange on your map.
- The smallest American Indian culture group in 1650 was the Navaho Shepherds. Color this small area red.
- South of the Seed Gatherers and the Navaho Shepherds in an elongated area that extends along the Rio Grande were the Desert Dwellers. Color this area purple on your map.
- North of the Desert Dwellers is another section of the Seed Gatherers. Color this area orange, too.
- Bordering the Desert Dwellers, the small area of Seed Gatherers, and the Hunters of the Plains were the Pueblo Farmers. Color this area gray.

4. The following is a partial list of American Indian tribes that lived in these eight major American Indian culture areas. On the line, write the name of the culture area to which each tribe belonged.

Chinook _____	Pomo _____
Shoshone _____	Apache _____
Hopi _____	Iroquois _____
Cherokee _____	Powhatan _____

# 1. Early American Indians and Their Culture



## 19. Mining Regions and Cattle Trails of the Old West

1. Color the water areas blue and label the following on your map:

Pacific Ocean	Gulf of California	Great Salt Lake
Lake Superior	Lake Michigan	Gulf of Mexico

2. With blue, trace the following rivers and label them on your map:

Columbia	Snake	Missouri	Yellowstone
Mississippi	North Platte	South Platte	Platte
Arkansas	Red	Sabine	Brazos
Nueces	Pecos	Rio Grande	Gila
Colorado	Humboldt	San Joaquin	Sacramento
American			

3. Using this symbol ( ^ ^ ^ ) and a brown pencil, draw in and label the main chain of the following mountain ranges:

Sierra Nevada	Cascade	Bitterroot	Rocky
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4. Locate the following settlements or mining areas on your map with a red dot. Label each carefully.

Sutter's Fort	Virginia City	Tombstone	Kansas City
Silver City	Silverton	Central City	Lead
Helena	Cheyenne	Boise	Pueblo
San Antonio	Dodge City	Abilene	

5. Label the following states on your map:

Texas	Oklahoma	Kansas	Missouri
New Mexico	Colorado	Wyoming	Nebraska
South Dakota	Montana		

6. With an orange pencil, trace the Shawnee Trail from San Antonio to Kansas City.

7. Use a green pencil to trace the Chisholm Trail from San Antonio to Abilene.

8. The Goodnight-Loving Trail went from central Texas to New Mexico and then north to Cheyenne. Draw this trail with purple on the map.

9. Label the states on the map that have not already been named.

## 19. Mining Regions and Cattle Trails of the Old West

