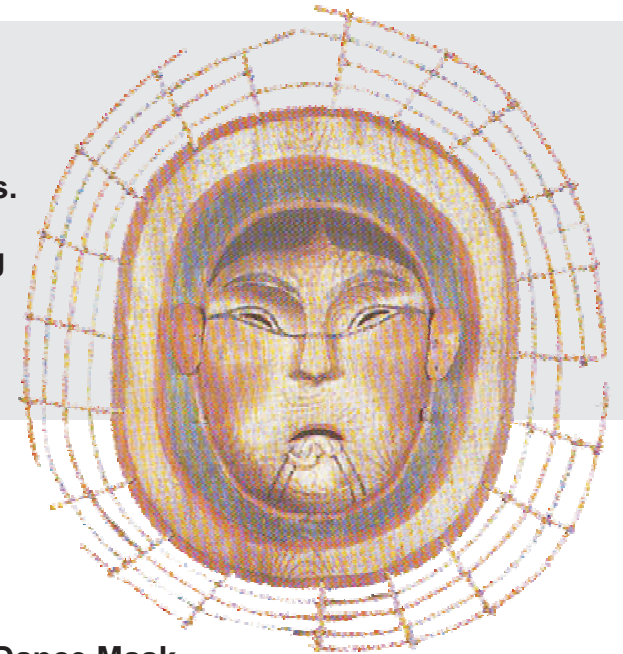


Art Of Native America

Artic Region: Inuit Art

The area between northeast Siberia and eastern Greenland was the home of the **Inuit/Eskimos**. **Inuit Art** was also created to serve the religious needs of the people. **Inuit shamans** or **medicine men** wore such a mask during ceremonial dances.

Eskimo Mask of Moon Goddess. Lower Yukon or Northwest Bering Sea. Before 1900. 63.5cm.



Kwakiutl Dance Mask. Blunden Harbour, British Columbia. 1938. Cedar bark.

Northwest Coast Region

One of the tribes in the **Northwest Region** were the **Kwakiutl tribe**. The shamans performed rites were conducted to pacify the spirits wearing costumes and masks. **Totem Poles** are tall posts carved and painted with a series of animal symbols associated with a particular family or clan.

Haida Totem Pole. Prince of Wales Island, 1870. 16.2 meters.

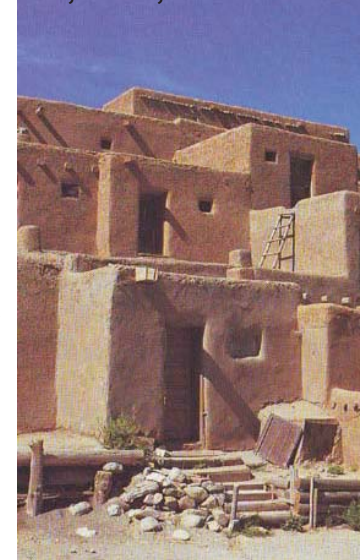


Southwest Region: Pueblo

This region extends from the northern area of Mexico to the Southern Foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

Early Spanish used the term **pueblo** - used to describe groups of people living in large settlements. Ancient **Pueblo** dwellings were built with sun-dried clay walls. A key parts of **pueblos** was the **kiva**, a circular underground structure. The **kivas** symbolized the World Below, from where the **Pueblo's** believed the spirits came from.

Taos, Pueblo Adobe Huts, 1300, New Mexico.



Kiva. Pecos Pueblo, Pecos National Monument, New Mexico.



Great Plains Region

This area between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains stretches from the Gulf of Mexico into Canada.

Blackfoot, Crow, Cheyenne & Sioux

The tribes of the **Great Plains region** continuously hunted the great herds of Bison. This movement from place to place made the production of pottery, basket ware impractical. Work in wood or stone was limited mainly to the fashioning of bows and flint-tipped arrows for hunting.

Different tribes of the **Plains** included **Blackfoot, Crow, Cheyenne** and **Sioux** were highly skilled in the preparation of skins used for clothing, footwear and shields. The men of the tribes would paint the skins used for tepees, shields and robes for the chief. Often scenes depicted capture important events or highlighted the bravery of a chief.



Iroquois. False Face Mask. 1900. Wood.

Woodlands Region

The **Woodlands region** is the area between the Mississippi River and the Atlantic Coast, from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico.

The mound building peoples of the **Adena** were of the first who lived mostly in the Ohio Valley. The purpose of these mounds remains a subject of debate - some believe they were built to create a visually impressive setting for spiritual ceremonies

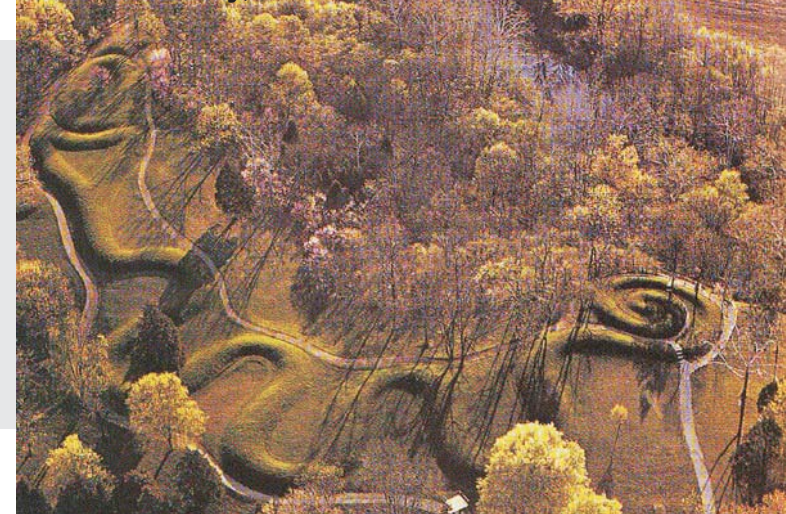
Iroquois

They were expert wood carvers and created wooden masks that were usually decorated with horse hair. These False Face masks were thought to be sacred and represented the spirits who gave healers the magic they needed to treat illnesses.



George Washakie. Elkhide painted with design of Sun Dance Ceremony. Shoshoni Wyoming. 1900.

Serpent Mount State Memorial, Adams County, Peebles, Ohio. 1000 B.C.-A.D. 300.



Art Of Native America Questions

1. Make a sketch of the Eskimo's Moon Goddess mask and explain what purpose it was used for. (2)

purpose:

2. What mood/feeling do you get from the Eskimo's Mask of Moon Goddess from the lower Yukon and why? (2)

Mood/feeling:

why:

3. Using the following elements and principles: line, pattern, colour and shape, analysis the Kwakiutl Dance Mask from Blunden Harbour British Columbia. (4)

line:

pattern:

colour:

shape:

4. What are the symbols associated with on the totem poles? (1)

/14 Name: _____

5. What is a kiva used for? (1)

6. What kind of art did the Native North American tribes from the Great Plains create? (1)

7. Explain the purpose of the serpent mound built by prehistoric mound builders in Ohio. (1)

8. Make a sketch of the Iroquois mask and explain what kind of mood/feeling do you get from it as a result. (2)

mood/feeling: