



GRADE 4 LOUISIANA SOCIAL STUDIES

# Early Civilizations in North America

Mammoths



## Student Workbook

Clovis point



Poverty Point



Cliff dwellings

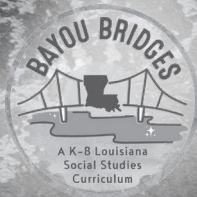






# Early Civilizations in North America

## Student Workbook





## Creative Commons Licensing

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.



### You are free:

- to Share**—to copy, distribute, and transmit the work
- to Remix**—to adapt the work

### Under the following conditions:

**Attribution**—You must attribute the work in the following manner:

*This work is based on an original work of the Core Knowledge® Foundation ([www.coreknowledge.org](http://www.coreknowledge.org)) and the additions from the Louisiana Department of Education, made available through licensing under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike4.0 International License. This does not in any way imply that the Core Knowledge Foundation or the Louisiana Department of Education endorses this work.*

**Noncommercial**—You may not use this work for commercial purposes.

**Share Alike**—If you alter, transform, or build upon this work, you may distribute the resulting work only under the same or similar license to this one.

### With the understanding that:

For any reuse or distribution, you must make clear to others the license terms of this work. The best way to do this is with a link to this web page:

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Copyright © 2025 the Louisiana Department of Education for the additions to CKHG and the Core Knowledge Foundation for its predecessor work CKHG.

**[www.coreknowledge.org](http://www.coreknowledge.org)**

All Rights Reserved.

Core Knowledge®, Core Knowledge Curriculum Series™, Core Knowledge History and Geography™, and CKSci™ are trademarks of the Core Knowledge Foundation. Bayou Bridges is a trademark of the Louisiana Department of Education.

Trademarks and trade names are shown in this book strictly for illustrative and educational purposes and are the property of their respective owners. References herein should not be regarded as affecting the validity of said trademarks and trade names.

ISBN: 979-8-88970-402-7

# Early Civilizations in North America

## Chapter 1: North America and Louisiana's First Peoples

<b>Student Reading Notes</b>	<b>1</b>
------------------------------	----------

### Primary Sources

• Primary Source A: Petroglyphs from Newspaper Rock, Utah	<b>3</b>
• Primary Source Analysis (AP 1.3)	<b>4</b>

<b>Check for Understanding</b>	<b>5</b>
--------------------------------	----------

### Activity Pages

• Geography of North America (AP 1.5)	<b>6</b>
---------------------------------------	----------

## Chapter 2: The Development of Indigenous Cultures in Louisiana

<b>Student Reading Notes</b>	<b>8</b>
------------------------------	----------

### Primary Sources

• Primary Source B: Excerpt from a Field Investigation Report	<b>11</b>
• Primary Source Analysis (AP 1.3)	<b>12</b>

<b>Check for Understanding</b>	<b>13</b>
--------------------------------	-----------

### Activity Pages

• Domain Vocabulary: Chapters 1–2 (AP 2.1)	<b>14</b>
--------------------------------------------	-----------

**Performance Task**

- Performance Task Activity 15
- Claims and Evidence (AP 1.4) 16

# Chapter 1: North America and Louisiana’s First Peoples

**Framing Question:** Who were the first peoples to live in North America?

**Student Reading Notes**

Use the information in your Student Reader to fill in the chart.

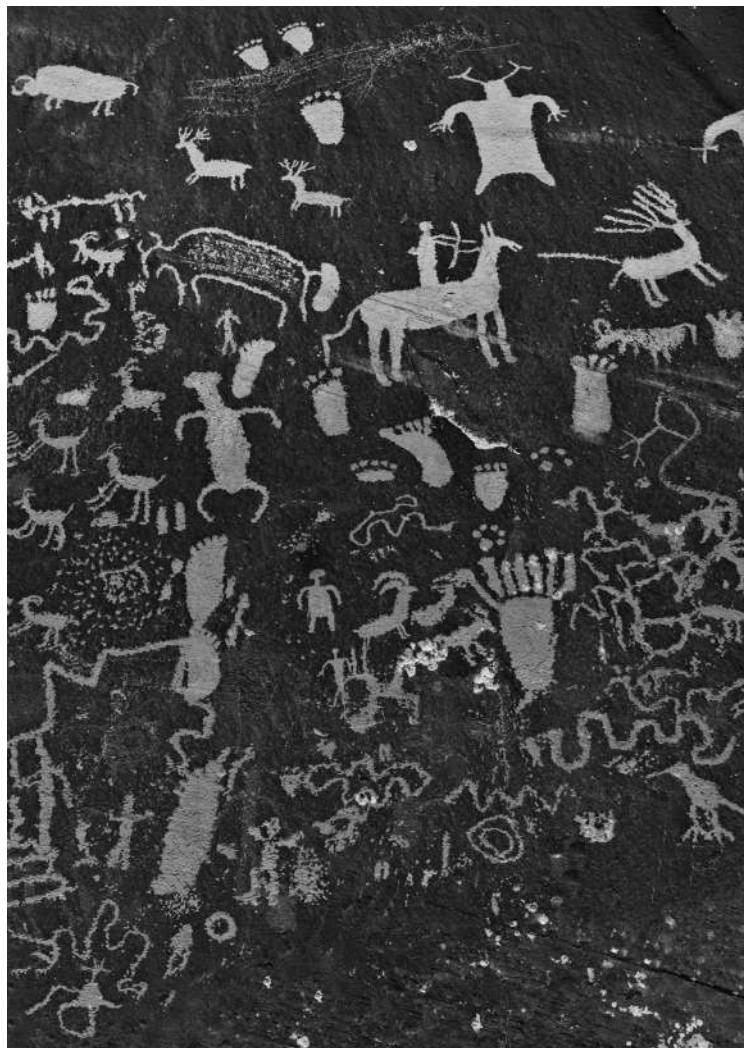
Section	Notes
Ancient Hunters and Gatherers	
The Clovis Culture	
The Folsom Culture	

<b>A Time of Change</b>	
<b>The Ancestral Pueblo</b>	
<b>The Mound Builders</b>	



## Primary Sources

### PRIMARY SOURCE A: PETROGLYPHS FROM NEWSPAPER ROCK, UTAH



**NOTE:** Go to page 17 of the Student Reader to see this source in full color.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Source Analysis

<b>Describe the source.</b>	<b>Connect the source to what you know.</b>	<b>SOURCE:</b>	<b>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</b>
			<b>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</b>

### Chapter 1 Check for Understanding: Who were the first peoples to live in North America?

[illegible]



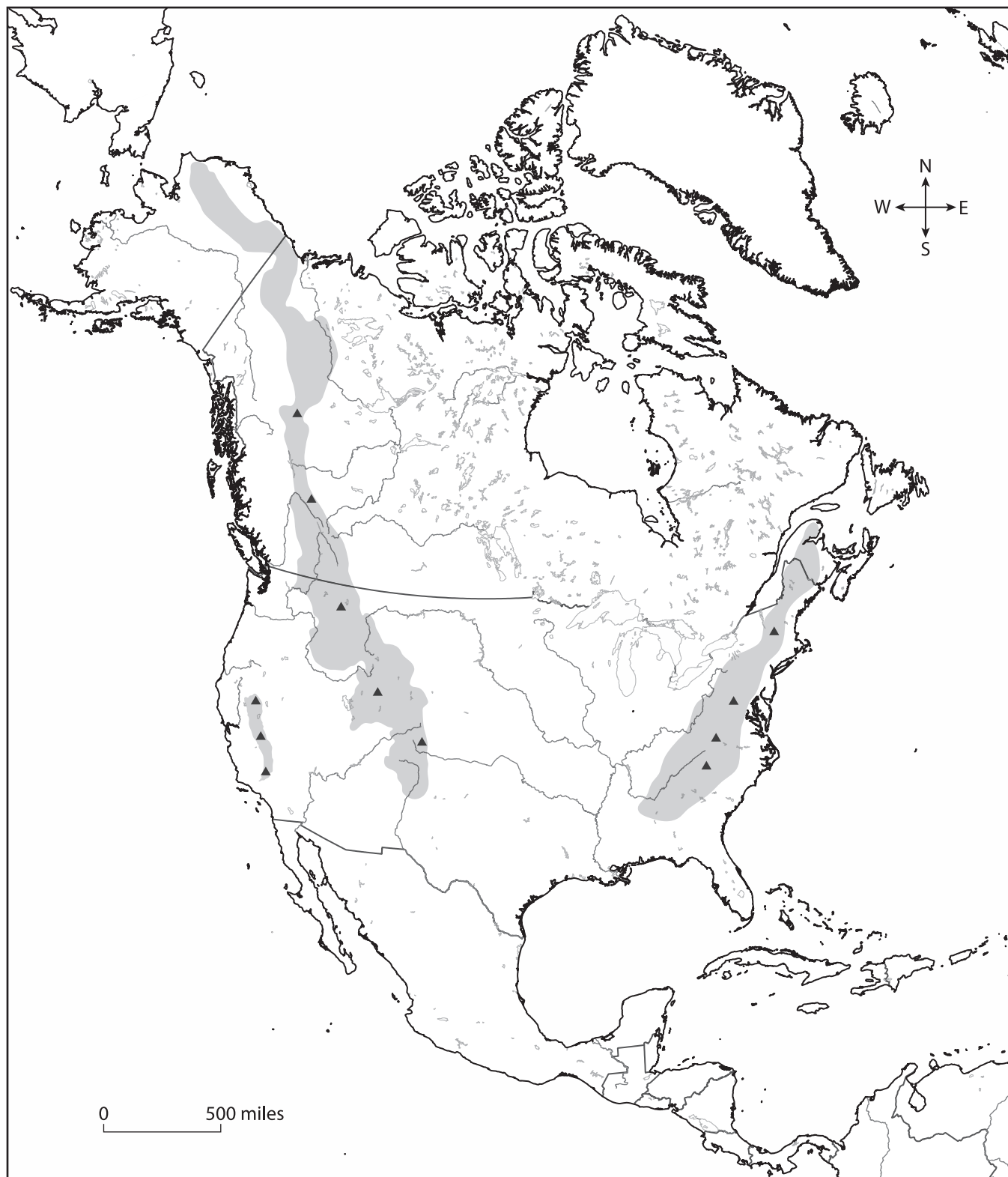
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Activity Page 1.5

Use with Chapter 1

Geography of North America



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity Page 1.5 (*continued*)**

**Use with Chapter 1**

- 1.** Label the following bodies of water:

Pacific Ocean

Atlantic Ocean

Gulf of Mexico

Mississippi River

Mississippi River delta

Rio Grande

Great Lakes

- 2.** Label the following mountain ranges.

Sierra Nevada

Rocky Mountains

Appalachian Mountains

- 3.** Which mountain range is located in the eastern part of North America?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4.** Which North American mountain range is the longest?

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5.** Which body of water does the Mississippi River flow into?

\_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 2: The Development of Indigenous Cultures in Louisiana

---

**Framing Question:** Who were the first peoples to live in Louisiana?

**Student Reading Notes**

Use the information in your Student Reader to fill in the chart.

Section	Notes
Prehistoric Louisiana	
Poverty Point	



<b>Other Louisiana Civilizations</b>	
<b>The Tchefuncte Culture</b>	
<b>The Marksville Culture</b>	

<b>The Troyville Culture</b>	
<b>The Coles Creek Culture</b>	
<b>The Caddo, Mississippian, and Plaquemine Cultures</b>	

## Primary Sources

### PRIMARY SOURCE B: EXCERPT FROM A FIELD INVESTIGATION REPORT

The spectacular geometric earthwork consists of ridges, each originally about 150 feet [46 m] wide and six feet [1.8 m] high, arranged as six concentric octagons. . . .

At one edge of the octagon rises the massive Poverty Point Mound, as high as a seven-story building, and measuring about 700 by 800 feet [213 by 244 m] at the base. . . .

A mile due north of the center of the octagon lies another huge mound, the Motley Mound. Its base covers an area of 400 by 600 feet [122 by 183 m], and its height is fifty-six feet [17 m]. . . . In proportion and details it is identical with the Poverty Point Mound, except that it is turned at ninety degrees to the larger mound. . . .

The mounds presumably were ceremonial in nature, but the ridges of the octagon represent the village site of these prehistoric people. Concentration of artifacts and debris indicate that they lived on the ridges. The size of the village indicates a large population and implies both an abundant food supply and a high degree of social organization.

—from National Park Service, *Field Investigation Report, Poverty Point, Louisiana* (1962)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Source Analysis

<b>Describe the source.</b>	<b>Connect the source to what you know.</b>	<b>SOURCE:</b>	<b>Understand the source. Identify its message, purpose, and/or audience.</b>
			<b>Draw a conclusion from or about the source.</b>

### Chapter 2 Check for Understanding: Who were the first peoples to live in Louisiana?

[illegible]

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Activity Page 2.1**

**Use with Chapter 2**

**Domain Vocabulary: Chapters 1–2**

**For each word, write the letter of the definition.**

- |       |            |               |           |                                                                                                   |
|-------|------------|---------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| _____ | <b>1.</b>  | land bridge   | <b>a)</b> | animals that are hunted                                                                           |
| _____ | <b>2.</b>  | mammoth       | <b>b)</b> | a large farm where cash crops are grown on behalf of the person who owns the land                 |
| _____ | <b>3.</b>  | mastodon      | <b>c)</b> | a type of brick made from sun-dried clay                                                          |
| _____ | <b>4.</b>  | game          | <b>d)</b> | a device used for throwing a spear                                                                |
| _____ | <b>5.</b>  | atlatl        | <b>e)</b> | a Native American leader who is believed to have special powers                                   |
| _____ | <b>6.</b>  | Pueblo        | <b>f)</b> | a small strip of land that connects two large landmasses                                          |
| _____ | <b>7.</b>  | cliff dweller | <b>g)</b> | a person who lives on a rock ledge or cliff wall, such as a member of the Ancestral Pueblo people |
| _____ | <b>8.</b>  | adobe         | <b>h)</b> | a large, extinct elephant-like mammal                                                             |
| _____ | <b>9.</b>  | mound         | <b>i)</b> | having the shape of half a circle                                                                 |
| _____ | <b>10.</b> | shaman        | <b>j)</b> | a group of Native American peoples who live in the American Southwest                             |
| _____ | <b>11.</b> | plantation    | <b>k)</b> | a large, rounded pile                                                                             |
| _____ | <b>12.</b> | semicircular  | <b>l)</b> | a substance used in the primary production or manufacturing of goods                              |
| _____ | <b>13.</b> | plaza         | <b>m)</b> | an open space near a community                                                                    |
| _____ | <b>14.</b> | raw material  | <b>n)</b> | a large, prehistoric elephant-like animal covered with hair                                       |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Performance Task Activity: *Early Civilizations in North America*

Claim: Mounds played a central role in the cultures of early Louisianan and other North American peoples.

How accurate is this statement? Write an essay using evidence to support your response.

Use the Claims and Evidence Activity Page (AP 1.4) and the lines below to take notes and organize your thoughts. Remember to include details from the chapters and primary sources in *Early Civilizations in North America* as well as from the sources and resources in the unit activities.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

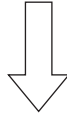
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Activity Page 1.4

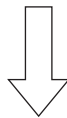
Use with Chapters 1–2

**Claims and Evidence Worksheet**

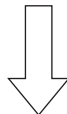
**STATE THE CLAIM** *What opinion or position are you defending?*



**STATE THE REASON** *Why should someone agree with this claim?*



**IDENTIFY THE EVIDENCE** *What details from the text and sources support the reason?*



**RECOGNIZE A COUNTERCLAIM** *What different opinion or position might someone have? What argument might be used against you?*

**ANSWER THE COUNTERCLAIM** *How will you disprove the counterclaim?*

## **Illustration and Photo Credits**

Gillian Moore / Alamy Stock Photo: i, 3

Katy Cummings: Cover A

Shari Darley Griffiths: Cover D

William Scott / Alamy Stock Photo: Cover B







## **Bayou Bridges: A K–8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum**

A comprehensive program in world and U.S. history, integrating topics in geography, civics, economics, and the arts, exploring civilizations, cultures, concepts, and skills specified in the 2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies

### **Bayou Bridges**

units at this level include:

**Prehistory and the Agricultural Revolution**

**The Ancient Near East**

**Early Civilizations: India, China, and Greece**

**The Growth of Empires**

**Early Civilizations in North America**

**Early Civilizations: The Maya**

**[www.coreknowledge.org](http://www.coreknowledge.org)**