

OKLAHOMA!

Land of

Opportunity



Chapter 18:
Celebrate Oklahoma!
STUDY PRESENTATION





Section 1: Kaleidoscope of Events

Section 2: Museums and Historic Sites

Section 3: Ethnic Groups

Section 1: Kaleidoscope of Events

➤ Essential Question:

- What are the elements of Oklahoma's culture?



Section 1: Kaleidoscope of Events

➤ What terms do I need to know?

- culture
- diversity
- rodeo
- powwow



Introduction



Rodeos

- Held in virtually every part of the state
- Evolved from informal contests held by American cowboys
- Includes roping, horse braking, riding, herding, branding



Music

- Common to cultures worldwide
- Featured in state festivals:
 - bluegrass, western swing, jazz, folk, country, pop, and others plus fiddlers and square dancers
- Various festivals held each year



Native American Heritage

- Celebrations throughout the year known as powwows
 - Gourd Clan Powwow
 - Tinker Inter-Tribal Powwow
- Other events include:
 - The Choctaw Storytelling Festival
 - American Indian Exposition
 - Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival
 - Celebration of the Muscogee Creek Nation
 - The “Trail of Tears Drama”



Battle Sites

- Oklahoma: site of several Civil War battles
- Reenactments: period life seen
 - Battle of Honey Spring every three years
 - Union Army victory July 17, 1863
- Sutlers: sold food and other items to soldiers



The Frontier Era

- Pre-1840s: life of mountain men, trappers, and craftsmen
- 1820-1840: fur trade era of American West
- Tombstone Tales: historical portrayal of those buried at Fort Reno Post Cemetery
- Blacksmithing demos at Pawnee Bill Ranch



Harvest Celebrations

- harvest: when a ripened crop is gathered from the field
- Agriculture heritage celebrated around the state
 - AgriFest, the Oldies Club Tractor & Vehicle Show, the Great Plains Antique Tractor Show, the National John Deer Two-Cylinder Show, the Billings Wheat Country Festival



Trails and Rails

- The Chisholm Trail Days: recreated 1800s encampments
- Chisholm Trail Cowboy Festival & Chuckwagon Cookoff
- The Great Western Trail
- The Santa Fe Trail Daze
- Tour de Trees
- Railroad Day
- Route 66: the “Mother Road”
- Will Rogers Fly-In



Flora and Fauna

- Special yearly events to observe abundance of state wildlife
- Bat watches: Boiling Springs State Park, Freedom, & Jet
- Annual “Fangtastic” Rattlesnake Hunt
- Rose Rock Festival at Noble
- Azalea Festival
- Iris Festival
- Dogwood Days Festival
- Tulips A Bloom Festival
- The Magnolia Festival
- The Canna Festival
- The Birding and Crystal Festival
- Sand Fest
- Sand Drag Racing at Little Sahara State Park



Other Celebrations

- Many colorful cultures spotlighted in festivals throughout the state
- Germanfests: feature schnitzel sandwiches, bratwurst, sauerkraut, and apple strudel
- Scottish Games & Gathering in Tulsa
- Celtic crafts, pipe and drum competitions
- Irish Arts Oklahoma Feis
- Italian Festival
- Cimarron Territory Celebration
- Cherokee Strip Celebration



Section 2: Museums and Historic Sites

➤ Essential Question:

- How do Oklahomans commemorate their famous people and its frontier era?



Introduction



Prehistory

- Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History: depicts Oklahoma some 300 million years ago
- Caddo and Choctaw artifacts
- Spiro Mounds Archaeological State Park (LeFlore County)
- Kenton Mercantile or Cimarron Heritage Center (Boise City)
- Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art



Native American

- Cherokee Heritage Center
- Tsa-La-Gi Ancient Village
- Indian City U.S.A.
- Five Civilized Tribes Museum
- Ataloa Lodge Museum
- Seminole Nation Museum
- Bigheart Museum
- American Indian Cultural Center



Frontier Era

- A time of multi-ethnic history and heritage
- An important era of commercial history
- Chouteau family intertwined with the Three Rivers area
- Lt. Col. George A. Custer's place in history
- Life in a frontier fort during the mid-1880s at the Fort Towson Historic Site
- Doaksville Site, former Choctaw Nation capital
- Fort Sill & Fort Sill Museum
- Last chief of the Comanche, Quanah Parker



Civil War Sites

- The Battle of Honey Springs on July 17, 1863
- Union Army included whites, former Native Americans, and former black slaves of the 1st Kansas Volunteer Infantry Regiment
- Cabin Creek Battle historic site
- Confederate Memorial Museum and the Battle of Middle Boggy



Traveling

- Chisholm Trail museums in Waurika, Duncan, & Kingfisher
- The Jones & Plummer Trail Museum in Beaver
- Buffalo Museum & Fort Dodge Trail Crossing
- 1893 Cherokee Strip Land Run
- Unassigned Lands: April 22, 1889
- MK&T Depot in Hominy
- The Katy Depot: Checotah
- Frisco Depot: Antlers
- Santa Fe Depots: Cheyenne & Waynoka
- Shawnee's Santa Fe Depot Museum: 1903
- Canadian County Museum
- El Reno's Heritage Park
- Rock Island Depot



African Americans

- African Americans searching for new beginnings in Oklahoma
- More all-black communities than anywhere in the country
- Boley: one of 27 all black towns
 - historic district founded as a camp for black railroad workers
 - Farmers & Merchants Bank (now closed): site of attempted robbery by gangster Pretty Boy Floyd



Famous Oklahomans

- Will Rogers Memorial
- Gene Autry Oklahoma Museum
- Tom Mix Museum
- Henry & Shirley Bellmon Library
- Governor Seay Mansion
- T.B. Ferguson House of Watonga
- The Peter Conser House
- Sequoyah's Cabin
- Jim Thorpe House at Yale
- The White Hair Memorial
- Augusta Metcalfe Museum



Urban Regions



Tulsa:

- Philbrook Museum of Art
- The Gilcrease Museum
- Collection of American Indian and western art
- The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame
- The Geoscience Center



Oklahoma City:

- National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum
- The Harn Homestead
- The Omniplex Arts and Science Museum
- The Red Earth Indian Center
- International Photography Hall of Fame and Museum
- The State Capitol
- The Oklahoma City Museum of Art
- The Firefighters Museum
- The Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum



Other Museums

- “The Little Smithsonian”: the Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve
- Nellie Johnstone #1 {replica of state’s 1st commercial oil well
- Main Street Oil Well
- Pitcher’s Mining Field Museum
- Coal County Historical and Mining Museum
- Hajek Motorsports Museum: vintage dragsters
- High Car Museum of Ponca City
- Darryl Starbird’s National Rod & Custom Car Hall of Fame
- Mickey Mantle Exhibit in Grove
- Oklahoma Sports Museum
- The National Softball Hall of Fame Museum



Section 3: Ethnic Groups

➤ Essential Question:

- How have various ethnic groups affected the development and lifestyle of Oklahoma?



Section 3: Ethnic Groups

- What terms do I need to know?
 - ethnic groups



Introduction



Native Americans

- The name Oklahoma: derived from two Choctaw words:
 - okla – red
 - humma – people
 - Combined means “red people”
- Oklahoma: home to the headquarters of thirty-nine different tribes & nations
- Descendants of original 67 native American tribes still reside in Oklahoma
- 2nd Largest American Indian population in US (behind California)
- Earliest tribes: the Wichita, Comanche, Plains Apache, and Quapaw
- New tribes added through forced relocation of hundreds of American Indians
- Most retained basic values
- Festivals, museums, and cultural centers retain Indian heritage for younger generations



African Americans

- Arrived with early explorers
- Others came as slaves to Indian plantation owners
- Some black troops saw action during the United States Civil War: later known as the “buffalo soldiers”
- Estimated 7,000 blacks came to Indian Territory after the Civil War
- Came on a promise of a “black paradise”
- Came as settlers, farmers, workers, cowboys, and gunfighters
- Built 27 all-black towns in Oklahoma
- Some towns no longer exist



British and Irish

- Europeans in America prior to white settlement in Oklahoma
- Intermarriage between Europeans and Indians (including English, Scottish, Welsh, & Irish)
- Most came as settlers, traders, and trappers
- Early Irish served in military posts
- After the Civil War: Scottish cattlemen leased Indian grassland
- Irish laborers: some helped build railroads or worked coal mines
- British & Irish: helped establish coal industry in southeastern Oklahoma
- By 1900: approx. 4,290 English, Irish, Scottish, & Welsh present
- British Protestants: established themselves in the state
- Hennessey & Deer Creek (Oklahoma County): home to many early Irish residents
- By 1910: most British and Irish population was rural
- By 1920: the majority of both resided in urban areas



Italians

- 1st came to work in coal mines in 1875
- Some farmed in Fort Cobb area
- Large group of Italians: emigrated to US in early 1900s
- By 1910: over 2,500 lived in Oklahoma (85 % in coal-mining towns in southeastern Oklahoma)
- Others established grocery and dry goods stores, blacksmith shops, and restaurants
- Pete Prichard estab. “Pete’s Place”



Germans and Germans from Russia

- Largest number of foreign-born immigrants in Oklahoma – German in language & culture
- Majority: descendants from Germany
- Some German-speaking born in Switzerland or Austria
- Some as foreign colonists living in Russia
- 1 in 8 Oklahomans: claim German ancestry (more than any other ethnicity)
- Cheap land: appealed to many Germans already in United States
- Land runs, lotteries, and allotments: attracted thousands of Germans – settled throughout the state, especially in north-central countries
- Germans from Russia: settled primarily in western 1/3 of the region
- Most were farmers
- Germans from Russia: largely responsible for bringing wheat to the new land
- Other Germans: shoe cobblers, cabinetmakers, butchers, bakers, watchmakers, and blacksmiths
- Known for their work ethic
- Also found time to form social clubs which continue today



Czechoslovakians

- Czech families: successful at farming – a family affair
- Czechoslovakians emigrated to America: purpose to preserve their culture being threatened in home country
- Polka music and good food: continue to be a part of Czech culture



Hispanics

- Began slowly: now ranks as one of the fastest-growing groups in Oklahoma
- Early Indian raids: brought some Mexicans as captives in the 1800s
- Poor conditions in Mexico: many Hispanics have arrived after statehood for better opportunities
- Early Hispanics: worked as laborers in coal mines, railroads, and on farms and ranches
- Hispanic family ties: retain strong generational bonds within their family
- Language: Spanish spoken in some households / English main or only language in others
- Traditional Mexican food: part of many religious celebrations and colorful fiestas for special days



Asians and Pacific Islanders

- Chinese immigrants: came in the late 1800s and others in Oklahoma by the time of statehood
- After Vietnam War: departure of Vietnamese from their country (sponsored by groups across the United States)
- Oklahoma City: growing Asian District with businesses & shops





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