

## EUROPEAN/NATIVE AMERICAN ENCOUNTER/CLASH

### Why did the Native Americans and the Europeans Clash?

**Native Americans** lived in the Americas long before Europeans, including the Pilgrims, arrived. Early Native Americans believed that all people shared the land. **Europeans**, however, believed that individuals owned the land. **Tribes** were forced to move from the land where they had lived for generations. **Spanish explorers** stole gold from the Native Americans. In addition, millions of Native Americans died from diseases like measles and smallpox that had been brought to the New World by European settlers.



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Had the Native

Settlers?

Native Americans had been helpful to the early settlers in the New World. The **Powhatan** tribe traded food to save the colonists at Jamestown. Squanto, Samoset, and the Wampanoags saved the Pilgrims at Plymouth. During the 1800's, **Sacajawea**, a Shoshone woman, became a guide and translator for Lewis and Clark as they explored the Louisiana Territory.



## What was the Trail of Tears?

The **Cherokee Indians** first lived in Virginia, Georgia, and the Carolinas. European settlers, however, wanted Native American lands, so the Native Americans were forced to move. The **Indian Removal Act** forced the Cherokees and other tribes from their lands. Even though the Supreme Court declared the Indian Removal Act unconstitutional, **President Andrew Jackson** ignored the ruling of the Supreme Court and forced the Cherokees off of their land. The Cherokees had to move to Oklahoma. The routes along which the Cherokees were forced to move came to be called the **Trail of Tears**. Thousands of Cherokees died from hunger, the cold and diseases during this relocation process.



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