



Indian Lore

Merit Badge Workbook



This workbook can help you but you still need to read the merit badge pamphlet.
This Workbook can help you organize your thoughts as you prepare to meet with your merit badge counselor

Merit Badge Counselors may not require the use of this or any similar workbooks.

You still must satisfy your counselor that you can demonstrate each skill and have learned the information.
You should use the work space provided for each requirement to keep track of which requirements have been completed, and to make notes for discussing the item with your counselor, not for providing full and complete answers.

If a requirement says that you must take an action using words such as "discuss", "show", "tell", "explain", "demonstrate", "identify", etc, that is what you must do.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found on [Scouting.org/meritbadges/](https://www.scouting.org/meritbadges/).
The requirements were last revised on January 1, 2024 • This workbook was updated in January 2024.

Scout's Name: _____ Unit _____ Date Started _____

Counselor's Name: _____ Phone No.: _____ Email: _____

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about this **workbook** to: Workbooks@USScouts.Org
Comments or suggestions for changes to the **requirements** for the **merit badge** should be sent to: Merit.Badge@Scouting.Org

1. Identify the different American Indian cultural areas. Explain what makes them each unique.

2. Research an American Indian tribe, group, or nation.

Group researched: _____

Tell your counselor about traditional dwellings, way of life, tribal government, religious beliefs, family and clan relationships, language, clothing styles, arts and crafts, food cultivation, foraging and preparation, means of getting around, games, customs in warfare, and where and how they live today.

Traditional
Dwellings:

Way of Life

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Tribal Government

Religious Beliefs

Family and Clan
Relationships

Language

Clothing Styles

Arts and Crafts

Food Cultivation,
Foraging and
Preparation

Means of Getting
Around

Games

Where They Live
Today

How They Live
Today

3. Do the following:

- a. Learn 10 common terms in an American Indian language and their meanings. Language: _____

	Term	Meaning
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

- b. Identify the meaning of 10 place names of American Indian origin in the United States.

	Place Name	Meaning	Language
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

- c. Name five well-known American Indian leaders, either from the past or people of today. Give their tribes or nations. Describe what they did or do now that makes them notable.

	Name	Tribe	What They Did or Do Now
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

4. Do the following:

- a. Describe how life might have been different for the European settlers if there had been no Native Americans to meet them when they came to this continent.

- b. Describe eight things adopted by others from American Indians.

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	

- c. Learn a game played by a group or tribe. Teach and lead it with a Scout group.

5. Do ONE of the following:

- ☐ a. Visit a museum either in-person or virtually to see American Indian exhibitions and collections.

Museum visited: _____

Discuss with your counselor what you observed or learned from two exhibitions

and identify 10 artifacts by tribe or nation, their shape, size, and use.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

- ☐ b. Attend a contemporary American Indian gathering.

What did you attend? _____

Discuss with your counselor proper etiquette for attending as well as what you learned and observed during your visit.

When working on merit badges, Scouts and Scouters should be aware of some vital information in the current edition of the *Guide to Advancement* (BSA publication 33088). Important excerpts from that publication can be downloaded from <http://usscouts.org/advance/docs/GTA-Excerpts-meritbadges.pdf>.

You can download a complete copy of the *Guide to Advancement* from <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/33088.pdf>.