

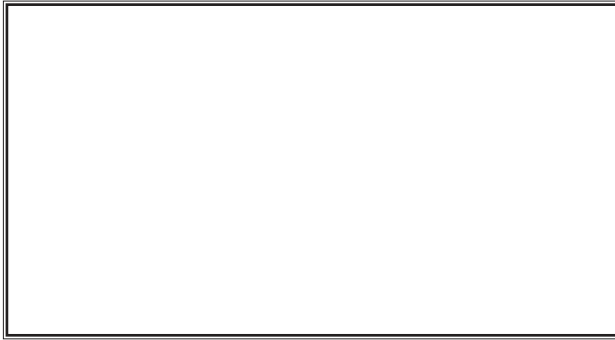
New Life in Indian Territory

When the Cherokee arrived in Indian Territory (today's Oklahoma) there were no towns or homes to shelter everyone.

They had to start a whole new life in a new place.

What do you think families did first? Draw your answer.

Hint: There are things that all people need to survive.



A New Constitution

Not all Cherokee agreed about how to respond to Indian removal. Despite their disagreements, the Cherokee rebuilt their nation, signing a new constitution in 1839.



1. What is the purpose of a constitution?
2. Name another nation that has a constitution.

Ready for Your Badge?

1. Fill out your contact information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

2. Photograph your completed booklet and email it to:

ntir_junior_ranger@nps.gov

Learn more about the trail at: nps.gov/trte

NPS 2020



Trail of Tears National Historic Trail

Junior Ranger Program



A Long Journey

The Cherokee Indians lived in the states now called Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama. Their land was perfect for farming and hunting, but once gold was discovered white settlers wanted to move there. The Cherokee, who had lived on their lands for hundreds of years, were forced to move west to Indian Territory (today's Oklahoma).



When you look at the family in this painting, how do you think they are feeling? Why? _____

Leaving Home

Circle the area of the Cherokee's homelands on the map. Circle the name of the state where they were forced to move. Cherokee still live there today.



Use the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail brochure with these activities.

Indian Removal

Look at the map labeled **Southeast Indian Removal**.

The Cherokee were not the only Indian group removed from the Southeast. List four other removed tribes.

New Indian Policy

Look at **The Removal Act**.

There was a law passed in Congress to make Indian Removal legal. What was the name of that law?

What were Cherokee prohibited from doing in Georgia?



Cherokee on the Land Route had to cross rivers on their trek west.

Use the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail brochure with these activities.

Water Route

Some Cherokee traveled on waterways. Look at **Cherokee Trail of Tears**.

Which sounds easier? (Circle one.)

traveling by water or traveling by land

Name one reason why travel by boat was very hard.



Land Route

Many Cherokee traveled to Indian Territory by land on existing roads and trails. Those on the land route still faced challenges like crossing rivers. Look at Cherokee Trail of Tears or the illustration on the front of the brochure.

Cherokee traveled by

_____, _____, and _____

for more than 800 miles.

Did everyone survive the journey to Indian Territory? _____