



Museum of the Cape Fear presents

Preschool Pals Virtual Program

Preschool Pals is geared for ages 3 to 5. The virtual program is a kit that includes the same kind of activities that children would do at the museum. Each kit requires adult supervision and assistance.

(Adults, read the following to the children or if they can read, have them read it to you.)



The Village of Pomeiooc, (pronounced po-me-ock) a watercolor painting by John White. This shows us what their homes looked like.

The theme for this Preschool Pals Virtual Program is **American Indians in North Carolina**. A long time ago, a man from the country of England sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and explored the area now known as the Outer Banks of North Carolina. He met several people and their life style and customs were very different than his. He painted a lot of pictures of what he saw because cameras had not yet been invented. Let's take a look at some of his drawings and see what we can learn. Thanks to John White's paintings, we know how the American Indians in North Carolina lived.

Included in this virtual kit:

- The poem at the right.
- A coloring sheet
- A short story
- Instructions for a craft
- An activity sheet using one of White's paintings.

Supplies you need:

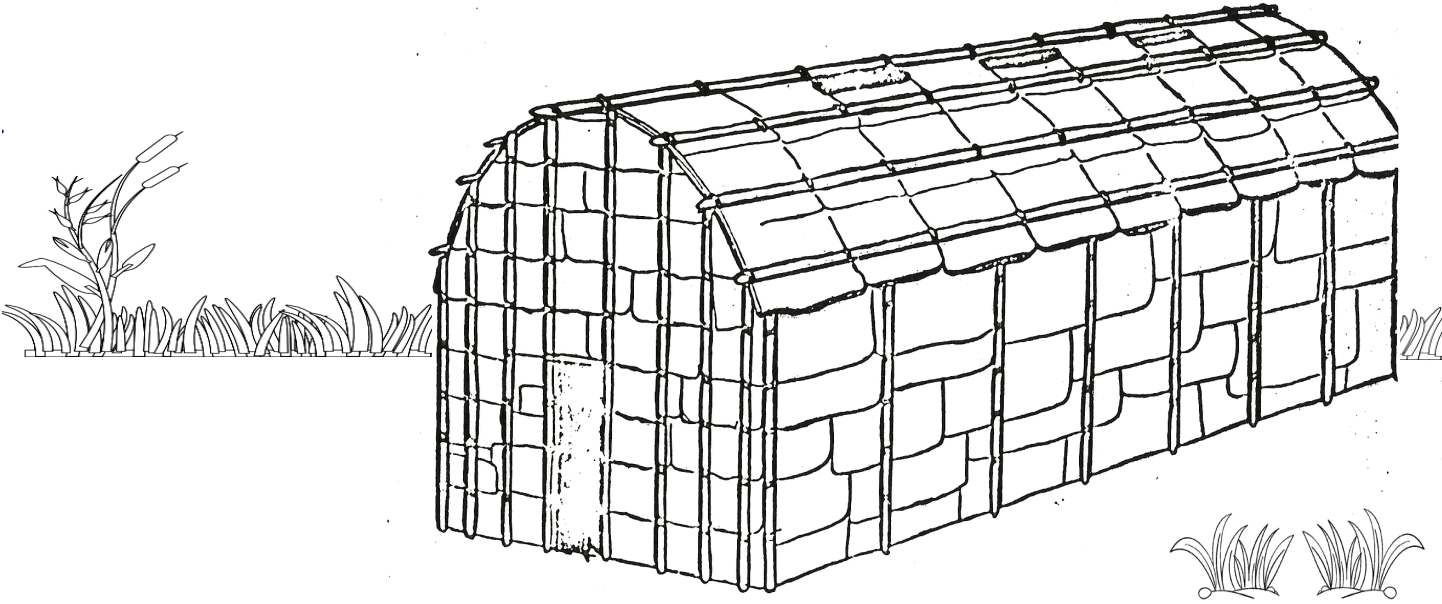
- Playdough or model clay
- Old newspaper or craft paper

Adults, begin by reading the poem below. It serves as an introduction to the activities that follow.

This is how we spend our day:

My mother makes pottery
My father goes out with the hunting party.
Women tend to the crops
Using a beaver-tail hoe to chop.
I eat meat, corn and beans
And gather water from a stream.
I paddle my canoe
Across the river blue.
I fish and play
Till the end of the day.

Coloring Sheet



Manteo & Wanchese

A fictional story created by
curator of education, Leisa Greathouse

A long time ago there were two villages where American Indians lived. One was called Pomeiooc (po-me-ock) and the other Secoton (see-co-ten). The villages were close to each other but separated by a river. Trails through the woods lead up to the banks of the river but to get across canoes were needed.

Little Manteo, who lived in Pomeiooc, had a friend named Wanchese, who lived in Secoton. Because the Pamlico River divided them, they only got to see each other when their fathers traded with one another. Manteo woke up one morning and saw some of the men, including his father, making

a canoe. The men drug a tree from the forest that fell from a storm the night before. One man made a small fire while Manteo's father took a seashell and dug out the burnt, charred pieces of the tree until it was deep enough to be a canoe.

Manteo was so excited about the new canoe he asked his father when they could take it to Secoton. His father said, "We have some trading to do so we will go first thing in the morning."

At the village of Secoton, Wanchese was helping his mother by collecting some edible fruit from trees that grow around their village. He knew that tomorrow was trade day and he asked his mother, "Do you think Manteo will come with his father

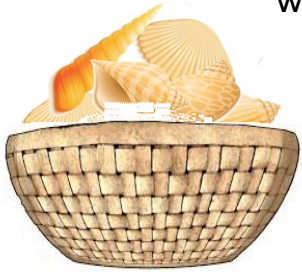
tomorrow for trading?" His mother answered, "He usually comes so I think he will be here. It's been many days since you and Manteo have been able to play together."

"When he is here tomorrow," said Wanchese, "I hope there is time for us to play stickball." (Stickball is what American Indians called lacrosse.)

John White painting of American Indians who lived near the Outer Banks making a dugout canoe.



The next morning Manteo and Wanchese were both filled with the excitement of seeing each other, and Manteo was excited to ride in the new canoe. The Pomeiook chief came out of the longhouse to wish the travelers well and to discuss what to trade. Manteo's father had packed some seashells and new pottery bowls his mother had made.



Each of the villages often traded with each other because each had things the other did not. Certain plants grew near one village, while at the other village, they had easier access to seashells and stones that the other did not.

“Okay Manteo, hop into the canoe,” ordered his father. Other men from the village got in after Manteo, then his father pushed the canoe off the shore and into the water and then hopped in the canoe too. The men paddled across the Pamlico River while Manteo enjoyed the ride. He watched birds fly over head, and he looked down into the water to see if he could spot any fish swimming around their canoe.

“This new canoe is very good,” said one of the men. “It glides across the water so smoothly.”

“Cyprus trees make the best canoes,” said Manteo's father.

Soon they reached the other side of the river. When they landed, the new canoe was pulled up on shore so it would not float away. Manteo got to help. (Rivers flow from inland toward the ocean. The closer the river is to the ocean, the wider it is.)

“Manteo!” yelled out Wanchese. Manteo was surprised to see Wanchese there. The village is about a mile from the river, but Wanchese decided to meet Manteo when he landed.

“Hello Wanchese!” Manteo yelled back. “I'm glad you came to meet us. Now we will have a longer time to spend with each other.”

“I know another trail we can take back to the village. Would you like to take it?”

“Dad, can I go with Wanchese to the village by way of another trail,” asked Manteo.

“Sure, we'll all take it,” answered Manteo's father.

“Oh dad,” said Manteo. “Wanchese and I would like to explore by ourselves. We're old enough now.”

“Okay son. I understand. Wanchese, is your father at the village?”

“Yes sir. He is waiting for you,” replied Wanchese.

“We’ll take the regular trail and meet you there. Be careful boys. This time of year you need to be on the look out for snakes.”

Wanchese led the way and Manteo followed. When they arrived at the village, Wanchese grabbed the sticks and ball and the boys began playing stickball.

When it was time to go, both boys were very tired and had a full day of playing together and building their skills at stickball. They knew as they got older, they would be playing in the tournaments the two villages had once a year.

On the way back to Pomeiooc, everyone in the canoe thought it would be a good time to do some fishing. They used spears and nets to catch the fish they could see swimming around their canoe.

“Manteo,” said his father softly. “I invited Wanchese’s family to come and visit us in Pomeiooc. They’ll spend all day with us and before then, I’ll make you and Wanchese new stickball sticks.”

Manteo gave his father a big smile and just then, one of the other men in the boat pulled in the net with a big fish.

The End



John White painting of American Indians fishing from a dugout canoe near the Outer Banks. (It was not called the Outer Banks when John White was there.) In this picture you will see a net hanging off the canoe and a lot of fish in the canoe. The fire in the middle was to provide light when they fished at night.

CRAFT TIME

Activity — Coil pottery

American Indians made coil pottery. You can make a pot like they did using Playdough or model clay.

Supplies Needed:

- Playdough or model clay
- Old newspaper or craft paper.

Instructions:

Layout the old newspaper or craft paper on the surface where you will be working. Roll your Playdough or model clay into coils (or maybe you call them snakes) as shown in Figures 1 & 2. You can roll out all your coils at once or begin to layer your coils in a circle, as in Figure 3, to begin building your pot. Keep laying the coils one on top of the other until you get the size pot you wish to have. Figure 4 gives you an example. The American Indians would smooth the out the coils as in Figure 5. Once it was smooth, they put a design on it by pressing something with texture against the wet clay. You can use yarn wrapped around your fingers, or a bumpy rock.



Figures 1 & 2, rolling the coils.

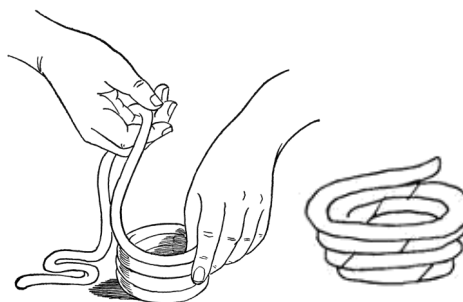


Figure 3, laying the coils.

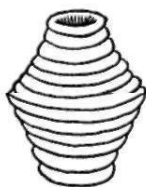


Figure 4, the finished coil pot before smoothing.

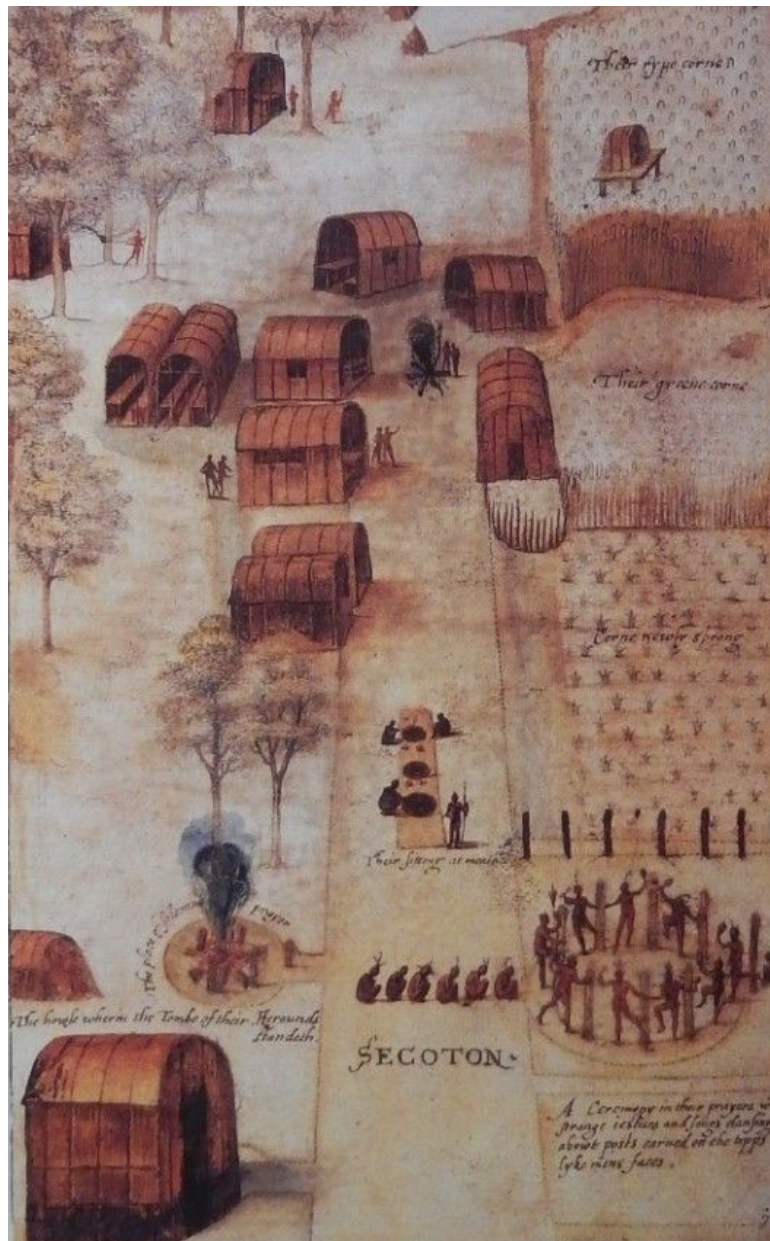


Figure 5, smoothing out the coils.



John White painting of a clay pot used for cooking.

Activity Sheet



The picture above is another painting by John White. The village is called Secoton, the same name as the village in the story. Use the picture to find the answers to the questions below.

- 1.) How many camp fires do you see in the painting?
- 2.) Count the number of people you see in the painting?
- 3.) Count the number of longhouses you see in the painting?
- 4.) What else can you discover in the painting that tells you something about how the American Indians lived?

Adults, the answers are on the next page.

Answers to the activity on the previous page:

1.) 2 2.) 29 3.) 13

4.) no specific answer is required; allow children to use their imaginations and use as a teaching opportunity.

We hope you enjoyed this virtual program. Look for other educational activities and opportunities on the museum's website [here](#). If you discover any errors, such as typos or broken internet links, please notify the museum as soon as possible so corrections can be made before the next adult and child use it. Thank you.



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