

ANSWERS—REMOVAL & RELOCATION OF THE CHICKASAWS

Guiding Questions	Notes	Source of Information
<p>Prior to Removal: Where were the Chickasaws' ancestral homes? What was their lifestyle there?</p>	<p><i>The Chickasaws' ancestral homes were in Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Chickasaws lived in villages and were a matriarchal society. They traded in deerskins but eventually turned to farming and cattle ranching. They had great warriors with fighting skills to defend themselves against other tribes.</i></p>	<p>Oklahoma Historical Society Mississippi Historical Society</p>
<p>Removal and Relocation: How and when were Chickasaws removed from their homeland? What was it like on the Trail of Tear to Oklahoma territory? Where were Chickasaws eventually relocated in Oklahoma?</p>	<p><i>The Chickasaws were one of the last tribes to be removed from the southeastern states (1837). They negotiated a settlement so they could move voluntarily to Indian territory and leave in favorable weather. This saved many lives on the trail of tears. Chickasaws were relocated to the southern central part of Indian territory and for a time, shared the land with the Choctaws.</i></p>	<p>Chickasaw Nation website Oklahoma Historical Society</p>
<p>Response: How did the Chickasaws and their leaders respond to removal and relocation?</p>	<p><i>The Chickasaws went voluntarily to the west. Jackson encouraged leaders to move their people and thought of himself as the great white father. However, the Chickasaws did not fare well in the new territory. They settled near Choctaw villages, were fearful of warring tribes, and had trouble reestablishing their tribal identity at first in Indian territory.</i></p>	<p>Oklahoma Historical Society Jackson's letter to the Chickasaw</p>
<p>Additional Facts: Add any interesting or surprising facts found during your research.</p>	<p><i>Answers will vary. The Chickasaws were one of the first tribes to build schools, banks, and buildings in Indian Territory. At different times, the Chickasaws were allies with the Choctaws and at war with them. Their languages and lifestyles were similar.</i></p>	<p>Oklahoma Historical Society Mississippi Historical Society</p>