

ANSWERS—REMOVAL & RELOCATION OF THE SEMINOLES

Guiding Questions	Notes	Source of Information
<p>Prior to Removal: Where were the Seminoles' ancestral homes? What was their lifestyle there?</p>	<p><i>The Seminoles were mainly located in Florida. They were cattlemen who had large herds of cattle. One early Seminole leader was even called Cowkeeper.</i></p>	<p>Seminole Tribal Culture and History</p>
<p>Removal and Relocation: How and when were Seminoles removed from their homeland? What was it like on the Trail of Tear to Oklahoma territory? Where were Seminoles eventually relocated in Oklahoma?</p>	<p><i>Of all the tribes, the Seminoles fought battles against removal. Some were relocated to Indian Territory between 1836-1839 on their own Trail of Tears. The Treaty of Payne's Landing began the forced removal. It took 20 years to remove the Seminoles and almost 15 million dollars. The Seminoles shared land in Indian Territory with the Creeks. Over time, their land holdings in Indian Territory became smaller as more tribes were relocated. The Seminoles were settled in the central region of Indian Territory.</i></p>	<p>True West Magazine Oklahoma historical Society</p>
<p>Response: How did the Seminoles and their leaders respond to removal and relocation?</p>	<p><i>The Seminoles fought three wars (1817-1858) to try to keep their land from being taken from them. Some remained in hiding in the Everglades and eluded removal. Perhaps of all the tribes, the Seminoles were the most consistent in fighting back. Leaders such as Osceola, Micanopy, Jumper, and Alligator engaged in guerilla warfare to defeat the government troops.</i></p>	<p>Florida State Department (Seminole Wars)</p>
<p>Additional Facts: Add any interesting or surprising facts found during your research.</p>	<p><i>Answers will vary. Although the Seminoles are descendants of the Creek tribes, they did not like the Creeks and did not want to settle with them in Indian Territory. The Seminoles gave sanctuary to runaway slaves. President Jackson called himself the Great White Father and urged the Seminoles, his children, to move to Indian Territory or be removed forcibly. Coacoche, a Seminole leader, describes the white man as speaking with a forked tongue.</i></p>	<p>Seminole Tribal Information True West Magazine Oklahoma Historical Society Orlando Sentinel</p>