

ANSWERS—THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIVE AMERICANS

Guiding Questions	Notes	Source of Information
<p>Treaties with the Federal Government: What were the goals of the federal government in signing treaties with Native American tribes?</p>	<p><i>Beginning in the early 1800s, Native American tribes were removed from their homelands, long before the Indian Removal Act of 1830.</i></p> <p><i>Through treaties or through war with tribes, the federal government sought to remove tribes from land that western settlers wanted. For example, Jackson fought an uprising by the Creeks in 1814 in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and forced them to surrender land.</i></p>	<p><i>U.S. Office of the Historian Oklahoma Historical Society</i></p>
<p>Jefferson & Monroe Presidencies: How did Thomas Jefferson view Native American tribes? How did James Monroe view Native American tribes?</p>	<p><i>Jefferson wished to keep Native Americans as allies to the US and to make treaties with them to acquire land. Jefferson saw tribes as sovereign nations, but he also wanted Native Americans to be “civilized,” to adopt the ways of white settlers by farming and leaving their nomadic lives.</i></p> <p><i>Monroe favored removal of the tribes to unsettled territory because he believed they could not become part of the “masses.” Monroe believed if the tribes remained where white settlers wanted to live, they would eventually be exterminated.</i></p>	<p><i>Monticello website Digital History</i></p>
<p>Jackson Presidency: How did Andrew Jackson view Native American tribes?</p> <p>What outcome did Jackson and the federal government hope to achieve with Native Americans?</p>	<p><i>Jackson did not believe tribes were sovereign nations. They should be subject to the laws of the state. While he saw some tribes becoming “civilized,” he felt that if they remained in the lands desired by white settlers, they would be destroyed. He intended either by force or through treaties to remove all tribes to west of the Mississippi River.</i></p>	<p><i>Digital History, Andrew Jackson</i></p>
<p>Additional Facts: Add any interesting or surprising facts found during your research.</p>	<p><i>Answers will vary. Under Jackson’s Indian Removal Act, more than 70 treaties for removal were achieved. Many tribal leaders, such as the Seminole leaders Osceola and Tecumseh resisted and fought removal. Many tribes tried to sell off small amounts of land hoping to appease the states and settlers into not wanting more. All tribes over a period of 90 -100 years experienced their own Trail of Tears.</i></p>	<p><i>US Office of Historian Oklahoma Historical Society</i></p>