

1

Welcome to today's field trip to Inwood Hill Park!

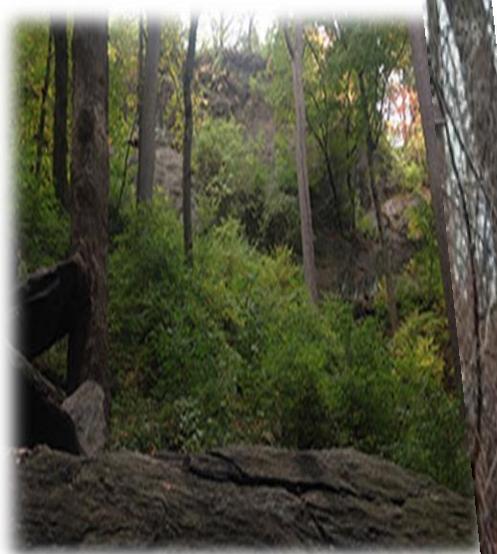
We're here, everybody!
Let's go out and see what
we can learn to help
move our class, school
and city toward zero
waste!



2

Welcome!

Did you know
Inwood Hill Park
is the last natural
forest land in
Manhattan?



It was a natural landscape full of hills, valleys, forests, fields, salt marshes, freshwater wetlands, beaches, springs, ponds and streams. It was home to a rich community of plants and wildlife, such as bears, wolves, songbirds, salamanders and beavers.

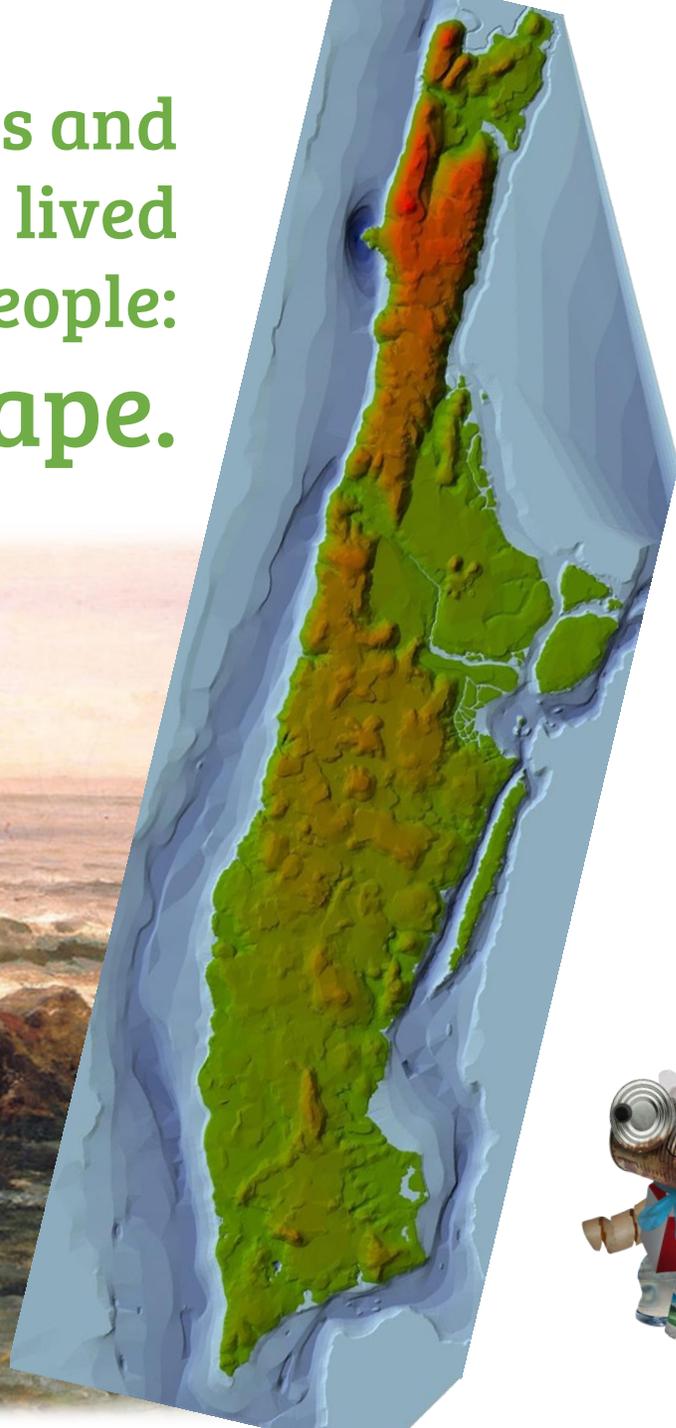


It had clear, clean waters with fish, porpoises and whales in the harbor, along with fresh air for all to breathe. This land was once incredibly **biodiverse**.

All of New York
City once looked
like this.



Among these plants, animals and surrounding waters, lived Manhattan's first people: **the Leni Lenape.**



They called the island **'Mannahatta'**
In their language, this translates to **"island of many hills."**

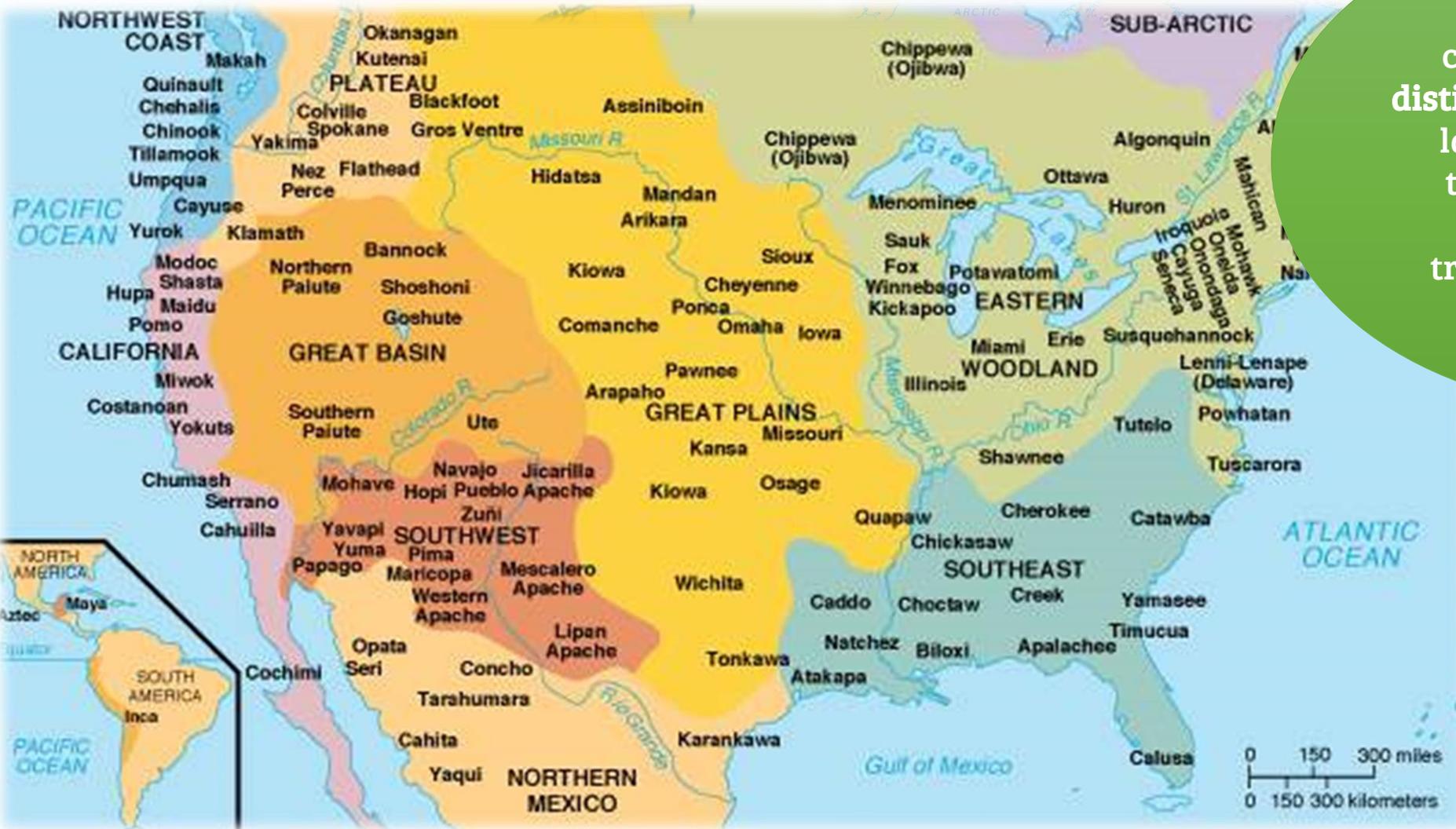


Can you point out the hilly parts of Mannahatta?

4

The Lenni Lenape are one of the many Native communities that have lived in New York State and throughout the Western Hemisphere for thousands of years.

There are thousands of different Native communities & each is distinct with its own history, language, arts, values, traditions and beliefs. What are the values, traditions and beliefs of your family and community?



5

The Lenape have related to the environment in ways that showed respect, community and balance. They have lived in harmony and have given thanks to nature for more than 400 generations.



“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.”

Native American proverb



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Beginning in the 15th and 16th centuries, European explorers began sailing across the oceans.

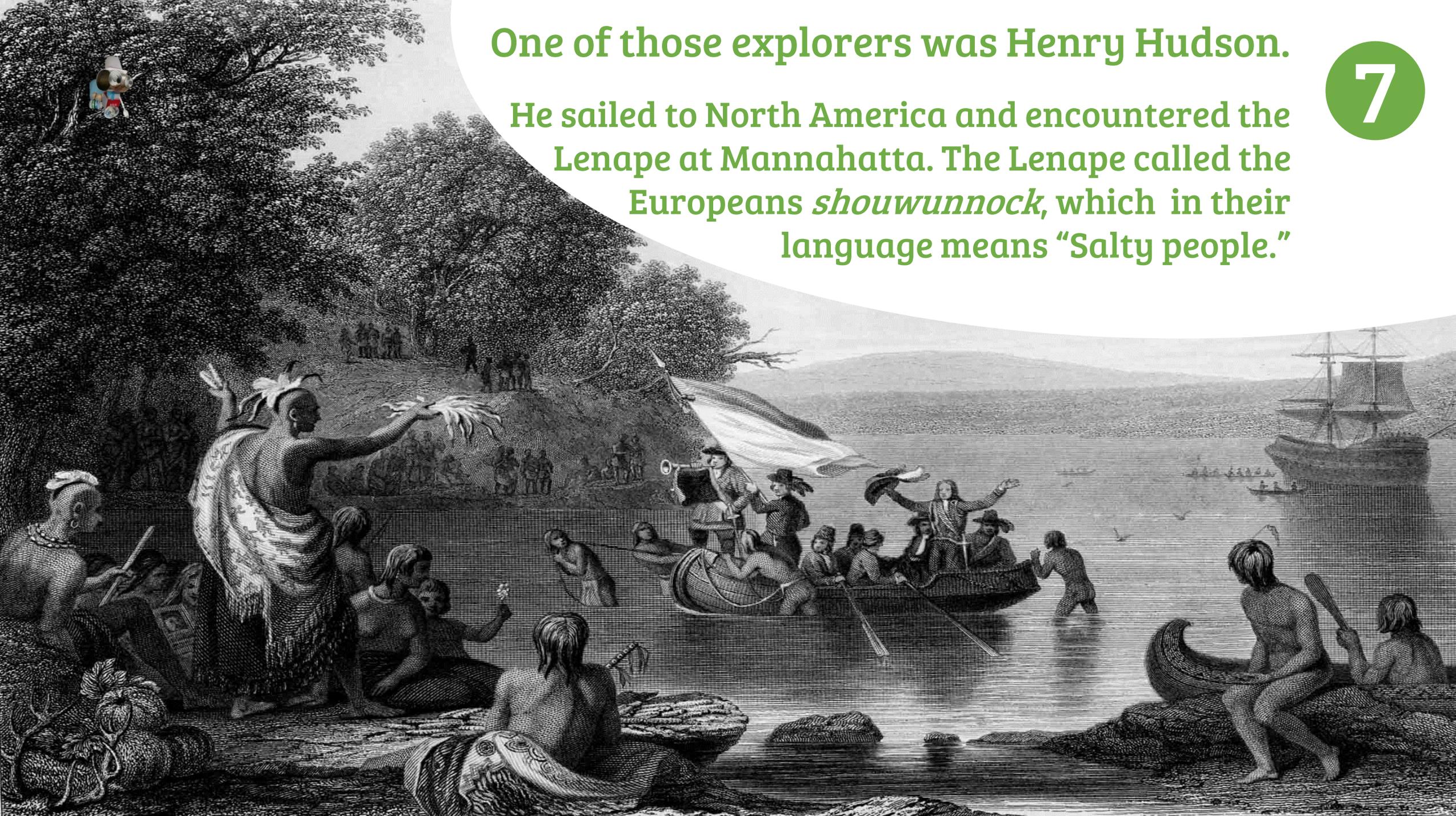
Why did they leave Europe? What were they looking for? What did they expect to find?



One of those explorers was Henry Hudson.

He sailed to North America and encountered the Lenape at Mannahatta. The Lenape called the Europeans *shouwunnock*, which in their language means “Salty people.”

7



8

There are 3 trails to hike.

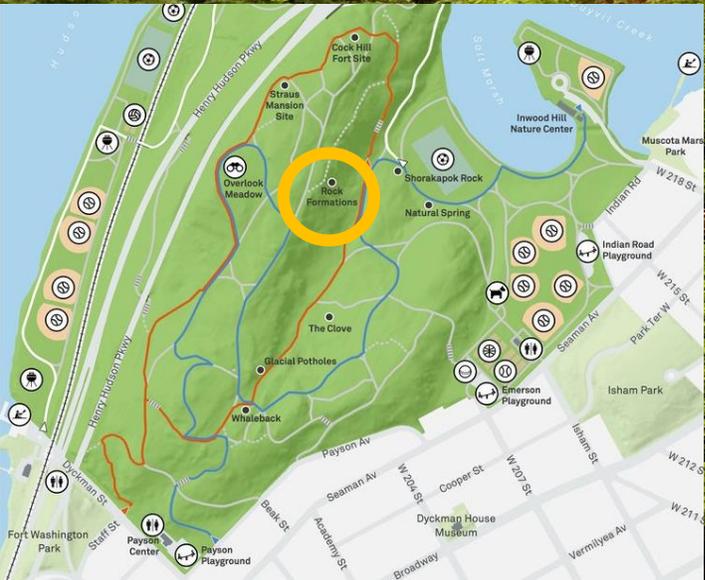
- Gray Trail (1.2 Miles)
- Blue Trail (1.7 Miles)
- Orange Trail (1.3 Miles)

	Building		BBQ Area
	Other Park		Kayak Launch
	Softball		Lookout
	Handball		Playground
	Tennis		Dog Run
	Volleyball		Restroom
	Basketball		Soccer



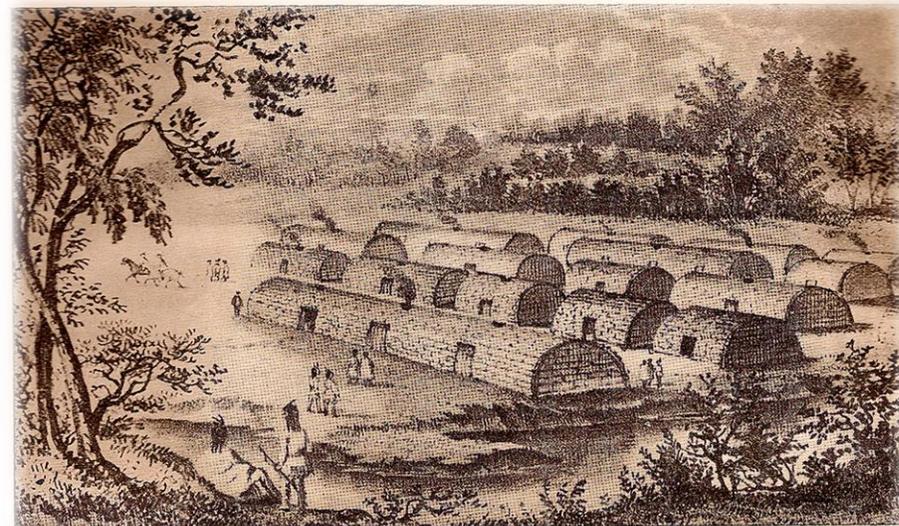
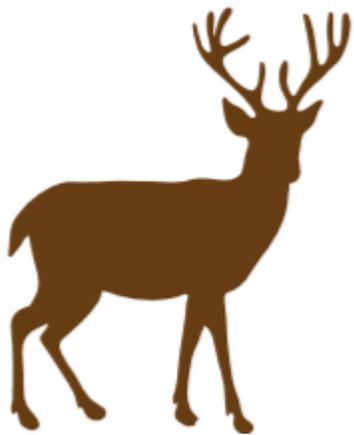
Here we are at the
Rock Formations.

The Lenape took shelter
in these natural rock
formations during the
summer months. This
was when it was time to
harvest shellfish, eels
and fish from the
nearby river.



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The Lenape relied on the **natural resources** from their local environment to build their homes, make their tools, sew their clothing, grow and hunt their food.



An Indian village on Manhattan Island. From an old print in Valentine's Manual for 1858.

For example, they used as much of the deer as possible. The meat was eaten; hides were used for clothing, moccasins, and blankets; sinew, made from the animal's tendons, was used for thread; bones and antlers were used to make tools; deer hooves were used to make rattles.

What natural resources do we rely upon? Where do they come from?



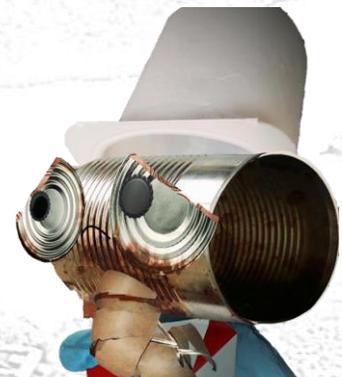
Now look up!

Two red-tailed hawks are flying above the park!

The first hawk looks down and sees what
Manhattan looks like today.

But the second one looks down and imagines
what Manhattan looked like in the past,
when it was mostly inhabited by the Lenape.

What do you think the
first hawk sees? What
do you think the
second hawk
imagines?



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So how did Mannahatta...

...become Manhattan?

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Here we are at Shorakkopoch Rock.

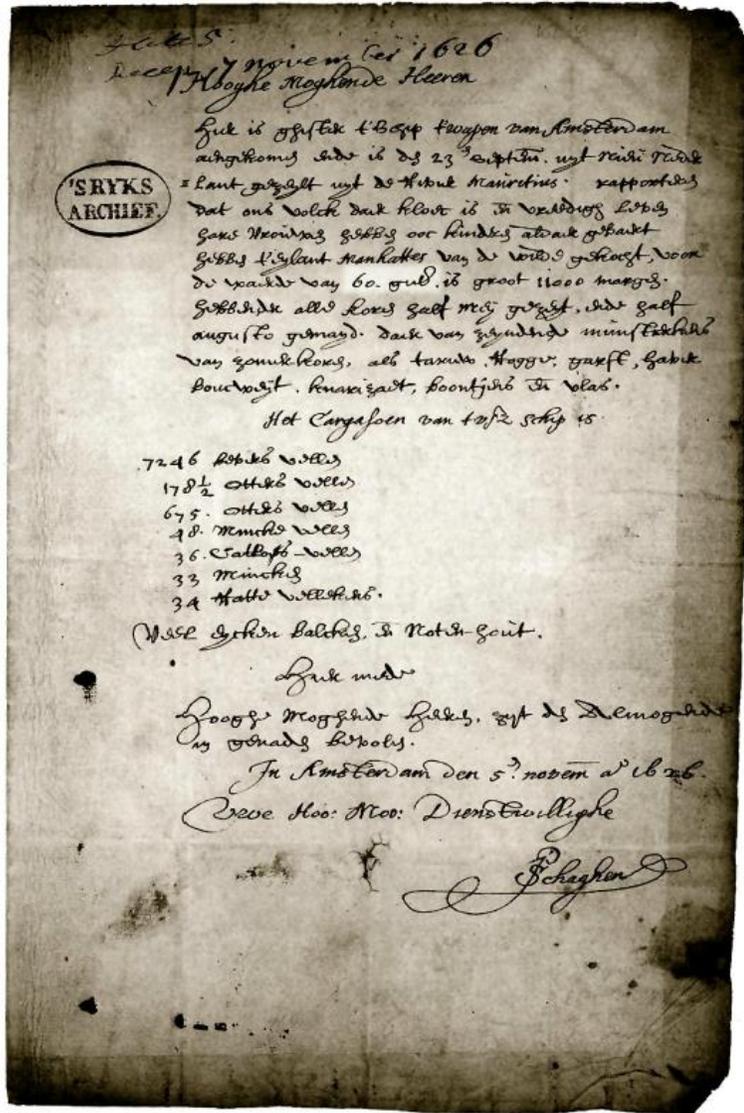
At this exact spot in the year 1626, Peter Minuit, the Dutch governor of the New Netherland colony, bought Mannahatta from the Lenni Lenape people for only \$24!

What could you buy for \$24 today?



Here is our only proof of this purchase.

It's a letter originally written in Dutch. We'll read the English translation.



High and Mighty Lords,
 Yesterday the ship the Arms of Amsterdam arrived here. It sailed from New Netherland out of the River Mauritius on the 23d of September. They report that our people are in good spirit and live in peace. The women also have borne some children there. They have purchased the Island Manhattes from the Indians for the value of 60 guilders. It is 11,000 morgens in size [about 22,000 acres]. They had all their grain sowed by the middle of May, and reaped by the middle of August They sent samples of these summer grains: wheat, rye, barley, oats, buckwheat, canary seed, beans and flax. The cargo of the aforesaid ship is:

7246 Beaver skins

178½ Otter skins

675 Otter skins

48 Mink skins

36 Lynx skins

33 Minks

34 Muskrat skins

Many oak timbers and nut wood.

Herewith, High and Mighty Lords, be commended to the mercy of the Almighty, In Amsterdam, the 5th of November anno 1626.

Your High and Mightinesses' obedient, P. Schaghen



What natural resources does the author mention in his letter to the "High and Mighty Lords"?

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The Lenape, however, did not think they were selling the island to the Dutch.



Instead, they thought the Dutch were giving them gifts of appreciation for being allowed to share the island with them.

In fact, the Lenape did not believe in the ownership of land, as there was no such **concept**, just as there is no such thing as owning the sunlight, the air or the wind.

What do you think about this? Was this a fair deal? Compare and contrast the values, motivations and beliefs of the Lenape with those of the Europeans.



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Since the island had so many valuable **natural resources**, such as timber for wood and beavers for fur, more Europeans came here to **live, trade and take these resources**.



The Dutch colonists built a **settlement** at the southern end of Manhattan. They called it **New Amsterdam**.



How were the colonists able to do this with the Lenape still living here? How do you think the Lenape felt about this?



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What followed for the Lenape was devastating loss of life, disruption of tradition, enormous loss of lands and forced migration.

**Lenape-Delaware
Forced Migration**



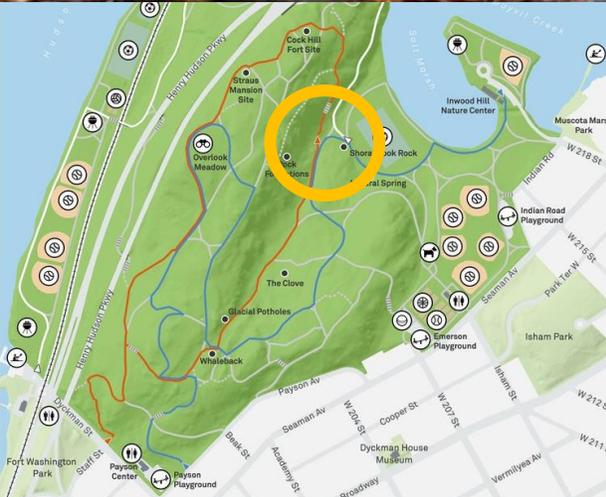
Over the following decades, the Lenape had to defend their land against the invading European colonists.

Unfortunately, newly-introduced diseases from Europe and conflicts with other Native American tribes made the situation worse.

Those who survived were forced to migrate west, far away from their homelands.

Let's look at these small hills to our left.

In the 19th & 20th centuries, archaeologists began exploring Inwood Hill Park and digging into its hills, like this one.





These archaeologists didn't find much!

There was pottery, some arrowheads and a few shell mounds known as **middens**.

Middens are small hills of waste, which for the Lenape, consisted mostly of the shells of seafood they caught and ate from the river.



Although the Lenape lived here for thousands of years how did they leave so little waste? How did they live this way?

Compare waste from your lunch today with a meal eaten by the Native Americans

What might we leave behind for future archeologists to find when exploring the places we bury our waste?

What can we do to minimize the waste we leave behind?

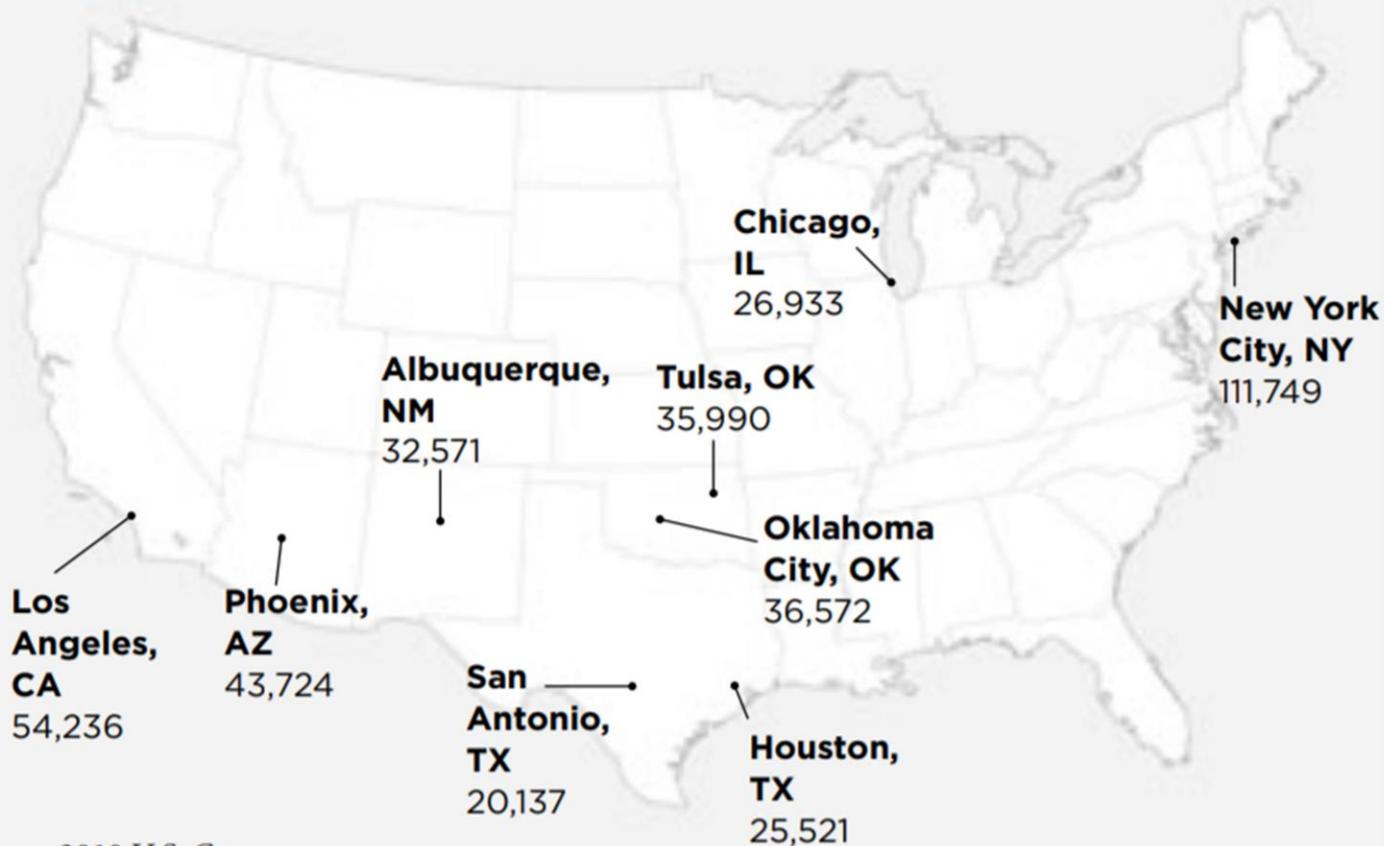


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Today, the Lenni Lenape are one of hundreds of Native American communities still living in the United States.

U.S. cities with the largest American Indian/Alaska Native populations

Anchorage, AK 36,062



Source: 2010 U.S. Census

Can you see which U.S. city has the largest population of Native Americans?



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They, like Native people throughout the world, continue to fight to maintain the integrity and viability of their cultures.



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Thank you for visiting Inwood Hill Park!



I hope we
make it
back to
school in
time!

