

# The Earliest Americans

Timeline Cards



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# CHAPTER 1—Introduction

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Vikings briefly settled in North America in the 1000s CE.

**Big Question:** What was Beringia?

# CHAPTER 1: Beringia: The Land Bridge



**15,000 BCE:** During the Ice Age, much of the world's water was frozen into ice, and the weather was very cold.

**Big Question:** What was Beringia?

# CHAPTER 1: Beringia: The Land Bridge



**15,000 BCE:**  
People lived as  
hunter-gatherers  
in North America.

**Big Question:** What was Beringia?

## CHAPTER 2: America's First Settlers

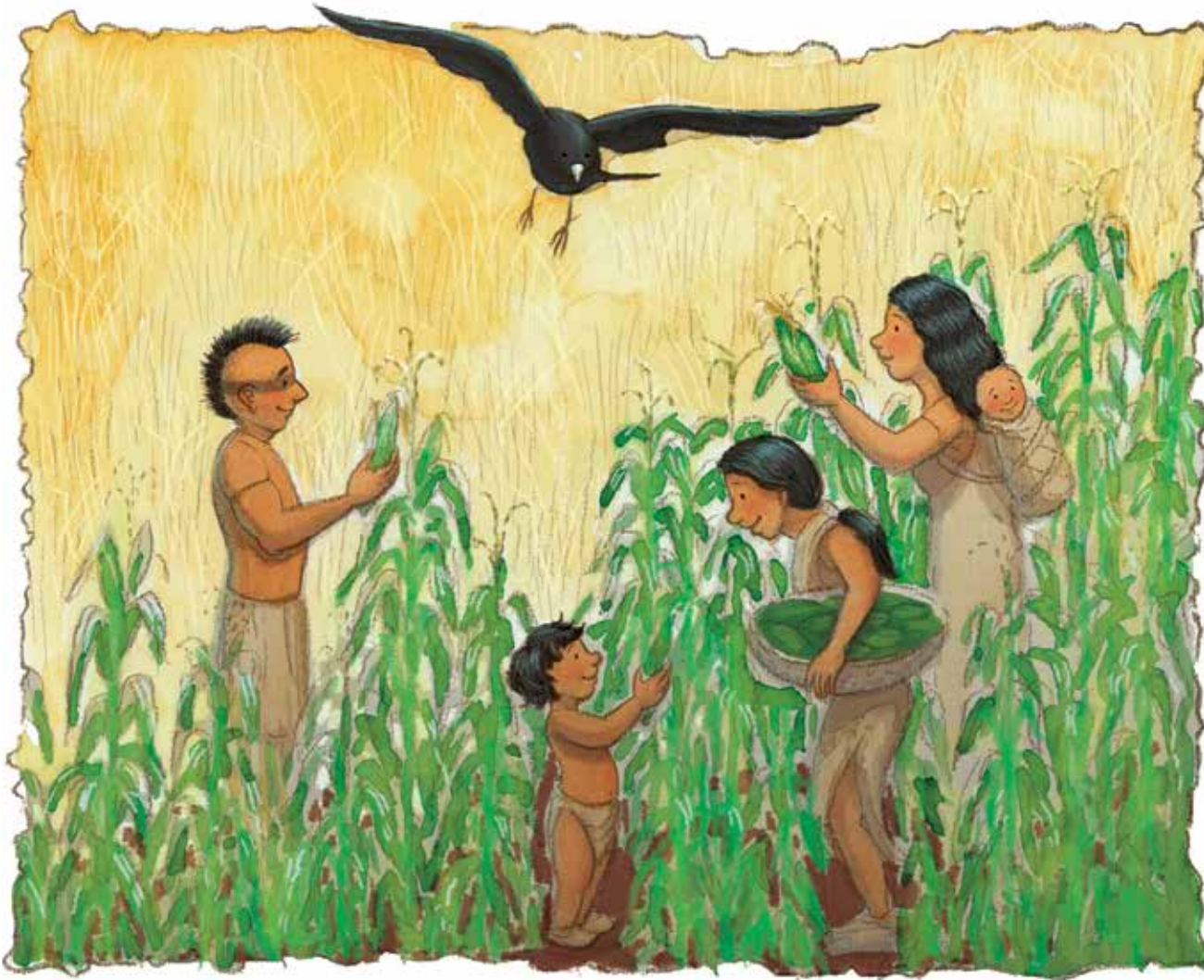


9000 BCE: Over a period of thousands of years, as the ice sheets melted, people spread out over the land and settled on it.

**Big Question:** How did the ability to grow food change the way people lived?

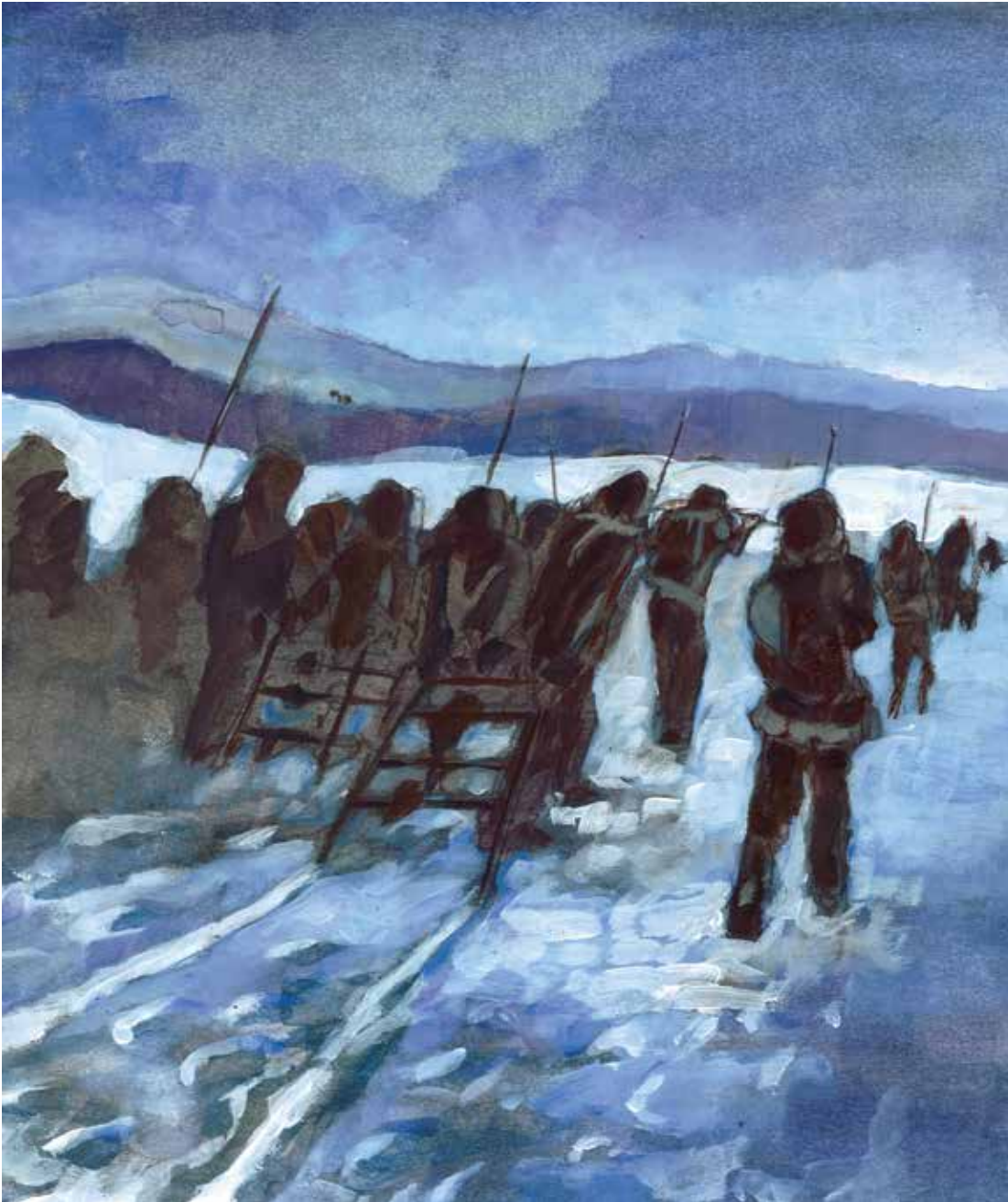
## CHAPTER 2: America's First Settlers

5000 BCE: People who settled in Mexico planted corn.



**Big Question:** How did the ability to grow food change the way people lived?

## CHAPTER 3: People of the Far North



**2500 BCE:** When the Inuit first came to North America, they got almost everything they needed by hunting and fishing.

### **Big Question:**

What were the big differences between life in the summer and life in the winter for the Inuit?



## CHAPTER 3: People of the Far North



1500 CE or 500 years ago: The daily life of the Inuit changed from season to season.

**Big Question:** What were the big differences between life in the summer and life in the winter for the Inuit?

## CHAPTER 4: Ancestral Pueblo and Mound Builders



2,000 years ago or 100 BCE:  
Ancestral Pueblo moved  
from Canada to the American  
Southwest and lived in cliff  
dwellings that were like small  
towns.

**Big Question:** How would you compare the settlements built by the Ancestral Pueblo to those built by the Mound Builders?

## CHAPTER 4: Ancestral Pueblo and Mound Builders



2,800 years ago or 700s BCE: The Mound Builders' villages stretched along the Mississippi River Valley. Their villages spanned from the present-day states of Ohio, Wisconsin, and Minnesota to Louisiana and the southeastern United States.

**Big Question:** How would you compare the settlements built by the Ancestral Pueblo to those built by the Mound Builders?

## CHAPTER 5: After the Ancestral Pueblo



1500s CE: The Hopi built homes on mesas with different levels connected by ladders. The Zuni, Navajo, and Apache had different types of homes.

**Big Question:** What are some of the reasons why some Native American groups moved from place to place?

## CHAPTER 5: After the Ancestral Pueblo

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Spaniards arrived in the American Southwest in the 1500s and 1600s. They introduced sheep to the Navajo.

**Big Question:** What are some of the reasons why some Native American groups moved from place to place?

## CHAPTER 6: After the Mound Builders



Late 1500s CE: Creek villages were similar to the communities built by the Mound Builders.

**Big Question:** What were the key characteristics of the Creek, Seminole, and Cherokee Nations?

## CHAPTER 6: After the Mound Builders



1800s CE: Sequoyah created a system for writing the Cherokee language.

**Big Question:** What were the key characteristics of the Creek, Seminole, and Cherokee Nations?

## CHAPTER 7: The Eastern Woodlands



1500s CE: Haudenosaunee Confederacy leaders discussed common problems in council meetings.

**Big Question:** What was the purpose of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy?