

## Essential Knowledge

- American Indians were the first people who lived in Virginia.
- Christopher Columbus called them “Indians” because he thought he landed in the Indies near China.
- Virginia Indians are referred to as “**Eastern Woodland Indians**” because of the dense forests that cover most of the land.
- Artifacts found by archaeologists include: arrowheads, pottery and other objects. These tell us a lot about the way Indians lived.

# Virginia Indians

SOLs: VS.2 d, e, f and g

## Werowocomoco

- large Indian town
- headquarters of Chief Powhatan
- located along the James River, 16 miles south of Jamestown

## Climate

(Weather)

- mild (not too hot, not too cold)
- variety of vegetation (plants)
- 4 distinct seasons: spring, summer, winter, fall

## Virginia Indians Today

- live in similar ways as other Americans: foods, housing, schools, jobs

## Important Vocabulary

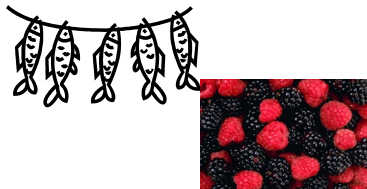
- archaeology
- artifact

## Adaptions

- used animal skins (deer) for clothing
- made shelter and tools from surrounding materials (natural resources)

### **Spring**

hunted, fished, picked berries



### **Summer**

grew crops:  
beans, squash and corn



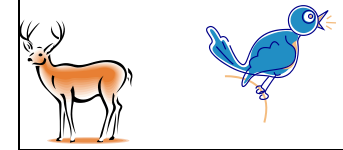
### **Fall**

harvested crops and hunted  
for food to preserve



### **Winter**

hunted birds and animals;  
lived on preserved food



# Virginia Indians Languages

| Language   | Region  | Groups and Notes   |
|------------|---|--|
| Algonquian | Coastal Plain (Tidewater)   | Powhatan<br><br>First group to encounter English settlers.<br>Forced to relocate as more English made permanent settlements. |
| Siouan     | Piedmont  |  |
| Iroquoian  | Appalachian Plateau (Near Southern Virginia and North Carolina)<br><br>Parts of the Coastal Plain | Cherokee   |

