Early Michigan History

**Big Ideas**:

* History is the study of the past.
* Historians are people who study the past.
* Historians are like detectives. They look for clues to understand the past.
* Historians study primary resources created by people who lived at the time they are studying (photographs, diary entries, letters) and secondary sources created by people who weren’t there at that time in history (textbooks).
* Native Americans, or American Indians, were the first people in Michigan. They arrived here about 10,000 years ago.
* The very first Native Americans in Michigan left behind artifacts like spear points and arrowheads.
* The Hopewell, or Mound-builders, lived in parts of Michigan after these early people. They built big burial mounds.
* After the Hopewell came “The People of the Three Fires.” This was an alliance made up of the Potawatomi, the Odawa (Ottawa) and the Ojibway. They had similar cultures.
* Stories were an important part of the cultures of Michigan Indians.
* Stories were used to teach lessons, to explain things, and to pass along history.
* Stories were passed down through time.
* Many Native Americans still live in Michigan today.
* About 500 years ago explorers from the continent of Europe were looking for trade routes to China.
* Explorers from the country of France began exploring in the Great Lakes region.
* The French and American Indians interacted in many ways. For example, they traded with each other, they sometimes married each other, and they learned from each other.
* Fur-trading between the French and the American Indians grew.
* The country of Britain became interested in the fur trade.
* Competition for the fur trade led to a war between France and Britain.
* France lost the war. As a result Britain took control of the Great Lakes region including Michigan.
* American Indians found it was much harder to deal with the British than the French.
* Serious conflicts began between the British and the American Indians.

Some questions to think about:

* What are some ways in which Native Americans in Michigan used natural resources from their environment?
* What are some ways Native Americans and later people from France and Britain changed the environment of Michigan?
* What caused the French and British to fight with each other at this time in history?
* What was one effect for the Native Americans in Michigan of the British winning the war with the French?
* How was the relationship the Native Americans in Michigan had with the French different than their relationship with the British?

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| **7**  **Cause**  **Event**  **Effect**  **cause**  an action that  makes something  happen  ***Example*:** When the mill was built, it caused more farmers to move into the area.  (SS030301) | **8**  **Cause**  **Event**  **Effect**  **effect**  something that results  from something  else happening  ***Example*:** One effect of more people moving into the area was that the town began to grow.  (SS030301) |