

1.0 Pre-contact Interactive Map Assignment

Use the interactive map found at the bottom of web page 1.0 Introduction from the Virtual Canada website to complete the assignment below. You can also access the necessary resources from the Student Zone under the “Assignments” section.

Objective: to appreciate the unique culture and histories of the various First Nations of North America.

Procedure:

Use the 1.0 Pre-contact Interactive Map found on the website to complete the assignment. Select ONE region from the map, i.e. Easter Woodlands or Arctic, etc.

- 1). Place your mouse over a region title and left-click.
- 2). A pop-up window will appear with the names of the various First Nations that occupied the corresponding geographic area.
- 3). Select ONE nation to research.
- 4). Answer the following questions:
 - What region is your group of study from?
 - What is the name of the nation?
 - What linguistic group does your First Nation of study belong to?
 - Where specifically did your nation of study live?
 - What are two important facts about your nation of study?

Below is an example of what your presentation might look like in terms of length and content.

Region: Pacific Northwest Region

Nation: Heiltsuk

What linguistic group does your First Nation of study belong to? The Heiltsuk language belongs to the Wakashan language family.

Where specifically did your nation of study live? My nation of study dwelled in the Central Coast region of modern day British Columbia.

What was the name of the most important settlement, town or religious site? The Heiltsuk had two major towns called Bella Bella and Klemtu. I could not find any information on an important religious site.

What are two important facts about your nation of study? Firstly, this nation is actually a collection of smaller tribal groups that came together in the 19th Century. They came to be known as the Bella Bella First Nation thereafter. Secondly, according to fur traders the Heiltsuk were shrewd businessmen, i.e. They would trade otter furs for extra large blankets from the white traders. Then they would cut up the large blankets into smaller ones and in turn trade these to other nations further inland.