

# GALLERY RESOURCE GUIDE

## Contested Territory

**Grades:** 3, 4, 5, 8

**Academic Standards:**

Social Studies: 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.5, 3.1.8, 3.3.11, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.1.6, 5.1.2, 5.1.3, 5.1.4, 5.1.5, 5.1.6, 5.3.4, 5.3.11, 5.4.1, 8.1.12, 8.1.14, 8.1.17, 8.1.18, 8.3.2, 8.4.1

**Overview:**

The journey from Indian country to statehood was a difficult and bloody one. French traders entered present day Indiana around 1700 and sought to forge relationships with the Native Americans and increase trade alliances. British settlers, however, were focused on transforming the land for settlements. Native American Nations blocked European expansion towards the west creating tension, conflict, and sometimes violence.

During this time of European settlement, the region became known as Indiana: land of the Indians. Imagine what the community of Vincennes might have looked like in 1732. Learn how trade impacted Native American and European life. Listen to the historic speech made by Little Turtle in both the Miami language and in English. Discover how Indiana became a state.

**Gallery Highlights:**

**>Vincennes Model:** Vincennes in 1732 was developed much like a village in France! Settlers grew wheat even though corn grew much better. Each household was a compound with fruit trees, barns, gardens, and sometimes slave quarters. What made Vincennes unique? What crops and animals can you see in the model? What are long lots and commons?

**>Economic Opportunities:** Trade was an important facet of Native Life, and when French traders came to the Great Lakes region in the 1700s, Native Americans seized the opportunity to engage in commerce. Native Americans sought out trade goods such as glass beads and metal implements, while Europeans wanted furs. What kinds of trade goods do you see? What is trade silver?

**>Treaty of Greenville:** The Treaty of Greenville was meant to be a final boundary line that would end the bloodshed and protect Native American homelands. Listen to the speech given by Little Turtle. Imagine being in the audience when this historic speech against the Treaty of Greenville was being given. What is a treaty? What are some of the tools that were used to create a solemn and formal atmosphere?

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continued

>**The Path to Statehood:** In order for the Indiana Territory to become a state, the population had to reach at least 60,000. This happened by the year 1815. Do you think children counted towards this total? What about women? What do you think happened to the Native Americans who lived in the Indiana Territory prior to statehood?

## Key People, Events, or Terms:

- >Vincennes
- >George Rogers Clark
- >The Girty Family
- >Squire Boone
- >The French and Indian War
- >Little Turtle
- >Anthony Wayne
- >Mahkoonsihkwa/ Francis Slocum
- >William Henry Harrison
- >Jonathan Jennings
- >“The Prophet” Tenskwatawa
- >Tecumseh
- >War of 1812
- >John Small

## Workshops, Lesson Plans, and Special Events:

- > Native Americans Education Trunk
- > Docent-led tour
- > Miami Dice Gallery Demonstration

## Discussion Points:

>Once traders introduced European-manufactured metals into Native American communities, they quickly became integrated in everyday life. Within a few generations, Native Americans stopped producing tools and weapons and began to use trade goods from the Europeans. How do you think this affected Native American cultures? What sorts of skills and customs could have been lost?

>The Miami language was nearly lost. In 1900, very few people spoke the Miami language fluently. One of the ways that people are trying hard to keep the Miami language alive is through creating an updated and more modern spelling of the language. What languages can you speak? What languages do your parents speak? What about your ancestors? Did they always speak English, or did they speak another language?