HistoryLink.org is the free online encyclopedia of Washington State history. To make it easier for you to fulfill the new state requirement to incorporate tribal history into K-12 social studies curricula, we have put together a set of resource lists identifying essays on HistoryLink that explore Washington’s tribal history. Click on the linked essay number, or enter the number in the search box on HistoryLink.org.

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Pre-1700

Milestones for Washington State History -- Part 1: Prehistory to 1850

Marmes Rockshelter 7970

1700s

European horses arrive on the Columbia Plateau in the early 1700s. 9433

Tlehonnipts (those who drift ashore) become first European residents of Northwest lands near Satsop Spit (mouth of the Columbia) in about 1725. 7942

Smallpox epidemic ravages Native Americans on the northwest coast of North America in the 1770s. 5100

1800s

Kitsap of the Suquamish defeats Cowichan raiders at Dungeness Spit in 1825. 7871

Cayuse attack mission, in what becomes known as the Whitman Massacre, on November 29, 1847. 5192

Indians and Oregon Volunteers battle in the future Columbia County on March 14 and 15, 1848. 7807

Trial of five Cayuse accused of Whitman murder begins on May 21, 1850. 9401

Luther Collins and two others lynch Masachie Jim near Seattle on July 15, 1853. 3525

Upper Yakamas in the Wenas Valley, led by Owhi, host Longmire-Byles wagon train headed for Naches Pass on September 20, 1853. 10719

Chief Seattle's Speech [1854] 1427

Native American tribal leaders and Territorial Gov. Stevens sign treaty at Medicine Creek on December 26, 1854. 5254

Makah leaders and Territorial Gov. Stevens sign treaty at Neah Bay on January 31, 1855. 5364

Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens convenes the First Walla Walla Council with Native American tribes on May 29, 1855. 5188

Artist Gustavus Sohon documents the Walla Walla treaty council in May, 1855. 8595

Yakama Indian War begins on October 5, 1855. 5311

United States establishes Fort Simcoe at the foot of the Simcoe Mountains on August 8, 1856. 5292

Governor Isaac Stevens convenes Second Walla Walla Council on September 11, 1856. 5189

Nisqually Chief Quiemuth is murdered in Olympia on November 19, 1856. 10007

Nisqually Chief Leschi is hanged on February 19, 1858. 5145

Yakama, Palouse, Spokane, and Coeur d'Alene warriors defeat the U.S. Army under Lieutenant Colonel Edward Steptoe on May 17, 1858. 5162

U.S. Army defeats Native Americans at Battle of Four Lakes on September 1, 1858. 5143

Battle of Spokane Plains occurs on September 5, 1858. 5144

U.S. Army Colonel George Wright slaughters 800 Palouse horses on September 8, 1858. 5142

U.S. Army Colonel George Wright hangs Yakama and Palouse prisoners at the Ned-Whauld River beginning on September 25, 1858. 5141

Smallpox Epidemic of 1862 among Northwest Coast and Puget Sound Indians. 5171

Secretary of the Interior J. P. Usher creates the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation on July 8, 1864. 8533

Seattle Board of Trustees passes ordinance, calling for removal of Indians from the town, on February 7, 1865. 10979
Seattle pioneers petition against a reservation on the Black River for the Duwamish tribe in 1866. 2955
Dungeness Massacre occurs on September 21, 1868. 5743
General Howard meets with Smohalla, Wanapum spiritual leader, on April 24, 1877. 9439
Dawes Severalty Act divides Indian reservations among individual members on February 8, 1887. 2600
Spokane Tribe cedes 3.14 million acres of land to the United States on March 18, 1887. 5163
Native Americans organize the Indian Shaker Church in 1892. 2640

1900s

Supreme Court in *U.S. v. Winans* hands down first Native American fishing rights case in 1905. 2595
Northwest Federation of American Indians (NFAI) is organized in 1913. 2592
Indian Citizenship Act makes all Native Americans U.S. citizens on June 2, 1924. 2601
Indians and non-Indians attend a historic powwow at Cashmere from August 20 to August 22, 1931. 9147
Indian tribes gather in Juanita to re-enact signing of 1855 Point Elliott Treaty on May 27, 1933. 1632
Wheeler-Howard Act (Indian Reorganization Act) shifts U.S. policy toward Native American right to self-determination on June 18, 1934. 2599
S’Klallam tribe receives a reservation on Port Gamble Bay on June 16, 1938. 5509
U.S. Supreme Court in *Tulee v. Washington* upholds some Native American treaty fishing rights on March 30, 1942. 2593
American Indian Women’s Service League is chartered in 1957. 2883
Celilo Falls disappears in hours after The Dalles Dam floodgates are closed on March 10, 1957. 10010
State Supreme Court issues confusing ruling in *Washington v. Satiacum* on treaty fishing rights on July 1, 1957. 2650
Native Americans and supporters stage fish-in to protest denial of treaty rights on March 2, 1964. 5332
Economic Opportunity Act, which enables tribes to receive federal funds directly, becomes law on August 20, 1964. 7090

Fort Lawton military police clash with Native American and other protesters in the future Discovery Park on March 8, 1970. 5513
Tacoma Police arrest 60 persons at a fish-in on September 9, 1970. 2625
Federal Judge George Boldt issues historic ruling affirming Native American treaty fishing rights on February 12, 1974. 5282
A charter committee meets in Seattle to develop a constitution for the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission on June 24, 1974. 9787
Descendants of pioneers reverse the stand of their ancestors and support federal recognition of the Duwamish Tribe on June 18, 1988. 2956
Puyallup Tribe of Indians accepts a $162 million settlement for lost land on March 25, 1990. 7969
Congress passes Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act on November 16, 1990. 5603
Muckleshoot Indians advance Sand Point claim in March 1993. 2278
Forests and Fish Agreement results in Salmon Recovery Plan on June 7, 1999. 5324
Federal government recognizes the Snoqualmie Tribe on October 6, 1999. 2458

2000s

Suquamish Indians harvest clams in first commercial dig on private, non-Indian land on February 15, 2000. 5204
Duwamish Tribe wins federal recognition on January 19, 2001, but loses it again two days later. 2951
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and City of Seattle sign settlement agreement, resolving lawsuit over city’s plans for Cedar River Watershed, on July 6, 2006. 11004
Northwest Indian canoes return to site of Point Elliott Treaty on July 26, 2007. 8269

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