

VOCABULARY LIST

1. **Interpreter:** a person who translates from one language to another.
2. **“Go-between”:** a term used to describe the negotiators and interpreters who would go back and forth between the Indians and colonial governments carrying messages and explaining one group’s views and position to the other. Conrad Weiser was an skilled interpreter and a go-between, respected by the Iroquois and colonial representatives alike.
3. **Iroquois Confederation, the League of the Iroquois, or the Five Nations:**
a powerful alliance of Indian nations in the northeastern part of the U.S. that controlled much of New York and northwestern PA. The Iroquois Confederacy consisted of the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca, with the Tuscarora joining later to create the Six Nations.
4. **Alliance:** a union to promote common interests
5. **The Great Council:** A central governing council within the Iroquois Confederation, which met at least once a year to discuss issues of mutual concern, and working to always keep peace among the six nations. Decisions at the council were made by consensus, or agreement among all participants. The Council met at the village of Onondaga (Syracuse, NY) at the center of the Iroquois region.
6. **“The Long Peace”:** A period of nearly 75 years in which the colonists of Pennsylvania and the region’s native peoples transacted land sales and negotiations with minimal conflict. Beginning with it’s founder, William Penn -who paid the Lenape Indians for their land- until the 1750’s, Pennsylvania experienced fewer colonial-Indian conflicts than any other colony until the 1750’s.
7. **Negotiate:** to meet with another to settle some matter
8. **Provincial Council:** the upper branch of the colonial Pennsylvania legislature, or government
9. **The Assembly:** the lower branch of the colonial Pennsylvania legislature
10. **Treaty:** generally, an agreement made by negotiation. In dealings with the Iroquois and other Indian peoples, a treaty was another word for a meeting or conference.
11. **Diplomacy:** the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations
12. **Wampum:** small tubular beads made from the inside of seashells drilled with holes, strung in strings or woven into belts. Wampum held an important symbolic role in Indian ceremonies and diplomacy, joining groups together and enforcing the words spoken in the meetings. It was exchanged at treaties and used by Indians and colonists.
13. **Trade Goods:** variety of items, usually of European or colonial manufacture, used in trade and negotiation with Indians, presented as gifts by colonists, given as tokens of good will or given as payment for land sold to the colonial government. Common trade goods included: guns, lead and [gun]powder, blankets, stroud matchcoats, kettles, combs, looking glasses (mirrors), pipes, hats, needles, stockings, ribbon, woven tape, knives, buttons, buckles, vermilion (a powder which is mixed to make a dye or paint for facepaint).
14. **Stroud Matchcoat:** a coat featuring a visible contrasting color selvage (woven edge), sewn from a woven fabric manufactured in Stroud, England, generally of bright color.

15. **Haversack:** a lightweight canvas or linen sack-like bag worn over the shoulder

16. **Longhouse:** the house form of the Iroquois and other northeastern America Indian groups, constructed of wooden frame and bark. Large in size, the structure usually housed several families, with long upper and lower bunks, and a long hallway in center with fires built at the middle.

17. **False Face:** a member of the Iroquois medicine society, which performed important rituals and religious ceremonies to ward off sickness and cast out evil spirits. Medicine people would wear carved wooden masks with exaggerated facial features; these faces represented spirits or supernatural powers.

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