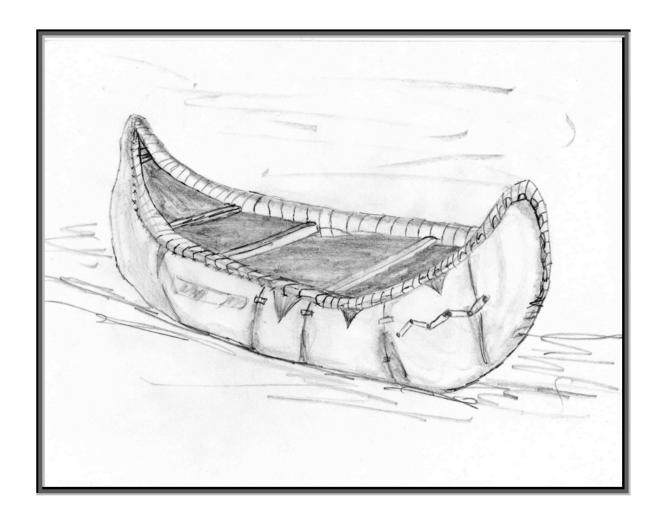
NATIVE AMERICAN RHYMES



Native American Transportation

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NATIVE AMERICAN RHYMES

TRANSPORTATION

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OVERVIEW

The first way that Native Americans got around

Was to put one foot in front of the other on the ground.

Soon they began to use the resources where they lived

Creating means of transportation from what these resources had to give.

For instance, certain tribes discovered that the bark of certain trees

Made lightweight canoes that handle the water with ease.

Other groups tied poles together in a special way

Creating the means to carry their belongings each and every day.

Still others lived in regions where it was very cold a lot

And so created ways to move their belongings from spot to spot.

These are some examples of the genius and imagination

That native Americans used in their quest of transportation.

TRAVOIS



Travois were used by tribes living on the plains

To carry their belongings with a minimum of strain.

A travois consisted of a wooden frame in the shape of a "V".

Placed over the shoulders of the animal carrying it for all to see.

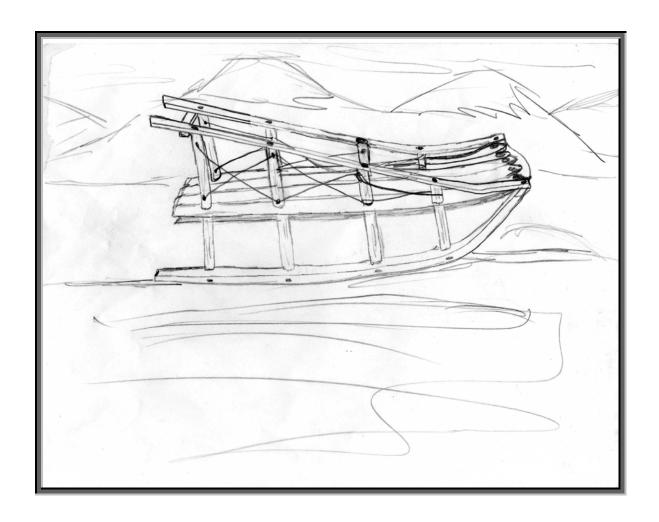
The open end of the travois was dragged along the ground

While webbing in the middle served as the best seat around.

Dogs were the first animals used to carry a travois

Later on horses, because of their strength, were put into employ.

SLEDS



Sleds were used to travel over snow

By the Far North people when they needed to go.

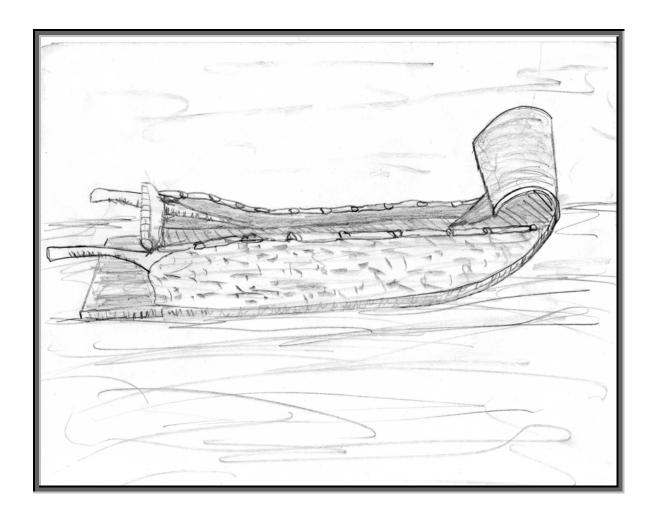
A sled consisted of a platform raised above the ground

With blades called runners underneath for gliding around.

Dogs were hitched to the front of the sled

Waiting for their master's command to pull it ahead.

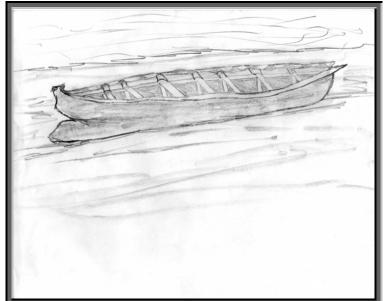
TOBOGGAN



Toboggans were invented by tribes living in the Subarctic region,
A place where winter was a long and very cold season.
Toboggans didn't have runners but instead rested on the snow
And were pulled by people not dogs, in case you didn't know.
The front end of a toboggan was always turned back
And had ropes attached to keep the toboggan on track.

KAYAKS AND UMIAKS





Kayaks and umiaks were boats covered with skin

That were used by the Far North people over and over again.

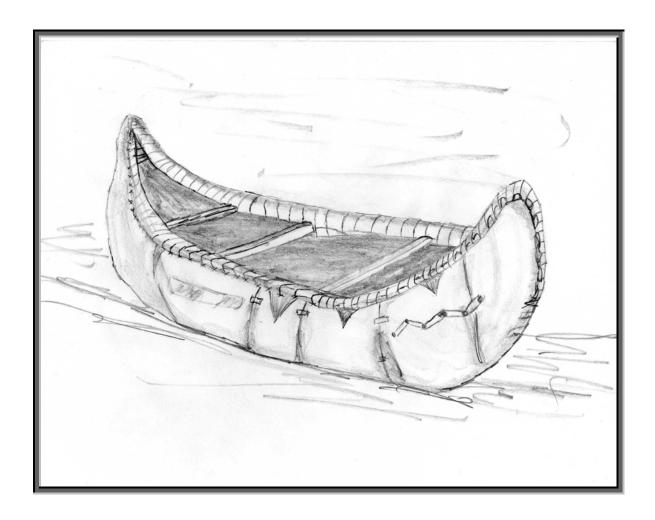
The skins that were used came from walruses and seals

Because the lack of trees in the Far North was a very big deal.

Kayaks could carry one or two passengers at a time

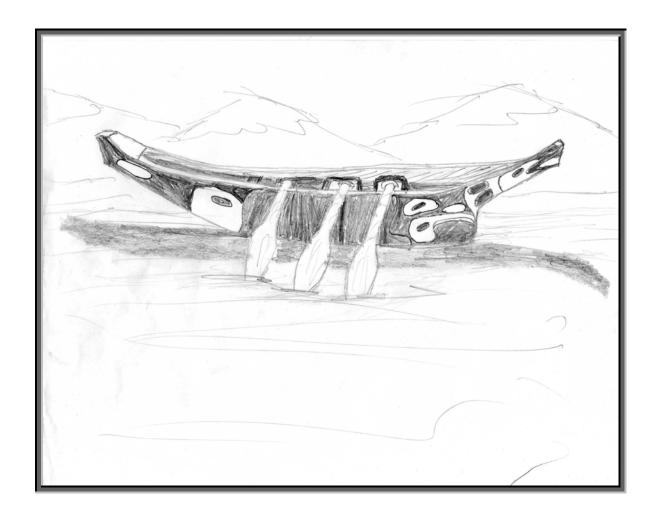
While umiaks could carry up to 10 passengers across the ocean's brine.

BARK CANOES



Bark canoes were a lightweight, stable means of transportation
That were a favorite among many native American nations.
Nations such as the Iroquois and the Algonquin
As well as Subarctic tribes that must be included in.
A bark canoe started with a framework of young trees
Covered with bark peeled away with relative ease.
Birch bark was preferred to cover a canoe's frame
Although spruce and elm bark were second and third in this claim.

DUGOUTS



Dugouts were canoes made from logs hollowed out

And were much longer than bark canoes, as well as more stout.

Dugouts were the most common native American boat ever made

Because of their necessity during war, travel and trade.

To make a dugout, hammers, chisels and wedges were needed

To insure that the hard work ahead went on unimpeded.

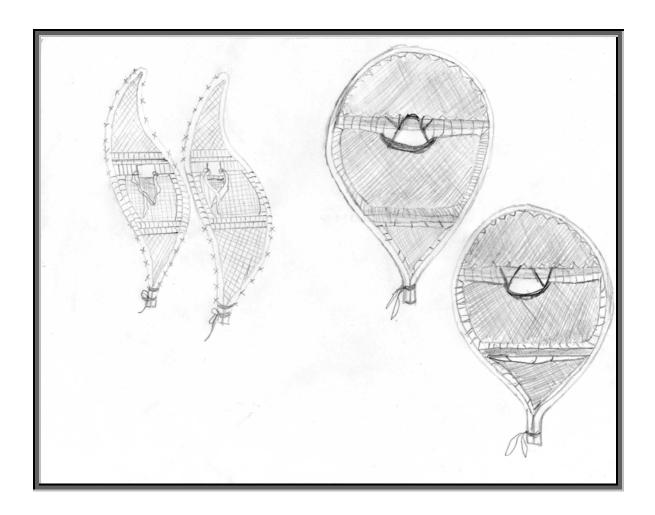
Next, the dugout was painted by its builders ornately

Which enhanced the beauty of the dugout greatly.

When finished a dugout could be almost 100 feet long and seven feet wide,

Ready to carry warriors, hunters and traders with dignity and pride.

Snowshoes



Snowshoes, as their name implies,

Allowed it's wearer to travel and hunt under winter skies.

Snowshoes were made in several shapes

Depending on for what use the snowshoe might take.

For instance, snowshoes used for hunting were narrow and long,

While those used for walking were wide and strong.

To make a snowshoe a piece of sturdy wood was desired

That was bent into shape while heating it over fire.

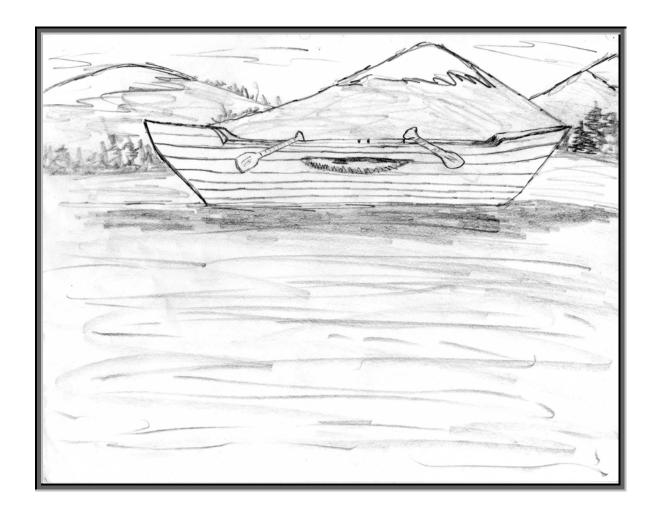
Next, pieces of wood called thwarts

Were inserted within the snowshoe to provide it with support.

Finally, thick rawhide strings were criss-crossed over the shoe

Which distributed the weight of the wearer evenly as it was designed to do.

PLANK BOATS



We owe the Chumash tribe of California many thanks

For inventing a unique boat made from planks.

Not that trees weren't used to make planks before

But the Chumash built their boats only from driftwood washed ashore.

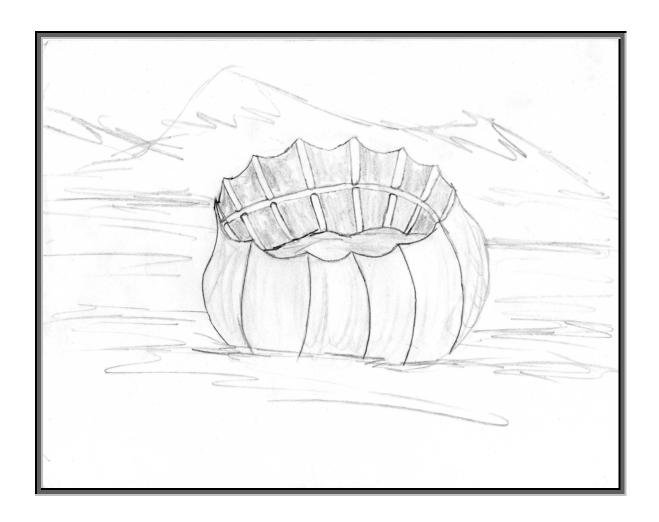
These pieces of driftwood were glued together

With tar to make the boat's seaworthiness even better.

Making them perfect to travel and fish from,

Until more driftwood for other plank boats upon the shore would come.

BULLBOATS



Bullboats were round, having a much different shape

Then those that any other boat would take.

A bullboat's construction began with its willow branch frame.

Then buffalo hides to cover it was the next step that came

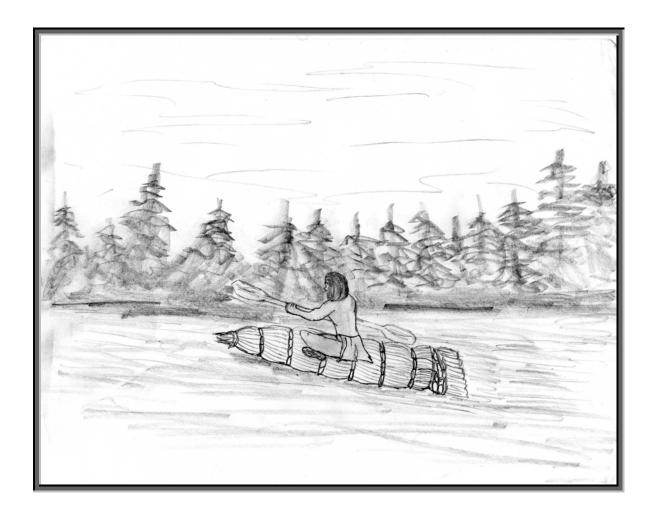
The outside of the boat was covered with pitch

Making it waterproof, each and every stitch.

The Mandan and Hidasta thought the bullboat first rate.

Even though it's design made it a challenge to navigate.

BALSA BOATS



In California some tribes made very strange boats
Out of plants, not wood, And wow could they float!
Thule was the name of these plants that were in bundles tied
To build a balsa boat on which several passengers could ride.
Balsa boats were strong and lightweight,
But could become waterlogged, greatly increasing their weight.
When this happened the boat was simply dried in the sun
To be used over again after it's drying was done.

Native American Transportation Wordsearch Puzzle



BalsaBoat

BarkCanoe

BullBoat

Dugout

Kayak

PlankBoat

Sled

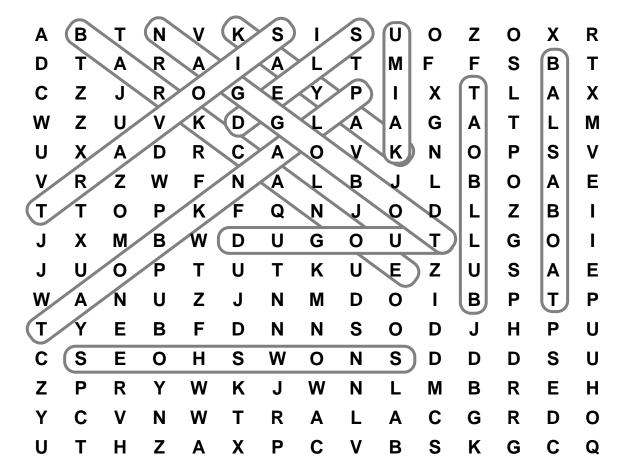
Snowshoes

Toboggan

Travois

Umiak

NATIVE AMERICAN TRANSPORTATION WORDSEARCH PUZZLE SOLUTION



BalsaBoat

BarkCanoe

BullBoat

Dugout

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Sled

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