

CULTURES IN COMPETITION GALLERY | FIRST CONTACT |

2ND - 5TH GRADES

The Delaware Lenape occupied New Jersey for thousands of years. In that time, they created a social structure of three bands or tribes - the Minsi, the Unami, and the Unalachtigo - with three different language dialects. Throughout the hallway exhibit, *Cultures in Competition*, you will see many objects, illustrations, and letters that detail how the Delaware Lenape were living at the time of first contact.

The following objects tell the story of what happened after first contact with the Europeans.

The Beaver. Early explorers were especially interested in getting beaver pelts from the Lenape. Why were these pelts so prized? Find two things Europeans made with the pelts:

Trade Goods. By the 1630s both the Dutch and the English competed to trade with the local population. They provided a variety of goods in exchange for beaver and otter pelts. Find and list three things the Lenape received in trade:

As you explore the hallway, can you find any other items that the Lenape traded with the Europeans? Talk with a classmate about how the Lenape culture changed after Europeans made first contact.