

Native American Lifeways

Grades Pre-K through Fifth

Max 30 Students; 1-2 Hours



Visit the Indian Village at JPPM to learn some of the ways the first people of Maryland were able to survive and provide for themselves long ago. The hands-on learning experience invites children of all ages to explore the ways natural resources of the rich woodland environment were used by the American Indians Patuxent to grind corn, form containers, and create cordage. The products the children create are theirs to keep and parents are encouraged to take part in the activities as well.

Activities Available:

- Learn what the Native Patuxent people ate, how they hunted and fished, what their clothes were like.
- Learn how Native Americans made nets and bags out of cordage. Learn from park staff how to make cordage out of raffia, dogbane, or other natural material to create your own bracelet!
- Learn how the Patuxent people made pots and bowls out of natural clays! Create your own pinch pot using Native techniques and decorative styles.
- Learn how Native Americans created fire using natural materials. Watch park staff demonstrate how to gather tinder, create charcoal, and start a fire! Try to make charcoal of your own using different techniques!
- Learn how Native Americans preserved the stories of their ancestors through storytelling.
- Discover how Native American children spent their leisure time. Learn about Native American games and discuss how they are similar to games today. Play some of those games with your classmates!

For more information on this program and fees, contact the Education Coordinator at (410) 586-8504, or kcooper@mdp.state.md.us.