

Name: _____

Growing Up Pawnee

Grades 1-2

Over 150 years ago, the Pawnee covered most of Nebraska. Walk around **People on the Plains Exhibits** to learn what life was like for Ayita, a child your age in the Pawnee Tribe. Remember, this is not how the Pawnee live today. They have modernized just like us!

To get to know Ayita better, find out where she would have lived with her family. To find the answer, go upstairs to the **People on the Plains Exhibit** and look for a Pawnee house that is made from sticks and dirt. What did they call these homes?

What animal do you see inside Ayita's home? _____ They kept animals inside to keep them safe and warm!

Where do you think Ayita slept- in the middle of the home or along the sides? How do you know? _____

Find our **Nebraska's First Farmers** display case to see what Ayita would have ate. Name a crop you see in the display case. _____

Ayita also would have eaten bison. Find our **American Bison** display case nearby. On the right side of the case, you can see bison fur. What do you think Ayita could have used this fur for? _____

Look for our **Not So Different** display case. You can see a dress like Ayita would wear next to a dress a girl might wear today. List one way they look the same. _____

Keep walking until you find our **Pawnee** display case. Ayita would have worn a necklace like the ones you see here. She likely would have made it herself! Draw your favorite one below. What color is your favorite? _____

Pawnee 1-2 ANSWER KEY

To get to know Ayita better, find out where she would have lived with her family. To find the answer, go upstairs to the People on the Plains Exhibit and look for a Pawnee house that is made from sticks and dirt. What did they call these homes? **(Earth Lodge)**

What animal do you see inside Ayita's home? **(Horse, dog)** They kept animals inside to keep them safe and warm!

Where do you think Ayita slept- in the middle of the home or along the sides? How do you know? **(On the sides, that is where the beds are)**

Find our Nebraska's First Farmers display case to see what Ayita would have ate. Name a crop you see in the display case. **(Corn, squash, beans, blue flour corn, red flour corn, sweet corn)**

Ayita also would have eaten bison. Find our American Bison display case nearby. On the right side of the case, you can see bison fur. What do you think Ayita could have used this fur for? **(Clothes, blanket, rug- Note: students will have to take their best guess at what she would use the fur for, there is not a sign telling them the uses of the fur)**

Look for our Not So Different display case. You can see a dress like Ayita would wear next to a dress a girl might wear today. List one way they look the same. **(Both are brown, have beads, long, pretty)**

Keep walking until you find our Pawnee display case. Ayita would have worn a necklace like the ones you see here. She likely would have made it herself! Draw your favorite one below. What color is your favorite? **(There are various shades of blue, red, white, green, pink, yellow, clear, brown, and purple. Drawings will vary.)**