

Name _____

Date _____

Growing Food in the Eastern Woodlands

Much of the food Native American people ate was from their gardens. There was a lot of work involved in growing food.

The land had to be cleared of all the trees. Why do you think they had to remove the trees from the garden area? _____

The men would chop down trees with their stone axes. To make the work easier, they would set fires to the bases of the trees.



The fire would do most of the work by burning through the bottoms of the trees, so the men had less to chop. Then the women took over. Women were in charge of the gardens. They would rake dirt into little hills, then plant seeds into the hills.



They planted different seeds for different plants. Can you name 3 kinds of crops they grew? _____

While the plants grew, they were taken care of by the mothers and children. They weeded the garden, scared away animals that would eat their crops, and brought the plants water when it had not rained in a long time. When the crops were ready to eat, everyone helped to pick them.

