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- Whose land are you on now?

We are on the land of the Lenape.

- Where are those Indigenous peoples today?

The two Lenape tribes today that are federally recognized are the Delaware Nation located in Oklahoma and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community located in Wisconsin. Some of the Lenape are also a part of the Delaware of Six Nations in Ontario.

- What are two of the most interesting facts you learned about them?
 1. I learned that the word Lenape means the people.
 2. The group that was located in lower Manhattan was the Munsee Lenape. The Munsee Lenape played a major part in wars and were considered “the most warlike nation within the Lenape tribe” ([historyjunkie](#)).

- Are there specific animals or plants that were/are important to their culture?

The Lenape uses plants to make medicine. One specific plant is cedar. Before they went to retrieve the cedar, they brought all the women together to sing a song, with the goal to “connect with the spirit power of the cedar, so that they can bring it back and use it for healing purposes” ([Columbia University](#)). Other plants important to the Lenape are tobacco, sage, and sweetgrass. The Lenapes also had three clans that were named after animals. There was the wolf, the turtle, and the turkey clan.

- Are any local organizations led by Indigenous people? Do any have an environmental focus?

The MMIWGTS NYC is a project led by many indigenous people which “seeks to bring awareness to the missing and murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Trans, and Two-Spirit

people through supportive resources to Urban Indigenous health for survivors and their loved ones” ([urbanindigenouscollective](#)).

Read through this resource and write a land acknowledgment for your area.

We would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Lenape tribes. It is important that we understand where the land that we are on in New York has come from while we take action to protect it. This land was first inhabited by the Lenape until Europeans arrived, stole, and colonized the land. When the European settlers arrived, they mistreated and displaced many of the indigenous people who lived there even though there was said to be an agreement that was signed stating that the Lenape would sell their land to the Europeans. We cannot change the past, but we can acknowledge it, learn from it, and make better and more respectful decisions moving forward. This starts by understanding the very history of the land that we now call our home.



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