

Abenaki at Amoskeag



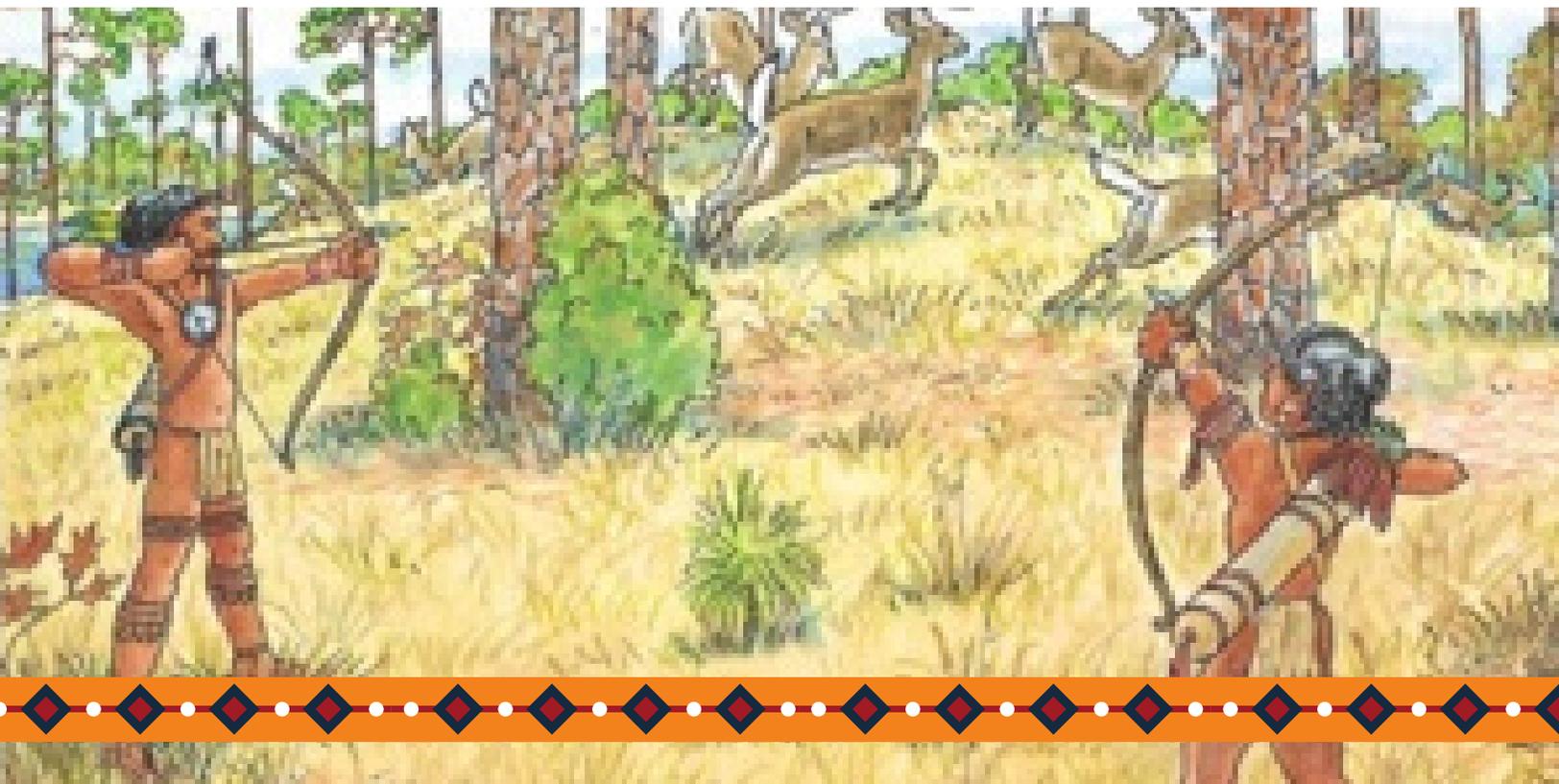
People having been calling this area we now call Manchester home for thousands of years. Some of the very first people that lived in this area were the Abenaki. The Abenaki were a group of Native Americans who were farmers, hunter gatherers and fishers who lived along the banks of the Merrimack River, as well as other areas like Maine and Massachusetts. They were part of the Penacook Tribe and spoke a language in the Algonquin language group. They lived in this area because of the bountiful Merrimack River and specifically in the area we call Manchester today, because of the Amoskeag Falls.

Amoskeag is an Abenaki word for "place of many fish". The Amoskeag Falls were an excellent source of food for the Abenaki. Special groups

of fish called anadromous fish make the long journey up stream. Because these fish live in salt and fresh water, they are able to enter the river from the Atlantic ocean, and travel north to the White Mountains. This journey is long and difficult, and the fish take rest beneath the pools of the Amoskeag Falls before climbing up the 54 foot drop in the river. The Abenaki would place nets or weirs across the river and collect the fish that got caught in their nets.

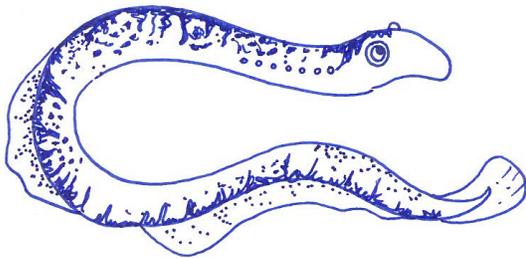
Salmon, shad, alewife, carp, trout, bass and lamprey were just some of the fish that the Abenaki caught at the base of the falls. These fish could be eaten, slated and preserved and even ground up for baby food.

The Abenaki lived in wigwams or longhouses and their clothes were easily recognizable, because of the pointed or peaked hoods that they wore. Depending on the season, Abenaki men and women wore deer or buckskin leggings, The men wore breechcloths around their waists and women wore wrap dresses. Both men and women wore moccasins to protect their feet. In the colder months, many Abenaki layered cloaks made of furs or leathers to their usual outfits.

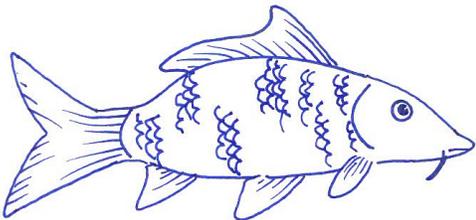


Word Scramble

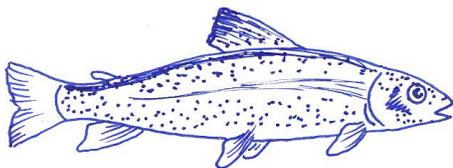
Unscramble the letters to discover what types of fish the native people fished for in the Amoskeag Falls



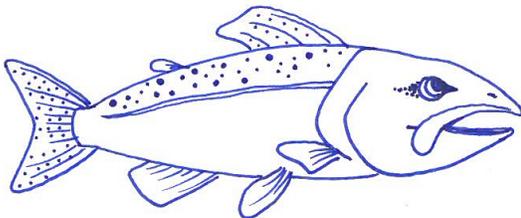
1. myplera lee



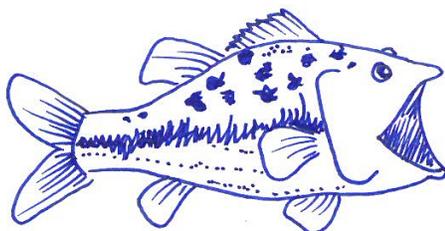
2. rpac



3. uortt



4. oslammn



5. gmtaoruhel sabs
