## A Yokut Legend

Everything was water except a very small piece of ground. On this were the eagle and Coyote. Then the turtle swam to them. They sent it to dive for the earth at the bottom of the water. The turtle barely succeeded in reaching the bottom and touching it with its foot. When it came up again, all the earth seemed washed out. Coyote looked closely at its nails. At last he found a grain of earth. Then he and the eagle took this and laid it down. From it they made the earth as large as it is. From the earth they also made six men and six women. They sent these out in pairs in different directions and the people separated. After a time the eagle sent the Coyote to see what the people were doing. Coyote came back and said: "They are doing something bad. They are eating the earth. One side is already gone." The eagle said: "That is bad. Let us make something for them to eat. Let us send the dove to find something." The dove went out. It found a single grain of meal. The eagle and Coyote put this down on the ground. Then the earth became covered with seeds and fruit. Now they told the people to eat these. When the seeds were dry and ripe the people gathered them. Then the people increased and spread all over. But the water is still under the world.

## How Students Created and Used Their Brochures

#### Each student:

- studied Native California cultures
- read and discussed Indian legends
- learned to research from online and hardcopy resources
- · read, took notes, and paraphrased information
- worked with a partner to compose three paragraphs
- used an AlphaSmart to write
- proofread her/his work

• edited a multimedia (AppleWorks) brochure template to select, copy, paste, and format text and graphics from the Internet.

 read, compared, and contrasted his/her brochure information with those created by others, to learn about different Indian cultures



# California Indians

### Yokuts of the Central Valley



Yokut boy and girl

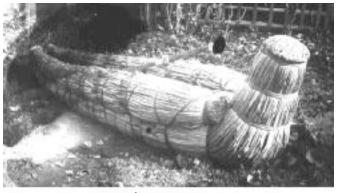


Yokut people gathering

Brochure By Alexandra & Evan November, 2005

## Yokut Clothing

**Did vou know that** sometimes the Yokut men wore a piece of deerskin around their waist. or otherwise wore nothing? Sometimes it's really warm. and sometimes it's really cold. and when it's cold, they would catch rabbits and mud hens and make robes. The women wore a skirt made of two pieces, a narrow, skinny, fringed part in the front, and a larger part in the back. The skirts were made out of tule reeds, marsh grass, or rabbit skins. Didn't the Yokuts have nice clothes?



A Yokut canoe

### Yokut Tools and Weapons

Did you know that the Yokuts spent most of their time making tools and weapons? They had to use most of their time making tools and weapons because the tools and weapons had to be made out of strong material. The Yokuts usually made the tools and weapons from tule reeds that were needed by their tribe members. One of their tools were baskets. To us it didn't look like a tool. They used twining and coiling methods to make baskets. They have very good talents at making tools and weapons!

Yokut Homes and Shelters

The homes of the Yokuts are interesting. The Yokuts live in permanent homes most of the year. They leave only to gather food. Their houses are of several types. Families' houses are shaped oval. The southern valley tribes also built longer houses for many families.





A Yokut Woman