



NEWS DETECTIVES

TODAY'S NEWS STORY

US state gives land back to indigenous tribe

KEYWORDS

- ☐ **Conservationists:** People who campaign to protect the environment
- ☐ **Indigenous:** Original inhabitants of a place
- ☐ **Biodiversity:** The different kinds of life on Earth
- ☐ **Sustainable:** Something that can continue for a long time



BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Did you know that there are still living descendants of the Native American tribes who lived in America before the United States was born? It's true! Native Americans had a very different relationship to the land than Americans today.

For 200 years, American **conservationists** have ignored **indigenous** people's knowledge of landscapes and nature — but now, things are starting to change!

Rightful return

In 2023, a conservation group called the Trust for Public Land gave a large piece of land to an indigenous group, the Penobscot Nation, in the US state of Maine.

This was part of a movement to return lands to indigenous

ownership. Many experts think that tribal communities have special knowledge about how to protect **biodiversity**.

Historic injustice

In the 1800s, US leaders removed many indigenous communities from land that they had lived on for generations.

But some environmentalists now understand that they need to work with indigenous groups to save the world from climate

change. Lands controlled by indigenous groups host 80% of the world's biodiversity!

Traditional methods

Traditional tribal practices have often proved the most **sustainable** way to manage natural resources. They can prevent damaging wildfires and boost biodiversity.

"New" ideas may not always be the best way. To save our future, we might just need to learn from the ancient knowledge of Native American culture.





INVESTIGATION OF THE DAY

COULD THIS SAVE THE LANDSCAPE?

WHAT
have tribal
practices
prevented?

WHO
removed indigenous
groups from their
land in the 1800s?

WHERE
is the
Penobscot
Nation found?

WHEN
was the land
donation
made?

WHY
is there a
movement to
return land to
tribal groups?

HOW
much of the world's
biodiversity is in
indigenous lands?

1 TAKE ACTION

We can all take steps to protect nature!

Why not get outside and do some litter picking to help keep your local natural areas clean?



© Cody Hammer/Pexels

2 SHARE YOUR IDEAS

What have you found out in your investigation? Write, present or even record a piece that lists what rubbish people had left behind. Share what you've learned with your family and friends. What do they think? We want to hear your ideas too! Your teacher can share your reports with us too by sending them to editorial@theday.co.uk.

3 Build THE Change



CREATE YOUR DESIGN

Indigenous American conservation methods are often very good at promoting biodiversity. Why not boost the animal life in your own area by making a bird feeder?

STEP 1:

Think about your design!
What does your feeder need to have if it is going to attract birds? Make sure there is space for the food and the bird!

STEP 2:

Build the change!
Create your bird feeder and hang it up near your home. Why not use LEGO® bricks or recycled craft materials to build it.

Share your genius
Show your work
to your class!



Upload a photo of your work to the **Build the Change** gallery by scanning the QR code and have your work displayed to inspire real-world change.



4 BUILDER OF THE WEEK

Every week we handpick one of the most inspirational designs from our online photo gallery to be our **BUILDER OF THE WEEK**. To get your creation featured here, ask your grown-up to take a photograph and upload it to our Build the Change gallery, using the QR code on this page.



This week we have a bird in a specially created nest caring for its precious egg.



"GREAT WORK!"



This worksheet is available every weekday at 6:30am London time from <https://theday.co.uk/resources/news-detectives>.

For any feedback or help please contact buildthechange@theday.co.uk. Thank you.

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