

Understanding Ancient Migrations

Directions: Use these guiding questions and resources to explore migration patterns as far back as 30,000 BC.

Guiding Questions

- What types of movement occur during this time? Where are groups moving to and from where are they moving? How are they traveling there and how long does it take?
- What was happening at that time that may have influenced this migration? Is this a push or a pull factor?
- How did this movement impact the group(s)?

30,000–25,000 BC:

- M130, the marker representative of the first people to populate Australia, also headed in another direction. During this time period, where was that group heading?

25,000–20,000 BC:

- Which groups have migrated the furthest since the last time period?
- How and why do you think mitochondrial haplogroup B migrated into North and South America?

20,000–15,000 BC:

- Where did the groups that populated North and South America originate?
- How did the Ice Age affect human migration?

15,000–10,000 BC:

- Why did the Chukchi migrate to and remain in such extreme conditions?
- What is the coastal migration theory?

10,000–5,000 BC:

- What happened to the ice sheets that connected the two continents?
- How did agriculture change the way people lived and moved and give rise to cultures?



Working with a partner, use the [Atlas of the Human Journey](#) and the following websites to answer these questions:

- What were the earliest haplogroups, or "lines" of descendants, in the Americas?
- Where did they originate?
- Describe the pattern of their migration into the Americas.
- What present-day peoples are descendants of these groups?
- What are some reasons for their migration? Are these push or pull factors?

Web sites

[MSN Encarta: Migration to the Americas](#)

(http://encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia_701509129/Migration_to_the_Americas.html#s1)

[National Geographic News: Bison Kill Site Sheds Light on Ancient Culture](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2002/07/0722_020722_clovis.html)

(http://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2002/07/0722_020722_clovis.html)

[National Geographic News: Who Were the First Americans?](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2003/09/0903_030903_bajaskull.html)

(http://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2003/09/0903_030903_bajaskull.html)

[National Geographic: Atlas of the Human Journey](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/atlas.html)

(<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/atlas.html>)

[PBS: Scientific American Frontiers—Coming into America](http://www.pbs.org/saf/1406/features/dna3.htm)

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