



WORLD BOOK WEB

Sami Scavenger Hunt – World Book Student

Learn about the distinct culture of the Sami. Use the World Book Web to find the answers to the questions below.

Find it!

1. Who are the Sami?
2. Where do the Sami live?
3. What is the traditional way of life of the Sami?
4. What are the four main groups of Sami according to anthropologists?
5. How did each of these groups make a living?
6. How many dialects of the Sami language are spoken and which is the most widely spoken?
7. What other European languages are the languages of the Sami related to?
8. What is the *joik*?
9. What kind of beliefs did ancient Sami have?
10. Who were *shamans*?
11. What do the Sami call their land and what modern day countries does it extend across?

Did you know?

- The Sami used to be called Lapps. Lapland, the northernmost region of Europe got its name from its native people when they were known as Lapps. Sapmi includes all of Lapland. Learn more about Lapland, here: <http://www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar313040>

Sami Scavenger Hunt Answers:

1. Sami are the native people of northernmost Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Kola Peninsula in northwest Russia.
2. More than half of the Sami population lives in Norway, and about one-fourth lives in Sweden. A few thousand live in Finland and Russia.
3. Traditionally, the Sami pursue a nomadic lifestyle, by reindeer herding or by hunting, fishing, and trapping.
4. Based on traditional economic activities, anthropologists have distinguished four main groups of Sami. These groups are the Coastal Sami, the Mountain Sami, the Forest Sami, and the Eastern Sami.
5. Coastal Sami traditionally fished. Mountain Sami herded reindeer in the mountain ranges. Forest Sami depended on hunting and trapping. Eastern Sami were dependent on the season, in winter they fished and during other seasons they migrated while herding reindeer and sheep.
6. There are 10 Sami dialects that are known, though some are no longer spoken. The most widely spoken dialect is North Sami.
7. The languages of the Sami are related to Finnish and Estonian.
8. The traditional song form of the Sami is the *joik*.
9. Ancient Sami believed in an extensive world of spirits. The Sami believed that illness, a lack of animals to hunt, and other problems in the human world might originate in the spirit world.
10. *Shamans* were Sami religious leaders. It was believed that they had contact with the spirit world. *Shamans* would sometimes beat drums to foretell the future.
11. The Sami call their land Sapmi. It extends across the northernmost parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Kola Peninsula in Russia.