

ANTHROPOLOGIST NOTEBOOK

This notebook belongs to:

What is anthropology?

Anthropology is the study of human culture from ancient times to today. Cultural anthropologists study the ways that people interact with the world around them.

Understanding culture is the key to understanding people. Interviews are one way that anthropologists learn information about people.



Practice your interview skills by 'interviewing' Doña Maria Meléndez or Francisco Menéndez using pages 5 through 8 in your notebook.

Name of the person you are interviewing:

When did they live in Florida?

What are they wearing?

What language do you think they spoke?

How old do you think they might be?

What is something you learned from this person?

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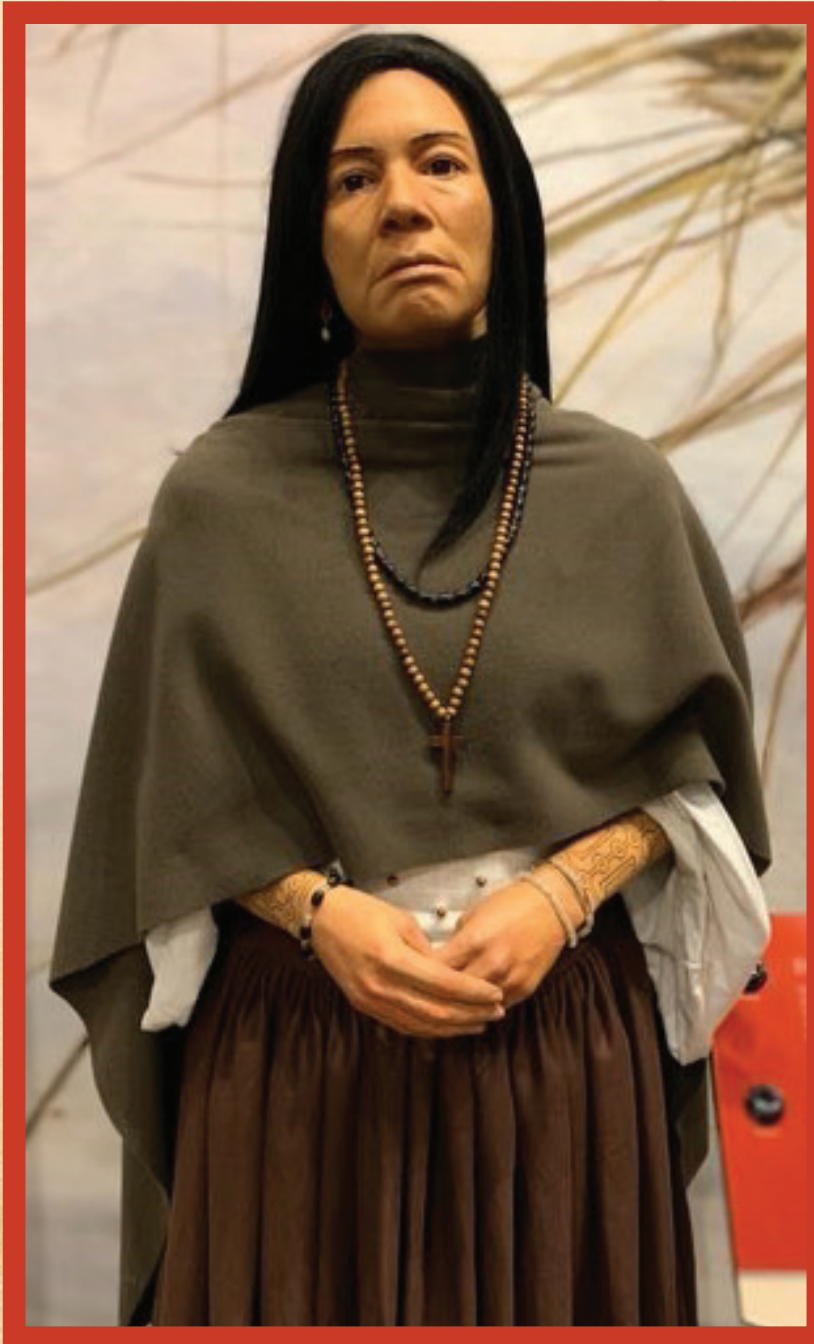
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Doña Maria Meléndez

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Doña Maria Meléndez, the cacica, or woman chief, of the Nombre de Dios mission was a Timucua Indian and a lifelong Christian. Her mother, also a cacica, was one of the first converted leaders. Doña Maria provided aid to the Spaniards in times of need. When the town experienced a food shortage, she sent St. Augustine a supply of corn to fend off a possible famine. She married a Spanish soldier named Clemente Vernal, and the two lived at Nombre de Dios with their children. By 1606, her rule had extended to Timucuan groups along the coast from St. Augustine to Cumberland Island, in present-day Georgia, possibly reflecting her importance gleaned from association with the Spaniards.



Francisco Menéndez

Francisco Menéndez

Francisco Menéndez was born in Gambia in West Africa. Later captured and sold into slavery, he was held as a slave in the English colony of South Carolina. Menéndez and other enslaved Africans joined the Yamassee War in 1715, but were defeated and fled with the Yamassee Indians to Spanish Florida. In 1738, Menéndez and other Africans received permission from Spanish authorities to establish a village called Fort Mose, two miles north of St. Augustine. By converting to Catholicism and pledging loyalty to the Spanish crown, they were granted their freedom. An invading English force in 1740 caused them to flee for protection to St. Augustine. In a daring counterattack, a Spanish force, including Menéndez and some of his militia, recaptured Fort Mose, which was, however, destroyed by the battle. Menéndez wrote two letters to the King of Spain requesting reward for his service, and the Spanish governor supported those requests. Menéndez later had a series of adventures as a privateer raiding English ships, including being captured and temporarily sold back into slavery. He eventually managed to return to Florida and reestablished Fort Mose. When Spain ceded Florida to England in 1763, Menéndez and his wife and children went with the Spaniards to Cuba.

Who's next?

Who else do you want to learn more about?
Use this notebook to interview other people in your
life that you are curious about.

Suggested people to interview: parent or guardian,
teacher, coach, or best friend.

Interviews can be safely conducted over the phone
with adult supervision.



Photography is a great way to document what you observe.

Always ask for permission before photographing another person.

Use the spaces below to draw some 'photos' of the person you have interviewed.



Photo of: _____
Date: _____



Photo of: _____
Date: _____

Interview Questions

What is your name?

Where do you live?

Where were you born?

What is your occupation?

How old are you?

What is something you would like me to know about you?

Questions?

Gather other questions you want to ask. Write a few of your own interview questions below.