

Florida
State Parks

16

**JUNIOR
RANGER**

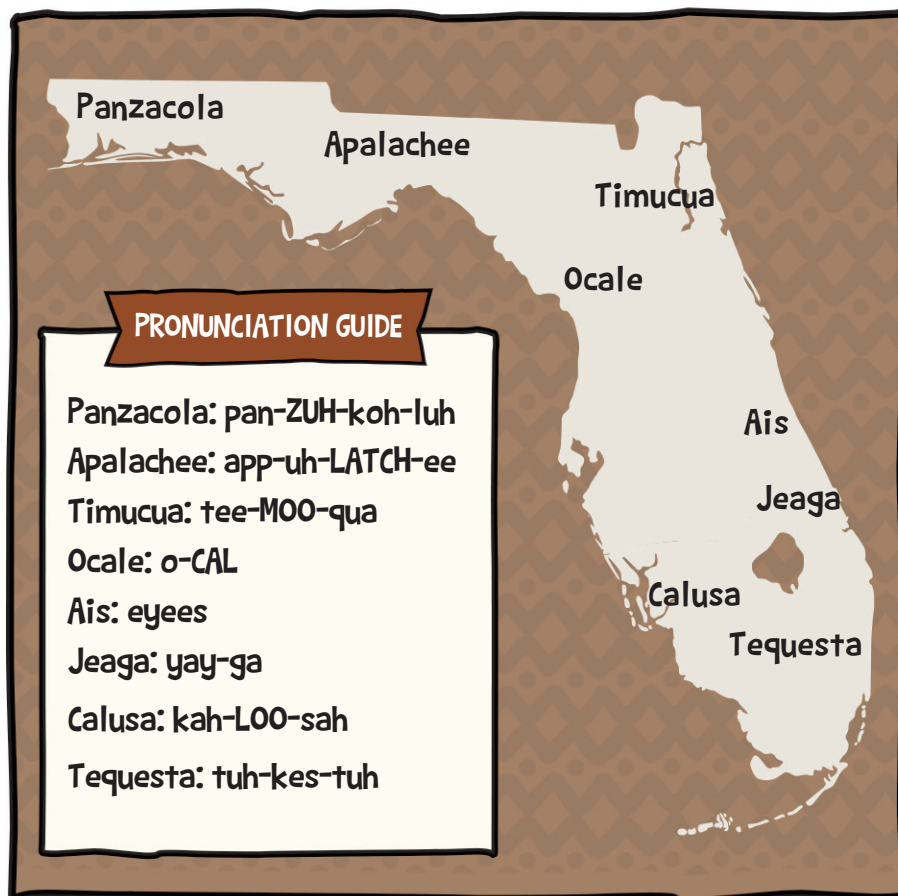
EARLY CHRONICLES

Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

At the beginning of European exploration (1514 C.E.) many American Indian tribes with complex societies already lived in Florida. Some were the Apalachee, Timucua, Ais, Calusa, Jeaga, Tequesta and other smaller tribes.

These people farmed, hunted, gathered, and fished to make their living. They had systems of government, spoken language and trade with neighbors. They did not have a form of writing like the alphabets we use today, but one method they used to convey their thoughts and feelings was through pictures and motifs.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

? Let's break it down.

A motif is a decorative design or pattern. Examples of motifs like the ones below could be painted on shells, sculpted in clay or carved from wood. Most artifacts of this type left behind by American Indians in Florida were images of people, plants or animals.

Today we can use these images to help us better understand how people communicated with one another and how they told stories in the past.



There is more this way!



CULTURAL RESOURCES ACTIVITY

EARLY CHRONICLES

Answer the questions below about you and your visit. Then use your answers to tell a story using only pictures.

1. List four words to describe you:

2. List four words to describe your visit at the park today:

3. List two shapes or patterns (do not forget animals also count as shapes):

Use the words above to create pictures like the ones used by Florida's American Indians to tell your story.

