



Name: _____

Date: _____

Keeper Conversations: A Gathering of Community Voices

Learning From Pre-Contact Homes, Grade 7

What Do I Know About Pre-Contact and Modern Home Construction?

Consider the homes you see in your community and what you know about pre-contact homes. Are there any similarities? What building methods from pre-contact homes are still used today?



Write your ideas here:

Wigwam: An Anishinaabe Home



1. With a partner, read Mel Rising Dawn Cordiero's article about wigwam construction, "Anishinaabe Home: A Reflection of Indigenous Wisdom and Connection to the Land": <https://lbrd.ca/anishinaabe-home>
2. Discuss any connections between how the wigwam is constructed and Anishinaabe values. For example, being together, respectful harvesting, etc.
3. Record your ideas in the organizer on the next page. An example is provided to help!



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Wigwam: An Anishinaabe Home Organizer



Construction Feature	Anishinaabe value	Connection
Circular shape	Interconnectedness (we are all connected)	The circular shape represents the cyclical nature of life and how all living things are connected. It encourages people to gather.



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Longhouse Graphic Organizer

Review the *Pre-Contact Homes* video and the *Researching Pre-Contact Homes* handout. Then respond to the questions below.

Eco-Friendly Building Materials

What materials were used and why?

Culture

How did the design reflect traditions or values?



Community

How did housing encourage family and community gatherings?

Family Structure

How were homes designed to fit family needs?



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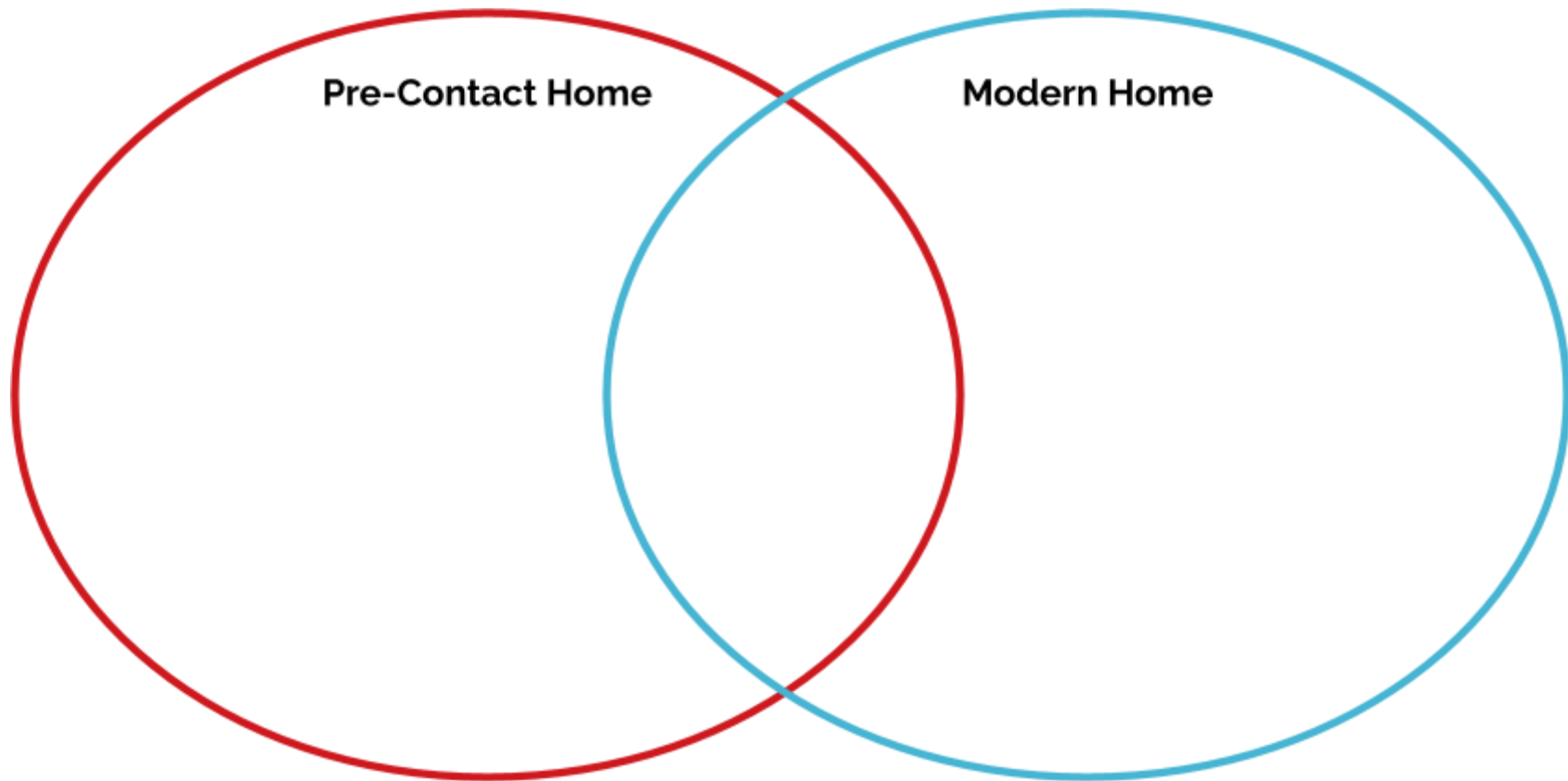
Compare and Contrast: Pre-Contact and Modern Architecture

Find an example of modern architecture inspired by pre-contact values using the websites provided or your own research.

Choose an example of 1 pre-contact home (wigwam or longhouse) and 1 modern home and write about their unique values. In the middle, write about their similarities.

<https://lbrd.ca/modern-longhouse-ubc>

<https://lbrd.ca/modern-wigwam>





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Modern Home Diagram

On a separate piece of paper or an online design program of your choice, create a modern home that uses design and construction elements from pre-contact homes. Label the parts of the home and the building materials used. A checklist is provided below to help you.

Modern Home with Pre-Contact Home Elements: Checklist



1. Structural Elements

- Use different shapes for different areas/parts of the home.
- Design an open floor plan to reflect communal living spaces.

2. Building Materials

- Use sustainable materials like reclaimed wood for framing.
- Use modern versions of traditional materials (for example, hempcrete instead of mud/clay).

Did you know? Hempcrete is a building material made by mixing the chopped-up woody insides of hemp plant stems, a special type of lime, and water. It can be used for building walls and for insulation in houses.

3. Interior Features

- Design a central gathering area.
- Include spaces that can change to support different living needs.

4. Exterior Features

- Design an outdoor living space that is connected to the home.
- Include natural garden areas with plants.

5. Modern Additions

- Use solar panels or other renewable energy sources.
- Include smart home technology for energy efficiency.

Do you have other ideas? Feel free to include them in your diagram.

