

name

project

date

tasks

Native
Americans

European
Settlers

Oral tradition

• Why did they tell these stories?

• What did they try to explain?

• What are the common themes?

• 1000's of years ago migration to the continent took place

• 100's of tribes

• Only people on the continent until the end of the 15th century

15th - 16th century Europeans

↳ disaster

↳ spread disease

↳ war

↳ took N.A. land

↳ seppressed them.

• Indian Nations

- warred w/ each other

- struggled w/ disease

- natural disasters

- famine

* Stories tried to explain the natural world *
↳ How??

All tribes had this in common and oral tradition

↳ passed down by word of mouth

• history

• culture

• beliefs

• environmental

• problems

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Hero's Journey

Man & Nature

Creation Stories

what is the impact of N.A. Stories on American Lit

Themes:

- the link between man & nature
 - nature is important!
 - man comes from nature
 - man "comes of age" by interacting w/ nature
- hero's journey
 - a literal journey
 - or a metaphor for learning a lesson
- explain the natural and supernatural
 - explain natural events
 - the creation of the world
 - explains where things in nature come from

Impact

→ later, American writers wanted to be "different" from Europe, so they adapted elements of N.A. writing - such as the focus on nature and the supernatural.