The Occaneechi and the 5 Themes of Geography

**Objectives: Students will be able to:**

1. Identify important aspects of the Occaneechi experience though the 5 Themes of Geography
   1. Location
   2. Place
   3. Human-environment Interaction
   4. Movement
   5. Regions
2. Explain and defend their own views on whether a culture can become extinct

**Associated Vocabulary:**

* Indigenous
* Draft animals
* Migratory
* Palisade
* Breeches
* Hereditary Heathenism
* Bastion House
* Cash crop
* Assimilation

**Anticipatory Set: (40 minutes)**

Students will take a virtual tour of the Orange County Historical Museum’s Yésah exhibit or visit the museum’s website, watch the slideshow, and look at the various artifacts on the exhibit page.

**Involvement of Learners: (30 minutes)**

Independently or in small groups, students will answer the following questions:

1. In each journey, where did the Yésah/Occaneechi travel to and what caused them to change locations?
2. Identify the various natural elements in each place that the Occaneechi lived. What new plants and animals did the Europeans introduce?
3. How did the Occaneechi’s relationship to their environment change over time?
4. What items were the Occaneechi trading? Who did they trade with? Why did the Occaneechi and their trade partners want these items?
5. How did modes of transportation change for the Occaneechi?
6. What are some of the most important traits of Occaneechi culture?

**Summary: (10 minutes)**

As a class, students will discuss their responses to these questions.

**Closure: (10 minutes)**

Informal debate: did the Occaneechi culture become extinct? Students will be divided into two opposing views. They will have approximately 15 minutes to prepare their argument and another 15 to present and defend it.