

Cut out this mini flip book and write your own information in about the Three Sisters or The Sustainers or use the information to glue inside.

Glue this part to your page.



The Iroquois were farmers and honored the "three sisters": Corn Maiden, Squash Maiden and Bean Maiden. Women were responsible for the gardens and planted. Eaten together, these three foods provide many of the essential vitamins and minerals for a healthy body and a well-balanced diet.

Different kinds of beans, corn, and squash grew together in mounds, placed about three feet apart. Cornstalks provided supports for climbing bean vines. Squash leaves provided shade, keeping the soil moist and preventing weeds from choking the crops. In this way, the soil remained fertile for years. When the soil became fallow, the entire village would move to a new location.

Cut out this mini book and write your own information in about the family life of the Haudenosaunee or use the information on the next page.

Glue this to your page.

Fold on dotted line and note that cover page hangs over slightly.



Family
Life

Each of the six nations are comprised of extended family groups called clans. A clan mother heads each clan and she was usually the oldest woman of the clan. Haudenosaunee clans are *matrilineal*. This means they follow the line of descent of the mother. Children belong to their mother's clan. The clans are named after animals and birds. The mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents of a clan lived together in one house called a longhouse. This arrangement created a strong cooperative family unit with the clan mother as the head. When a couple got married, the husband moved into his wife's family's longhouse. Though men moved into their wives' homes, they did not change their clans. Each man retained responsibilities to his mother's family and helped raise his sisters' children. The clan mother has an important role. Some of her responsibilities are to make all the major decisions that affect the clan, assign names to people in her clan and nominate the male leader of the clan.

