

Dwellings of Early People in the Pacific NW

Early inhabitants of the Pacific Northwest lived in different types of dwellings. Because the weather is mild and wet here, most structures needed to be waterproof. Most people used wood to construct their dwellings because trees were in great supply. The Multnomahs and the Klickitats made structures using two different methods.



Multnomahs

Plank houses are built out of thin strips of wood like shingles, with one slightly set over the next so that rain water could run off the roof. When people made fires inside, they typically slid one of the planks aside so that the smoke could escape.



Klickitats

Mat houses were made from bark or animal skins, stretched over a wood frame. Again, in order to keep the rain out, the coverings were overlapped so that the water would run off.

In the space provided below, draw a picture of your house.