Cochise, Great Apache Chief

by Guy Belleranti

Cochise was a great Apache chief. He had strong broad shoulders and long black hair. He also had a high forehead and a large nose.

The exact date of his birth isn't known. Sources list dates anywhere from 1810 to 1815. Cochise and his

family were Chiricah now southeast Arizo

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In the early 18 uneasy truce. Mexico Mexico supplied the practice. What follow believed that Cochis

By the latter 1: He led a raid into Me his people traded so Gain complete access to the largest collection of worksheets in all subjects!

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of Mexico had an ered their own. At first, exico ended this Cochise's people. It is

Ihiricahua Apache.

for six weeks. Finally,

The 1850's brought white American settlers into the Apache homeland. At first Cochise and his people were at peace with the settlers. Cochise knew the westward movement of people couldn't be stopped. He reached an agreement with the area stage line. He promised that his people would only raid in Mexico. But the American government wanted to settle the Apache lands. They also wanted to place the Apache on reservations. Cochise and leaders of other Apache bands didn't like this idea.

In 1861, Cochise and several of his people were accused of raiding a ranch. In the raid a white child was kidnapped. But Cochise and his friends were innocent. They didn't know anything about the incident. The real raiders, in fact, were not Chiricahua Apache. They were Western Apache, a group living further north.

A young Army officer named George Bascom tried holding Cochise prisoner.

Cochise cut through the tent where the army was holding him. Then he escaped. But several of his Apache friends were killed. Some were his relatives.

After this, ther increased. In 1862 th

PREVIEW

nerican army. Conflicts

Cochise joined with Coloradas (a name n

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g to Cochise, a man

the American here were few white

people Cochise still trusted. One he did trust was frontiersman Tom Jeffords. For a time Jeffords had also headed the area's stagecoach and mail service.

The government wanted to send Cochise to a reservation. But it was hundreds of miles away. Cochise didn't want to leave his homeland. Finally, with Jeffords help, a new treaty was made. In 1872 Cochise surrendered. A new Chiricahua reservation was

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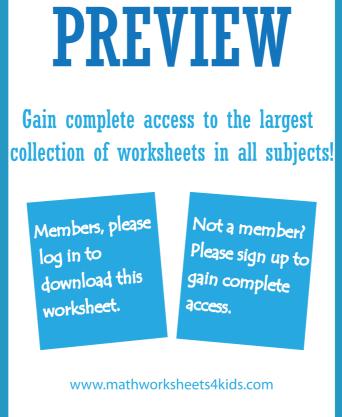
established on his homeland.

Cochise died two years later. Members of his tribe buried him in a secret location. Shortly after, the new reservation was closed. Some of the Chiricahua Apache were moved north to another reservation. Others escaped to Mexico and New Mexico. Later, most ended up on reservations. Among these was the new Chiricahua leader, Geronimo.

But Cochise was never forgotten. His friendship with Tom Jeffords was made into

f Arizona that Cochise

a 1950 movie called called home was nar



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- 1) Which option doesn't make a good inference from the text?
 - a. That Cochise was a born hero meant to lead, inspire, and set an example.
 - b. That Cochise wanted to deal with the 1850s American settlers in a gentlemanly manner.
 - c. That despite his disagreement with white settlers, he was in regular touch with a few of them whom he trusted and communicated matters of importance.
 - d. That Cochise was not as dauntless a hero as his father.

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	Coch	nise, Great Apache (Chief	
4)	"Cochise was ne	ver forgotten". In which ways was he remen	nbered?	
5)	Match the follow	Gain complete access to the largest collection of worksheets in all subjects!	nings on the rigl	ht
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