



Pocket 9

THE SEMINOLE OF THE SOUTHEAST

CUT AND PASTE

Pocket Label, Shelter Stamp, Picture Dictionary Cards page 85
See page 2 for information on how to prepare the pocket label and shelter stamp. See page 10 for information on how to prepare the picture dictionary cards.

FACT SHEET

The Seminole page 86
Read this background information to familiarize yourself with the Seminole. Share the information with your students as appropriate. Incorporate library and multimedia resources that are available.

STUDENT BOOKLET

Make a Seminole Booklet pages 87–89
See page 2 for information on how to prepare the student booklet. Read and discuss the information as a class. Encourage students to read their booklets to partners or independently.

ACTIVITIES

Wear a Seminole Headdress pages 90 & 91
Students make a Seminole headdress to wear for a special occasion.

How to Make Hominy Seminole-style pages 92 & 93
Share this recipe with students and have them write the steps as you make this corn dish as a class.



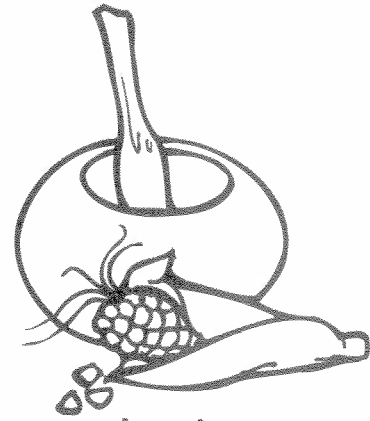
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THE SEMINOLE OF THE SOUTHEAST

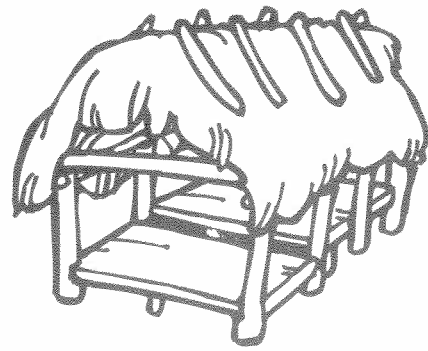
Pocket Label



necklaces

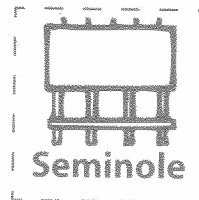


hominy

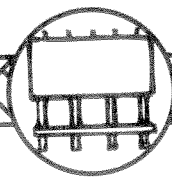


chickee

Picture Dictionary Cards



Shelter Stamp



FACT SHEET

THE SEMINOLE

INTRODUCTION

The Seminole (SEHM uh nohl) people were once part of the Creek tribe. They farmed the southern regions of what is known today as Georgia and Alabama. When European settlers arrived, some of the Creek people decided to stay behind. Others decided to move to northern and central Florida. These people became known as the Seminole, a word meaning “runaway” or “wanderer.”

CLOTHING

The Seminole people wore colorful cotton clothing decorated with striped or plaid designs. Patchwork designs were often made by sewing horizontal stripes from the top to the bottom of a garment.

Seminole women wore long-sleeved blouses and skirts that touched the floor. Women also wore many necklaces made of glass beads. Seminole women often received their first necklaces when they were very young girls, adding more strings of beads as time passed. It was not uncommon for a Seminole woman to wear several pounds of beaded necklaces that reached all the way to her ears.

Seminole men wore colorful shirts and plaid turbans on their heads. They also wore breechcloths and leggings. When the weather was cold, men often wore coats with ruffles called long shirts.

FOOD

The Seminole planted corn, beans, squash, other vegetables, and fruit. They also fished and hunted, often catching alligators in the Florida swamps. On land the Seminole hunted deer, bear, raccoon, squirrel, and birds. They also gathered wild foods such as roots and potatoes.

Each family farmed its own vegetable garden, but the village also had a community garden. Everyone planted and cared for the community garden. At harvest time, each family was allotted a certain amount of food.

Corn was an important part of the Seminole diet. It was often used to make a corn dish called hominy, or it was ground into meal to make cornbread. Another popular Seminole food was sofki, a thick porridge made from dried, mashed corn.

SHELTER

The Seminole living near the Everglades built open-sided wooden huts called chickees. A chickee was built on a platform raised about 3 feet (9 meters) off the swampy ground, and it had a thatched roof constructed of palmetto leaves. The roof kept out rain, while the open sides made it possible to feel the cool breezes. The Seminole slept in hammocks and had very little furniture; they spent most of their time outdoors. Each Seminole village had a cookhouse consisting of a raised hearth. A pot of food was left to cook on the hearth for most of the day.

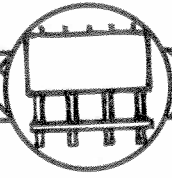
The Seminole who lived in northern Florida, where the land was drier, built a different type of home. Each family had two buildings. The main building had two rooms—one for sleeping and the other for cooking. The second building was a two-story building used mostly for food storage.

FAMILY LIFE

A Seminole village was made up of many families. The families in each village were related through their mothers. All women and their children belonged to the same clan.

Seminole women worked near the camp, taking care of the children, cooking, sewing, and gardening. Seminole men spent most of their time hunting, fishing, and farming. The Florida Everglades region, however, did not provide much useful farmland. Cattle were difficult to raise because the land was too swampy for grazing. Therefore, the Seminole people of this region gathered plants, fished, and hunted instead of growing crops.

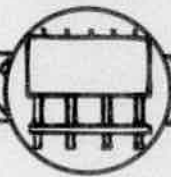
In early summer, the Seminole prepared for an important festival—the Green Corn Dance. Many Seminole villages came together to celebrate the festivities by dancing, playing games, and feasting. If a naming ceremony was to be held that year, it was performed as part of the Green Corn Dance. Each Seminole boy who took part in the ceremony was given a new name. The Seminole men and boys met at the Council house, while the women prepared for the feast.



THE SEMINOLE OF THE SOUTHEAST

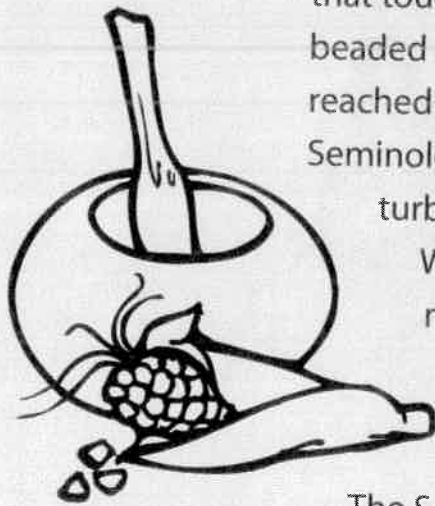


The Seminole people were once part of the Creek tribe. When European settlers arrived, some of the Creek people stayed behind. Other Creek people decided to move to Florida. The Creek that settled in Florida became known as the Seminole. **Seminole** is a word that means "wanderer" or "runaway."

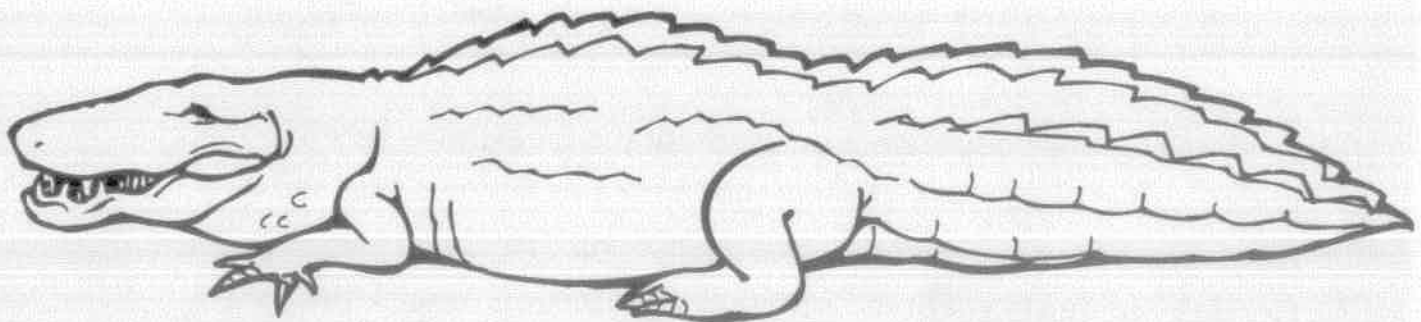


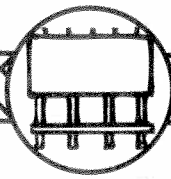
The Seminole wore colorful cotton clothing. Women wore long-sleeved blouses and skirts that touched the floor. They also wore many beaded **necklaces**. Sometimes the necklaces reached from a woman's neck to her ears. Seminole men wore colorful shirts. They wore turbans, leggings, and breechcloths.

When the weather was cold, men wore ruffled coats called long shirts.



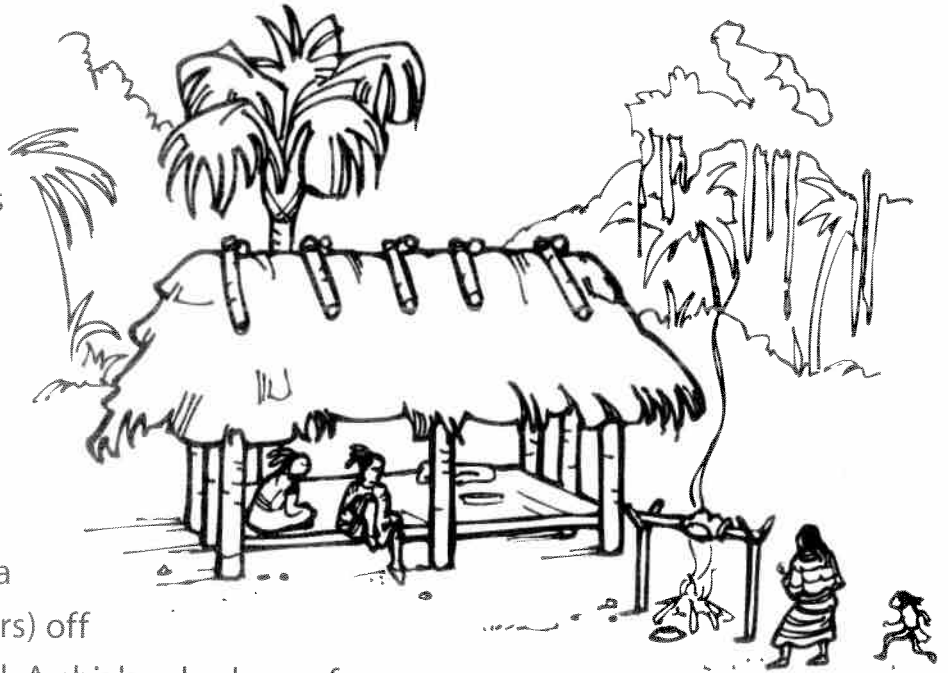
The Seminole planted corn, beans, and squash. Corn was cooked to make a favorite food called **hominy**. The Seminole also fished and caught alligators in Florida swamps. They hunted deer, bear, raccoon, squirrel, and birds. Each family had its own vegetable garden. People also worked in the village garden. Everyone planted and harvested together.





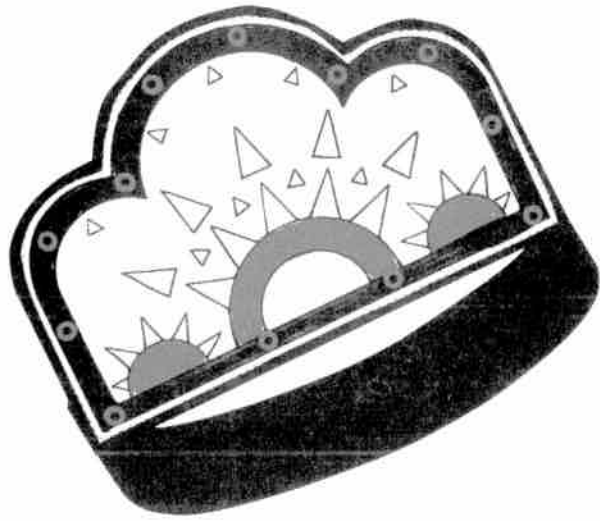
Seminole people who lived in drier parts of Florida built their homes directly on the ground. The Seminole who lived in the swamps built wooden huts called **chickees**.

A chickee was built on a platform 3 feet (9 meters) off the wet, muddy ground. A chickee had a roof made from palmetto leaves. A chickee had no walls. Seminole families could sit inside their chickees and feel the cool breezes. At night each person slept in a hammock inside the chickee.



Seminole women took care of the children, cooked, sewed, and worked in the garden. Seminole men hunted, fished, and farmed. Each summer the Seminole prepared for an important festival called the Green Corn Dance. People from many villages gathered. They danced, played games, ate food, and celebrated. Sometimes Seminole boys would receive new names. While the men and boys met at the Council house, the women got ready for the feast.





MATERIALS

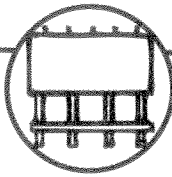
- page 91, reproduced for each student
- 9" x 12" (23 x 30.5 cm) colored construction paper
- 12 beads for each student
- scissors
- marking pens
- glue
- stapler

WEAR A SEMINOLE HEADDRESS

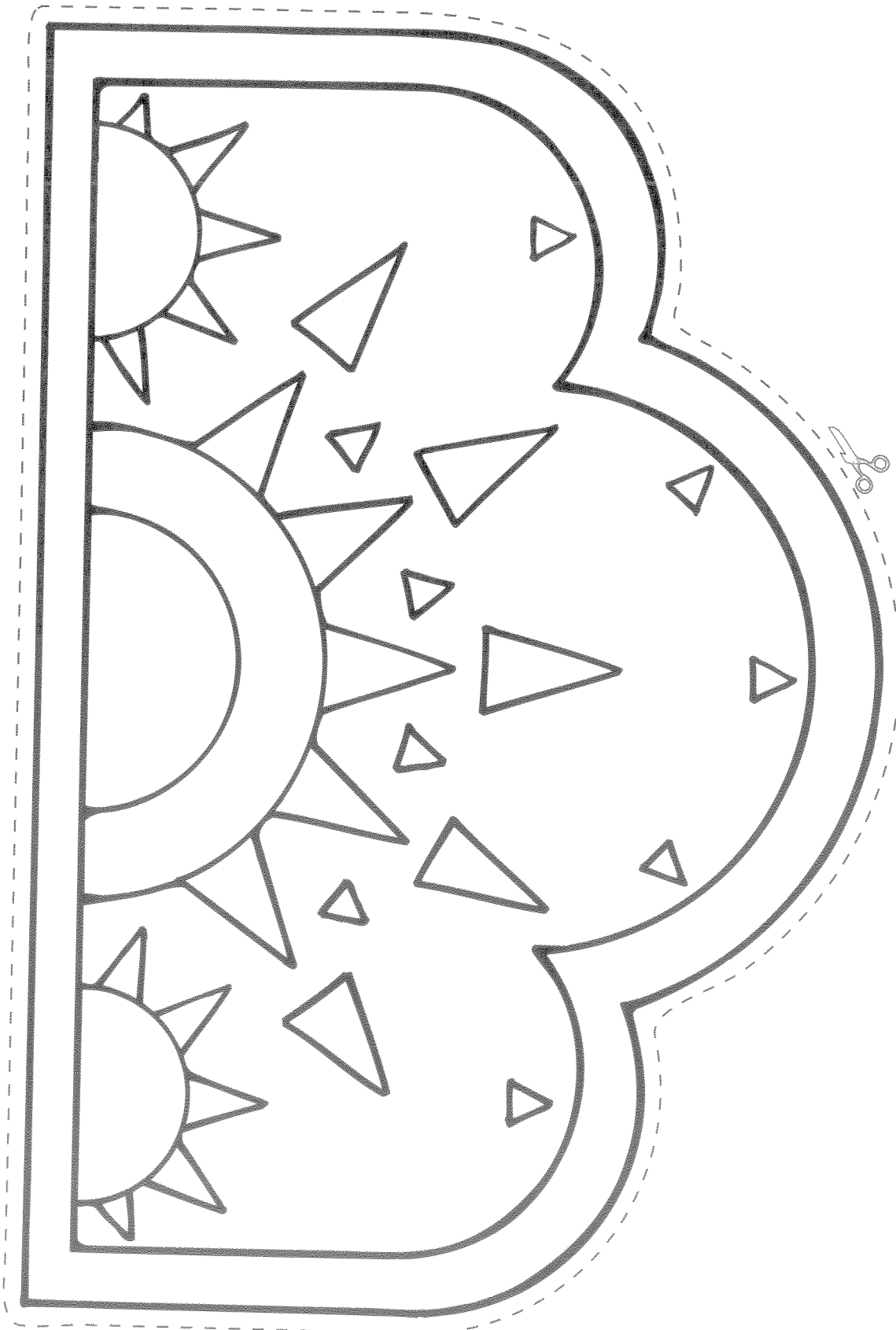
Students put a Seminole headdress together and imagine what it would be like to participate in a Seminole celebration.

STEPS TO FOLLOW

1. Color the Seminole headdress pattern with marking pens.
2. Cut out the headdress pattern and glue it to a sheet of construction paper. Cut around the pattern, leaving a border of construction paper around the edges.
3. If desired, glue beads to the headdress and let it dry.
4. To make a headband, cut a long strip from construction paper. Staple one end of the strip to the headdress.
5. Place the headdress on each student's head and wrap the loose end of the headband around the back of the head. Mark the place where the other end should be stapled.
6. Staple the marked end of the headband to the headdress and cut off any extra paper. Prepare to celebrate!



WEAR A SEMINOLE HEADDRESS



HOW TO MAKE HOMINY SEMINOLE-STYLE

Jump into cooking, while teaching students to follow a sequence of steps in a recipe at the same time.

STEPS TO FOLLOW

1. The teacher may choose to make the hominy in class, following the recipe below, or have the hominy already made for the students.
2. Have students color and cut apart the four recipe cards and cover on page 93. Discuss the order of sequence for the recipe.
3. Students glue each card to a piece of construction paper.
4. Use a hole punch to make two holes on the top of each of the five pieces of paper.
5. Use the yarn to tie them together in the proper sequence.

HOW TO MAKE HOMINY

You will need:

- ½ c. (80 g) dried popping corn
- ¾ tsp. (3 g) baking soda
- 1 c. (240 ml) water
- 1 tsp. (4.5 g) butter
- pinch of salt
- cooking pot
- sieve

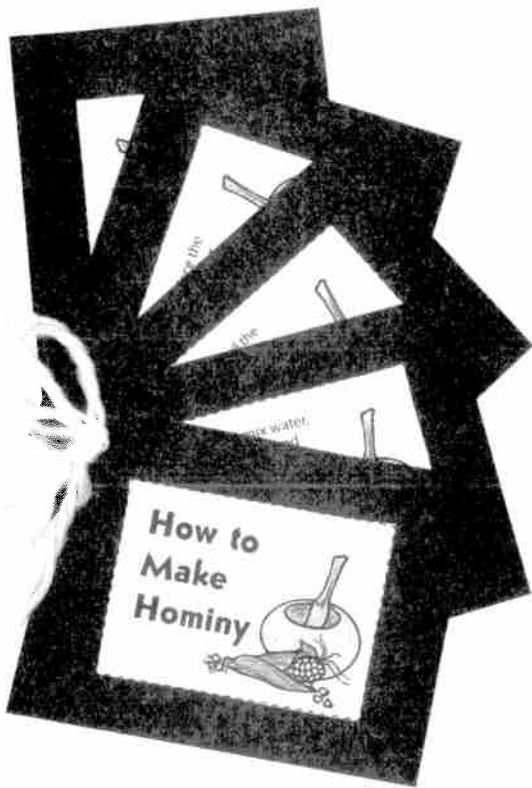
First, mix the baking soda and water together in a pot. Add the corn and set aside overnight.

Next, in the morning, place the pot on the stove. When the corn begins to boil, turn down the heat. Place the lid on the pot and let simmer for 3 hours. Then pour the corn into a sieve and let the water drain through it.

Then, place the corn in cold water and remove the popcorn hulls with your fingers.

Last, boil the corn two more times and remove any leftover hulls. Add a little butter and salt to the corn. Now you are ready to eat Seminole-style hominy!

Serves 4 (or makes enough for a spoonful for each student in class)



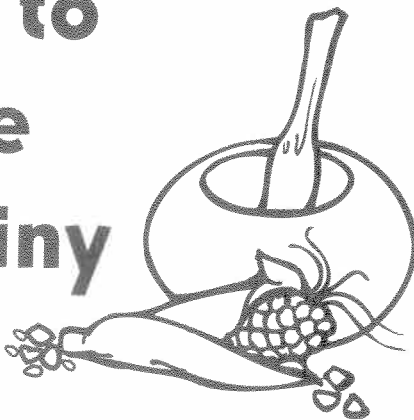
MATERIALS

- page 93, reproduced for each student
- five 4" x 6" (10 x 15 cm) pieces of construction paper
- scissors
- marking pens or crayons
- hole punch
- yarn
- glue



HOW TO MAKE HOMINY SEMINOLE-STYLE

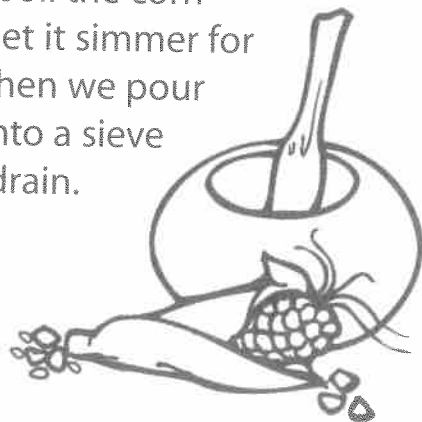
How to Make Hominy



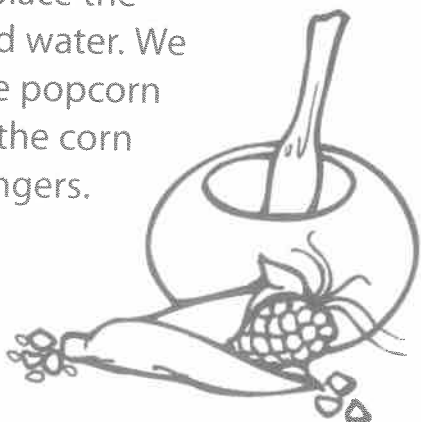
First, we mix water, baking soda, and popcorn together. We let it soak overnight.



Next, we boil the corn and then let it simmer for 3 hours. Then we pour the corn into a sieve and let it drain.



Then, we place the corn in cold water. We remove the popcorn hulls from the corn with our fingers.



Last, we boil the corn two more times and remove any leftover hulls. We add a little butter and salt to the corn. We enjoy the hominy.

