**SETTLEMENTS**

Most families lived in their villages all year round. Often, a village consisted of groups of houses scattered along a river for a mile or more. Some villages had flat-topped mounts nearby where private or public ceremonies were held.

**ARTIFACTS**

Some groups continued using the dart and atlatl, but most began using the bow and arrow. Native people made most arrow points from stone but they also used bone and antler. Artisans continued making stone tools for cutting, scraping, perforating, shaping, and grinding. They also made wood, shell, and bone tools.

**FOODS**

Some communities began raising garden plants such as corn, squash, and beans. Native people continued hunting, fishing, collecting shellfish, and gathering wild plant foods during this period.

Louisiana archaeologists find the first evidence for dugout canoes in this period, although Native people used canoes in earlier times. Made from a single log, usually cypress, each canoe sometimes took months to create. Canoes allowed people to travel by water to hunt, fish, trade, and visit other villages. Native people used various creeks, bayous, rivers, and other bodies of water as trails to connect lands and communities to each other.