**Impact of Russian Colonization on Alaska Native People**

**Standard**:

* Analyze the impact Russians had on Alaska Native people.

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|  | Impact | R | N |
| Impacts to Trade (economy, industry, technology) | * Natives get IRON –definitely needed and wanted * Russians get fur pelts (sea otter and fur seal) * Natives get new tools (axes, knives, saws, pots, crockery, cannons, wheels, sleighs, wagons) * Natives get Beads (form of currency) * New: tobacco, alcohol, sugar, flour, molasses, tea, salt * Natives get pigs, cattle, chickens, goats, dogs * Aleuts forbidden to trade with any other nation by the Russians * Introduce simple machinery and tools (axes, saws) * New: steam, water, and wind power (wheels, pulleys) |  |  |
| Impacts on Population (people) | * Aleut population drops from 20,000 – 2,500 * Many die from diseases (smallpox, measles, mumps, influenza, diphtheria, whooping cough) – ¾ village * At Kukak on Kodiak, pop drops from 8,000 to 500 (Massacre Rock) * Murder, kidnapping, rape, torture * Russian population never more than 850 people at any time from 1741 – 1867 * Natives outnumber Russians (60-1) but it doesn’t help * Many native groups (Aleut) moved away from their homes to work for one year (in Pribilof Islands) * Children born ½ Russian, ½ Native Alaskan (“Creole”) * 4/5 men in every village drafted to work for Russians |  |  |
| Culture – (impacts to clothing, food, music, language, community) | * Hostages, slavery, murder, rape, lack of basic freedom (culture of violence/fear) * Entire communities devastated (4/5 natives conscripted to work for Russians for 3 years) * Native Culture lost or irrevocably damaged (food, clothing, dance, housing, masks, songs, beliefs, tools, music, transportation) * “Creole” 1/2 Native, ½ Russian * Place names changed, banyas remain * Clothing (new fabrics/items such as buttons, wool, cotton) * Land claims introduced (natives had no land ownership) * Introduced sledding, ice skating, musical instruments, tea |  |  |
| Religion | * Orthodox religion dominates art, culture, faith and recreation (baptisms) * Bishop Innocent – allows natives to practice their own customs, but also converts many to Orthodox religion * Builds numerous churches all across Russian Alaska * Leaves LASTING impact on Alaskan Native population |  |  |
| Natural Resources (plants and animals) | * Sea otter and fur seal populations crash * Timber is used for housing (supply runs low) * Whaling populations and walrus populations decrease * Fish populations reduced drastically (salmon, halibut, cod) * Food supplies – local plants - reduced dramatically by the demand to feed the Russians |  |  |
| Literacy/  education | * Schools start when Shelhikov teaches hostages * Vocational education (artisans, clerks, sailors) – brickmaking, blacksmithing, shipbuilding, carpentry * Bishop Innocent – creates an alphabet using Cyrillic letters, translates the Bible. * Documents Native life, legends, and history (Bishop Innocent) * Documented winds, tides and weather (Bishop Innocent) * Start schools to teach reading, math and Russian * Children forbidden at school from speaking Native languages |  |  |
| Other: | * Chart Alaska (world geography), ocean currents, maps * Introduce farming (vegetables) and cattle * Establish hospitals – Sitka, Kodiak, Unalaska, Atka * Russians bring epidemics (diseases such as flu, diphtheria, smallpox) * Introduce Vaccinations (helps stem impacts of epidemics) * Russians bring guns and cannons, eventually adopted by Natives |  |  |