Native Americans are believed to originally have come from Mongolia via the Bering Strait.
- Mile thick glaciers covered the ‘land bridge’.
- They were following the animals that were migrating.
- As they spread over the continents, their societies adapted and changed.
- Two thousand different languages showed how vastly different the Native American cultures truly were.
- Anasazi.
  - One of the more complicated civilizations that weren’t in South America or Mexico.
  - They were horticulturalists.
  - 1,200 people could live in some of the large buildings they created.
  - 250 mile roads.
- Animism. Conglomerate of Native religions.
- North Eastern Native Americans.
  - Mostly hunter gatherers.
  - Everything had a spirit.
  - Treated the animals they hunted with respect and never over-hunted.
- Spirit world was among them – use of Peyote was one of many ways to reach that world.
- Gender – a social construct.
  - Men worried about outside of village; hunting, diplomacy, religion, and war.
  - Women worked inside village; family, growing food, and gathering.
- Power struggles in gender – matrilineal. Followed the women’s side of the family.
- Land.
  - Given to them by the Great Spirit.