Teaching Suggestions

In spite of treaties and promises, American Indians were driven from the lands they occupied when U.S. citizens wanted those lands for settlement. In the 1830s the five major tribes of the Southeast were driven from their homes to what is today the state of Oklahoma. This map shows their original homelands and the routes of their removal.

- 1. The removal of the Cherokee was so brutal that it has come to be called the "Trail of Tears." Ask students in what present-day states the Cherokee Nation lay. Have them color this area on their maps and mark and label the capital of New Echota.
- 2. Have them label the route of the "Trail of Tears." Have them name the states through which it went.
- **3.** Ask students which tribes lived in present-day Mississippi. Have them color those areas on their maps.
- **4.** Ask which group's lands were solely in present-day Alabama, and have them color that area.
- **5.** Using library resources, have a group of students locate the present-day Cherokee Reservation and mark it on the map.



AMERICAN HISTORY OUTLINE MAPS

Relocation of American Indian Tribes

