The Voyageurs/Fur Trade

“Christopher Columbus got lost going to India for spices and found this place they called Kanata. It was filled with savages but they have the most fabulous furs!”

The popularity of furs from this new land discovered by Columbus started European countries mainly the French and English to come for furs and trade with the local savages. In the 1600’s, Samuel de Champlain of France sent young French boys to live among the Natives to persuade them to trade with France instead of the Dutch. After one year, the young Frenchman (Coeurs de Bois) wore native clothes, spoke the language, and adopted Native culture and skills. These Coeurs de Bois helped form alliances with Natives for the fur trade; this saw many Frenchman come to what is now Canada to make money through the fur trade. The Voyageurs (travelers in French) emerged, men who canoed and portaged with goods to trade for furs along the waterways of Kanata. These Voyageurs were hardworking men who worked 15 hour days paddling and portaging hundreds of pounds of goods. They were around from roughly 1680-1870.

Watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-RNt4wNxb4>

Answer the following:

1. What did the Voyageurs eat?
2. How did they keep mosquitos away?
3. Why was singing songs important?
4. How did they mark each hour of the day?
5. How much cargo did each man carry?

First Nations view on the Fur Trade <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=blg0a62mehU>

Take notes on the video how lifestyles of the First nations changed when they began to trade with Europeans. Look for the changes that occurred to lives of First Nations as a result of the fur trade from a First Nation perspective.

In an Essay write how did Trade with Europeans change the lives of First Nations