

Name _____

Period _____

KAPOSIA

Watch the first video, of Chris Mato Nunpa, Ph.D.

1. According to Chris Mato Nunpa, what does Kaposia mean? Why is Kaposia different from the other sites on the memory map?
2. How many groups lived in the Mounds Park area that we know of?

Watch Monica Briggs speak in “Ojibwe Youth is moved.”

3. What does the Ojibwe youth feel or experience when visiting this place? Have you ever felt this way about a place? Where was it? Why did it make you feel that way?
4. Why did the mounds have special meaning for her?
5. The site was sacred to the Dakota, but she is Ojibwe. How was this an issue? Are you Dakota? How could this site have meaning for you?

Watch Jim Rock speak in “City youth and Mounds Park.”

6. What were the mounds used for? Why is the phrase “We come from our mother and we go back to our mother” important for Mounds Park?

7. How long have the mounds been here?
8. How many mounds did there used to be? How many are there now? What happened to the rest of the mounds?

Click on “Read More” at the bottom of the page. *It will open a new window.*

9. Why are Seth Eastman’s impressions and paintings not necessarily reliable?
10. Why do you think Eastman’s paintings of burial practices and ceremonial activities are not included on this page?

Close the new window and go back to the original page. Visit “Bruce Vento Sanctuary”
Link. *It will open another new window.*

11. Wakan means much more than spirit...it means sacred, unknowable, that which can not be understood. Simple translations are a temptation, but can lead to misunderstandings. According to the website, what does Wakan Tipi mean? What does it refer to? Does the website accurately reflect the sacred nature of this site? Why or why not?
12. What did Jonathan Carver find in the cave in 1766? What does this tell us about the people who were living here at the time?

13. Why is what Carver found in the cave not still around?

14. What happened to this site in 2005? What is changing and happening to the site?

Close the new window and go back to the original page. Look at “Possible Kaposia Village – 1846-1848.” *Make it as large as possible to see all detail.*

15. What are the people in the picture using for transportation?

16. Dakota people never lived solely by the river, they moved based on the language of nature and by the seasons. Why do you think they chose to live right by the water in the summer? Why not on the bluff? Why would they not live on the river in the winter or spring? *Complete the table on the next page to help you answer the question in essay form on a separate sheet of paper:*

	Living by River	Living on Bluff
Advantages		
Disadvantages		

17. How many structures can you see in the picture? Were these people large- scale farmers? How can you tell?

Look at “Possible Kaposia Village Home – 1846-1848.” *Make it as large as possible to see all detail.*

18. How many people are in the photograph?

19. Do you think these people all lived together? Why do you think that?

20. What animal is in the picture? Is it a wild animal or is it tame? How can you tell?

21. What is the house made of? Would this likely be permanent? Why or why not?

22. What is hanging from sticks above the porch? Why would they be hanging so high? What does this tell you about the people in the photograph?

Look at “Kaposia Site – 1900.” *Make it as large as possible to see all detail.*

23. How is this photograph different from the other pictures? List as many differences as you can.
24. How many people are in the photograph? Do you think they live here? Why or why not?
25. Reflecting on the Eastman pictures, why do you think they choose to put railroad tracks here?

Using the internet or phone book, search for St. Paul businesses using the name Kaposia.

26. List three of the businesses here and describe what they do:
27. (optional or extra credit) Call or e-mail one of the businesses. Can they explain what Kaposia means? Do they know why their business uses the name?
28. (optional or extra credit) Visit the Mounds Park area. Write about your experience.

Essay (use additional paper):

Using the information you gathered above, explain the Kaposia and Mounds Park area to someone who has never heard of either one. Include factual details, but also include your personal feelings about the area based on what you have learned.

Name _____

Period _____

KAPOSIA – ANSWER KEY

Watch the first video, of Chris Mato Nunpa, Ph.D.

1. According to Chris Mato Nunpa, what does Kaposia mean? Why is Kaposia different from the other sites on the memory map?

It means “something light”. Kaposia refers to people, rather than to a place.

2. How many groups lived in the Mounds Park area that we know of?

7 groups.

Watch Monica Briggs speak in “Ojibwe Youth is moved.”

3. What does the Ojibwe youth feel or experience when visiting this place? Have you ever felt this way about a place? Where was it? Why did it make you feel that way?

The feeling of going home, someplace spiritually enlightening. Answers may vary

4. Why did the mounds have special meaning for her?

She was pregnant when she visited. She also talked about growing up in the area and not knowing about these places and that learning about them meant something to her

5. The site was sacred to the Dakota, but she is Ojibwe. How was this an issue? Are you Dakota? How could this site have meaning for you?

It was not an issue, the place still has spiritual significance for her. Answers may vary.

Watch Jim Rock speak in “City youth and Mounds Park.”

6. What were the mounds used for? Why is the phrase “We come from our mother and we go back to our mother” important for Mounds Park?

Burying people, a resting place, a family tree, the place of the ancestors. Also Jim Rock talks about wakan tipi, nearby, as the place where Dakota come from (coming out of the earth.)

7. How long have the mounds been here?

At least 2,000 years, perhaps as many as 13,000.

8. How many mounds did there used to be? How many are there now? What happened to the rest of the mounds?

Used to be 3-4 dozen, maybe as many as 100. Now there are 6. The rest were demolished (pushed over cliff) to build houses and buildings.

Click on “Read More” at the bottom of the page. *It will open a new window.*

9. Why are Seth Eastman’s impressions and paintings not necessarily reliable?

He was an outsider, not a member of the groups that lived there. He did not respect the privacy of their sacred ceremonies. And (perhaps more central) he was an artist, not an anthropologist. He interprets and expresses, not documents. His images, however, are very useful to us to see Dakota life in the 19th century.

10. Why do you think Eastman’s paintings of burial practices and ceremonial activities are not included on this page?

They are considered sacred and private, not for outsiders.

Close the new window and go back to the original page. Visit “Bruce Vento Sanctuary” Link. *It will open another new window.*

11. Wakan means much more than spirit...it means sacred, unknowable, that which can not be understood. Simple translations are a temptation, but can lead to misunderstandings. According to the website, what does Wakan Tipi mean? What does it refer to? Does the website accurately reflect the sacred nature of this site? Why or why not?

Spirit House, refers to cave in a sandstone bluff. Answers may vary.

12. What did Jonathan Carver find in the cave in 1766? What does this tell us about the people who were living here at the time?

Incised figures carved in stone. Answers may vary.

13. Why is what Carver found in the cave not still around?

The sandstone was soft, rushing water washed it away and ceilings collapsed.

14. What happened to this site in 2005? What is changing and happening to the site?

It became a St. Paul Park. It is being restored to native plant communities.

Close the new window and go back to the original page. Look at “Possible Kaposia Village – 1846-1848.” *Make it as large as possible to see all detail.*

15. What are the people in the picture using for transportation?

Canoe, waterways.

16. Dakota people never lived solely by the river, they moved based on the language of nature and by the seasons. Why do you think they chose to live right by the water in the summer? Why not on the bluff? Why would they not live on the river in the winter or spring? *Complete the table on the next page to help you answer the question in essay form on a separate sheet of paper:*

Answers may vary.

	Living by River	Living on Bluff
Advantages	<p>Easy access to water. Easy access to transportation. Flat plane next to river easy to navigate. Better shelter from weather. Water is the most powerful medicine.</p>	<p>Easier to guard/defend, see farther. Nice views.</p>
Disadvantages	<p>Possible Flooding in springtime. Harder to defend.</p>	<p>Have to carry supplies up hill. Farther from water. Less shelter from harsh weather.</p>

17. How many structures can you see in the picture? Were these people large- scale farmers? How can you tell?

At least 13 structures. No, only one shows cultivated/garden. They grew food to eat, but not on a large scale. Dakota moved seasonally. Answers may vary.

Look at “Possible Kaposia Village Home – 1846-1848.” Make it as large as possible to see all detail.

18. How many people are in the photograph?

11 people, counting the baby.

19. Do you think these people all lived together? Why do you think that?

Answers may vary.

20. What animal is in the picture? Is it a wild animal or is it tame? How can you tell?

Dog. Tame animal, it is not afraid of humans, they are not worried about it. Answers may vary.

21. What is the house made of? Would this likely be permanent? Why or why not?

Small logs/trees, birch bark. Seasonal dwelling. Answers may vary.

22. What is hanging from sticks above the porch? Why would they be hanging so high? What does this tell you about the people in the photograph?

Animal skins, to protect from wild animals/predators. The people are hunters who value the animal for more than just meat. Answers may vary.

Look at “Kaposia Site – 1900.” *Make it as large as possible to see all detail.*

23. How is this photograph different from the other pictures? List as many differences as you can.

No dwellings, train tracks, electrical/telephone poles, industrialized. Answers may vary.

24. How many people are in the photograph? Do you think they live here? Why or why not?

3 people. There are no houses in the picture. Answers may vary.

25. Reflecting on the Eastman pictures, why do you think they choose to put railroad tracks here?

The land next to the river was already flat, close to water for easy loading of boats. Answers may vary.

Using the internet or phone book, search for St. Paul businesses using the name Kaposia.

26. List three of the businesses here and describe what they do:

Answers may vary.

27. (optional or extra credit) Call or e-mail one of the businesses. Can they explain what Kaposia means? Do they know why their business uses the name?

Answers may vary.

28. (optional or extra credit) Visit the Mounds Park area. Write about your experience.

Essay (use additional paper):

Using the information you gathered above, explain the Kaposia and Mounds Park area to someone who has never heard of either one. Include factual details, but also include your personal feelings about the area based on what you have learned.