



Indigenous Education Cultural Activities

Central Okanagan, School District No. 23

These presentations are from a local *First Nations perspective*.

Some are seasonal and most are grade specific. All supplies are provided for designated activities.

(Please note: All presentations demonstrate "cultural and social awareness" as in the Career Education K-9 Curriculum. The italics reference the curriculum in different Areas of Learning.)

Grade 10 – 12

Fishing, Hunting - Salmon *(Physical environment influences economic and social change; disparities in power between societies)*

Traditional fishing implements introduced versus modern methods of fishing. Salmon ceremony discussed. Students to draw conclusions on how fishing techniques impact our natural resources. Field Trip – to Hall's Rd pond optional.

Residential School *(discriminatory policies, attitudes and historical wrongs)*

Students explore discriminatory policies towards First Peoples, such as the Indian Act, Potlatch ban, and Residential Schools.

Indigenous Plants – Ethnobotany *(Human and environmental factors shape changes in population and living standards.)* An explanation of how plants and Aboriginal peoples interact, with identification and explanations of the various uses of local plants. Seasonal Field trip recommended.

Medicine Wheel

Students will interact with the traditional teachings of the Medicine Wheel, a symbol which has different representation amongst many first Nations. The lesson focuses on the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual aspects, how to bring balance into lives as well as incorporating that all things are interrelated. .

Traditional Storytelling / (Captikw) The importance of Oral history and traditional stories with a focus on origins, core beliefs and social structures. Can be focused on teacher – specified outcomes.

Traditional Beading / Loom Beading - Using small table looms, this beading activity emphasizes graphing and the traditional use of looms. Students make a bracelet. This activity usually **requires 2 hours**. A small pendant beading activity also available.

Traditional Drumming *(Core beliefs and practices of one indigenous people)*

Sitting in a circle, students learn the Okanagan anthem using call back, along with the protocols, respect of and beating of the hand drums. **Not available at this time.**

Traditional Dancing *(Core beliefs and practices of one indigenous people)*

Various types of regalia and dance steps, along with the importance of traditional dancing is demonstrated and discussed.

Traditional Games *(Cultural characteristics and ways of life of local First Peoples)*

In a gym or outside, various games are explained and played that are used to develop specific strengths, or the teacher can request the focus to be solely on Traditional Stick Games. **Please call to discuss options.**