



AUTHENTIC
FIRST PEOPLES
RESOURCES

K-9

Updated 2021





Authentic First Peoples Resources for Grades K-9
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First Nations Education Steering Committee and First Nations Schools Association

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1 INTRODUCTION

The past two decades have seen a dramatic increase in the number of resources with a First Peoples theme or focus aimed at young people. This guide has been created to help educators in British Columbia make decisions about which of these resources might be appropriate for use with their students. The annotated listings provided in this guide identify currently available authentic First Peoples texts that students can work with to meet provincial standards related to literacy as well as a variety of specific subject areas.

WHAT ARE AUTHENTIC FIRST PEOPLES TEXTS?

Authentic First Peoples texts are historical or contemporary texts that

- *are created by First Peoples or through the substantial contributions of First Peoples*
- *depict themes and issues that are important within First Peoples cultures (e.g., identity, tradition, the role of family, the importance of Elders, connection to the land, the nature and place of spirituality as an aspect of wisdom, the relationships between individual and community, and the importance of oral tradition — see Common Themes in First Peoples Texts later in this section for more examples)*
- *incorporate First Peoples storytelling techniques and features as applicable (e.g., circular structure, repetition, weaving in of spirituality, humour)*

Please Note: authenticity does not just refer to accuracy; for the purposes of this guide, it refers to texts created by, or in significant collaboration with First Peoples.

WHY USE AUTHENTIC FIRST PEOPLES TEXTS?

Historically, First Peoples voices have been absent from the educational experience of K-12 and post-secondary learners. Where First Peoples focussed resources have been used, many have reflected inaccurate information, and/or have not fairly represented the unique and diverse experiences and worldviews of First Peoples (regardless of how well-intentioned or well-researched these resources may be). Using Authentic First Peoples resources is one part of helping to address colonial legacies, ensuring that First Peoples' cultures and perspectives are portrayed accurately and authentically, and that the diverse First Nations, Métis, and Inuit voices in Canada are recognized and celebrated.

This guide is intended to help BC educators respectfully introduce classroom resources that reflect First Peoples stories, narratives, knowledge, and perspectives into classrooms. An increased use of authentic First Peoples texts will benefit all students in BC. The inclusion of authentic First Peoples content into classrooms:

- ▶ supports all students in developing an understanding of the significant place of First Peoples within the historical and contemporary fabric of this province; and
- ▶ provides culturally relevant materials for Indigenous learners in British Columbia.

This guide lists resources (story and informational text) written for a student audience. It is recognized that a rich learning experience for students includes opportunities to work with oral, visual, and written text.

THE POWER OF STORY

Story (or narrative) is one of the main methods of traditional Indigenous learning and teaching. Stories enable holistic learning, melding values, concepts, protocol, practices, and facts into narratives. Combining story and experience is a powerful strategy that has always been used and continues to be used by First Peoples, and its power can also be brought into the classroom.

Please Note: because of the connotations often associated with the terms “legend” and “myth” (i.e., fiction), it is preferable to use the terms “story” or “narrative.”

PURPOSES AND FORMS

Different stories have different purposes. Traditional and contemporary First Peoples stories are told for the following purposes:

- ▶ teaching — life lessons, community responsibilities, rites of passage, etc.
- ▶ sharing creation stories
- ▶ recording personal, family, and community histories
- ▶ “mapping” the geography and resources of an area
- ▶ ensuring cultural continuity (e.g., knowledge of ancestors, language)
- ▶ healing
- ▶ entertainment

Where appropriate, talk with students about the purposes of specific stories used in the classroom.

Story is an integral part of First Peoples oral traditions. First Peoples’ stories also take many forms. Although most of the stories used in this guide are in prose form, stories can also be told in song, dance, poetry, theatre, carvings, pictures, etc.

ORAL TRADITION

It is important to understand that story and story-telling are not synonymous with oral tradition.

Oral tradition is a means by which cultural transmission occurs over generations (other means include written records and physical artefacts). Among First Peoples, the oral tradition is extremely important and may consist of stories, songs, and/or other types of wisdom or information, often incorporating dance or various forms of visual representation such as carvings or masks. In addition to expressing spiritual and emotional truths (e.g., via symbol and metaphor), oral tradition provides a record of literal fact (e.g., regarding events and/or situations).

The maintenance of oral tradition is considered critical in virtually all First Peoples cultures, and effective integration of First Peoples texts includes providing opportunities for students to experience stories in their oral form.

COMMON THEMES IN FIRST PEOPLES TEXTS

An effective integration of authentic First Peoples resources will draw attention to recurring themes and topics that are characteristically part of the worldviews of many Indigenous peoples. Using these identified themes in a deliberate and thoughtful way can serve to address multiple curricular areas at the same time.

Although not an exhaustive list, some of the common themes and topics include:

- seasonal cycle and activities
- time and place
- sustainability & continuity
- well-being
- relationship to natural world
- diversity
- respect
- relationality & connectedness
- language
- worldview
- family
- family and community roles
- nurturing
- structure and hierarchy
- rites of passage
- relationship with spirit world
- dreams & visions
- performance (e.g., song, drama)
- collaboration & co-operation
- vitality
- inclusivity & belonging
- traditional knowledge
- identity
- conflict & conflict resolution
- racism & stereotypes
- humour
- ways of learning
- competition
- roles of teacher & learner
- tradition
- generosity
- grief & loss
- ceremony
- feasts
- wisdom
- symbols and symbolism
- ownership
- decision making
- sharing, fairness
- Elders
- self-reliance
- protocol
- storytelling
- tricksters
- balance
- rights and responsibilities
- citizenship & service
- listening
- art
- tradition and modernity
- food
- games
- feelings
- traditional technologies (transportation, tools, food gathering prep & storage)

COPYRIGHT AND PROTOCOL

It is important to recognize that local cultural protocols exist. Permission for use of many unpublished First Peoples' cultural materials or practices such as stories, songs, designs, crests, photographs, audiovisual materials, and dances should be obtained through consultation with individuals, families, Elders, hereditary chiefs, Band Councils, or Tribal Councils. This authorization should be obtained prior to the use of any educational plans or materials.

All the resources cited in this guide can be used in the classroom, and no additional permission is required. It is still important, however, to acknowledge the source of every story shared in the classroom – both the author/illustrator and the Nation (where applicable) or region.

ASSESSING ADDITIONAL TEXTS

There are many authentic texts for student use that may not be included in this guide. For example, locally developed First Nations resources may be available for classroom use. Consult with your local school or district Indigenous contact to determine what locally developed texts are available.

If educators find other resources that are not included in this guide, they are encouraged to conduct their own evaluations of those resources using the following guidelines:

- ▶ Evaluate the resource using the evaluation tool provided in the Appendix.
- ▶ Ensure that proper copyright protocol have been respected, especially when using resources (e.g., songs, artwork) found online.

A list of school district Indigenous contacts by district is available at www.bced.gov.bc.ca/apps/imcl/imclWeb/AB.do.

THE RESOURCE EVALUATION PROCESS

The annotated list of resources provided in this guide was developed by BC educators. As a part of the process:

- ▶ a resource evaluation tool was developed (see Appendix: Evaluation Form)
- ▶ FNEESC issued a call to BC and Canadian publishers to distributors to submit materials for evaluation
- ▶ FNEESC convened teams of BC educators to evaluate the submitted resources according to the criteria in the Evaluation Form.

USING THIS GUIDE

- ▶ The **Resource Annotations** section of this guide contains detailed information about all of the First Nations resources evaluated and approved by FNEESC for use in K-9 classrooms.
- ▶ For an at-a-glance listing of all resources, see the next section of this guide, **Index of Resources**.
- ▶ Publisher contact information for ordering specific resources can be found in the **Publishers and Distributors** section later in this guide.
- ▶ Texts that are part of a series are listed under the series title.

ABOUT THE RESOURCE ANNOTATIONS

The resource annotations provided in this guide have been compiled using the information captured on the FNEESC resource evaluation forms. The annotations are presented in alphabetical order, by title. When interpreting the annotations, please keep the following points in mind:

- ▶ The “reading level” identified within each annotation is based on the professional opinion of the evaluating educators, rather than on any quantitative readability analysis tools. Users are accordingly encouraged to treat these “reading level” designations as guidelines only, recognizing that resources can be used as read-aloud texts with younger grades or for various other teaching purposes with older grades.
- ▶ The “Curriculum Areas” designation provided for each annotation is a guideline only, identifying the most obvious curriculum connections to the book’s content. Users may find additional curricular applications for many of these resources (e.g., illustrations in picture books can be studied from a visual arts perspective, stories can be used as readers’ theatre or other drama forms in drama classes, and bilingual books can be used in First Nations languages classes).
- ▶ Although inclusion of a resource in this guide is an indication that it meets criteria for designation as an authentic First Peoples text, there may be caveats associated with using it in the classroom. Accordingly, where aspects of the text might make it unsuitable for certain purposes or require an educator to help interpret, explain, or qualify content issues for students, this has been indicated by means of “Caution” notes provided as part of the annotation.

▶ RESOURCE USE APPROVALS

The resources listed in this guide were reviewed by FNEESC, not the Ministry of Education and Child Care. Teachers in the K-12 public system are encouraged to follow their school district’s process of approval of student resources.



Core Competencies

Virtually all the resources included in this guide directly support the development of multiple core competencies. Many of these texts may also support the development of the Positive Personal and Cultural Identity core competency in Indigenous learners. As with other resources used in learning environments, the capacity of resources to support the development of the core competency development is often enhanced by the guidance and instruction provided by teachers. More information can be found at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/competencies>.

ADDITIONAL EDUCATOR RESOURCE MATERIAL

In addition to the many student resources listed in this guide, there is much material that is not specifically designed for student use, but that teachers can draw upon to inform their practice and promote discussion with respect to First Nations education. Of particular note at time of publication are the following:

- ▶ the FNEESC website, www.fnesc.ca
- ▶ the *First Peoples Principles of Learning* chart (available at <https://firstpeoplesprinciplesoflearning.wordpress.com/>)
- ▶ the *Truth and Reconciliation: Calls to Action on Education* poster (a poster highlighting some of the 94 recommendations and calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, available from Native Northwest – see their catalogue at <https://www.nativenorthwest.com/>)

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RESOURCE ANNOTATIONS

Acorns for Wilaiya

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Nadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band)

ILLUSTRATOR

Annie Wilkinson

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

counting, addition, subtraction, inter-generational relationships

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

Wilaiya and her grandmother go to the park on an autumn day and discover opportunities to sort and match numerals, and count forwards and backwards to 10. The story also teaches about protocols for the care of Mother Earth. Illustrations are of high quality with many opportunities to engage students in different ways.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- ▶ a scannable link to the publisher’s website is provided, where one can listen to the book and try an activity

The Adventures of Txamsm Series

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

narratives by
 J. Bradley, retold in Sm’algyax by Mildred Wilson, *Ts’msyen*
 Henry Tate, retold in Sm’algyax by Verna Helin, *Ts’msyen / Sm’algyax*
 Henry Tate, retold in Sm’algyax by Pauline Dudoward, *Ts’msyen*
 Henry Tate, retold in Sm’algyax by Biatrice Robinson, *Ts’msyen*

ILLUSTRATORS

Bill Helin, *Ts’msyen* (Lax Kw’alaams), Joanne Thomson, *Ts’msyen*,
 Vernon Brown, *Ts’msyen*

PUBLISHER

Tsimshian Nation and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert)
 **may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

READING LEVEL 3 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, trickster, ways of learning

PUB DATE 1996

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

Txamsm is the Tsimshian transformer and trickster character. Numerous stories of Txamsm’s adventures are told throughout the Tsimshian Nation. Some are origin stories, telling how he brought light, or the tides, or the stars, to humans. Others are tales of his voraciousness, his foolishness, and his greed. Still others relate his many adventures as he travelled about the world. The following are titles in this series:

- ▶ ***Txamsm Brings Light to the World*** – *Wilt Dagoydiksdit Txamsm Goy’pa Da Ha’lidzoox*. In this famous narrative, Txamsm is in his transformer mode. He changes form at will and helps bring order to the world by bringing light to the people of the world. The short episode at the end, in which we learn how the labret originated, shows how this narrative is part of a much longer cycle of stories.
- ▶ ***Txamsm and Chief Kingfisher*** – *Txamsm Dit Sm’ooygit Ts’iyoolk*. This story teaches a lesson about greed and truth. Txamsm tries very hard to be a good host, but he bungles it. Chief Kingfisher treats him to a wonderful feast using magic, but when Txamsm attempts to copy him, he fails.
- ▶ ***Txamsm and the Children*** – *Txamsm Dit Kabaŋguŋk*. In this story, Txamsm shows his greedy nature, and it gets him into trouble. He wants an easy way to get some food, but he fails again.
- ▶ ***Txamsm Visits Chief Echo*** – *Ts’ilykdis Txamsm Sm’oogit Dildaalt*. In this story, Txamsm shows again his greedy nature. He thinks he can take the highly-prized goat fat without being seen, but the invisible women in Chief Echo’s house spoil his scheme.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is in both English and Sm’algyax
- ▶ a Teacher Guide for the entire Adventures of Txamsm series is also available

After School**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō***PUBLISHER**

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

school, friendship, fun

PUB DATE 2006**PAGES** 19**DESCRIPTION**

Two friends attend an after-school club where they have fun with other children, making crafts and playing. The book emphasizes friendship and positive experiences.

Alego

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Ningeokuluk Teevee, *Inuit* (Nunavut)

ILLUSTRATOR

Ningeokuluk Teevee, *Inuit* (Nunavut)

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTOR

Translated by Nina Manning-Toonoo

PUBLISHER

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

relationship to the natural world, family, traditions

PUB DATE 2009

PAGES 21

DESCRIPTION

Alego is a beautifully simple story about a young Inuit girl who goes to the shore with her grandmother to collect clams for supper. Along the way she discovers tide pools brimming with life — a bright orange starfish, a creepy-crawly thing with many legs called an *ugjunnaq*, a horn-shaped sea snail, and a sculpin. Before the tide comes in, Alego and her grandmother return home with their catch. This is an enchanting and utterly authentic introduction to the life of an Inuit child and her world.

FEATURES

- ▶ written in Inuktitut and English
- ▶ includes an illustrated glossary of sea creatures as well as a pictorial map of Baffin Island

An Aboriginal Alphabet

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Pam Holloway, Kwakwaka'wakw

PUBLISHER

Cedar Moon Creations

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

letters of the alphabet; people, places, and events in First Nations communities

PUB DATE 2013

PAGES 7

DESCRIPTION

This little soft-cover, saddle-stitched book uses captioned photographs to highlight each letter of the alphabet in turn.

Animal World		BC
AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR Ben Houstie, <i>Bella Bella</i>		READING LEVEL K – 1
PUBLISHER Native Northwest		CURRICULUM AREAS ► English Language Arts ► Arts Education (Visual Arts) ► Science (environment and fauna)
		THEMES & TOPICS animals of the BC coast
		PUB DATE 2013 PAGES 14

DESCRIPTION

Each page spread in this attractive little board book introduces two or three characteristic creatures found on BC’s central coast.

FEATURES

- A personal statement from the artist is provided on the back cover to explain his intent and provide a rationale for the contents.

Animals of the Salish Sea		BC
AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER Melaney Gleeson-Lyall		READING LEVEL 1 – 3
ILLUSTRATORS 13 Coast Salish artists		CURRICULUM AREAS ► English Language Arts ► Science ► Social Studies ► Mathematics
PUBLISHER Native Northwest		THEMES & TOPICS marine life, animal species, cultural significance, land/waterways, biology, art
		PUB DATE 2016 PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

This beautifully illustrated book features various marine and land animals found throughout the Salish Sea region. The Coast Salish artists whose illustrations are the book’s primary focus have provided cultural connections for each animal. Biological information about each animal is also included.

As I Remember It: Teachings (ʔəms təʔaw) from the Life of a Sliammon Elder**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Elsie Paul, *Tla'amin* nation**OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

Davis Mckenzie (grandson), Harmony Johnson (granddaughter), and Paige Raibmon

PUBLISHERRavenSpace, in collaboration with UBC Press (see <http://publications.ravenspacepublishing.org/as-i-remember-it/index>)**READING LEVEL** 9 – 12+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

language, wisdom, resilience, oral tradition, protocol, well-being & wellness, healing, land, culture, ceremony, medicine, reciprocity, responsibility, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, trauma, intergenerational trauma, grief & loss, history of colonization, racism, injustice

PUB DATE 2019**PAGES** n/a**DESCRIPTION**

This online publication is adapted from a 2014 UBC Press print publication *Written as I Remember It*, by the same author. It offers a mix of written, visual, and oral materials that immerse the participant in the teachings of Elsie Paul, a Sliammon Elder. Her generosity in speaking and sharing is mesmerizing. An invaluable resource, the first of its kind, this online publication allows the user to choose from “chapters” on territory, colonialism, community, and wellness. Within each chapter, subsections offer further choice of topics to explore. Material is presented from Elsie’s perspective while interweaving Indigenous understandings and perspectives throughout. As Elsie states, this “is not simply content or information”; the stories and teachings have a much deeper meaning and impact. While good for senior secondary students this resource is also recommended for educator professional/personal learning.

FEATURES

- ▶ multiple pathways for engaging with material facilitate user-directed exploration while encouraging active integration of understandings and appreciation of the interconnected nature of the knowledge
- ▶ invokes a traditional First Nations “guest host protocol” in welcoming users to access the teachings, including Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- ▶ connects learning to TK (Traditional Knowledge) labels based on Sliammon language and teachings

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Language – examples cited of slurs and discriminatory language used to put down First Nations people
- ▶ Ethical Actions – impact of colonialism: instances recalled of discrimination, segregation, abuse of power (e.g., police brutality – in one chapter, the author describes an instance in which police shoot her dog), and racist negligence (e.g., Elsie’s grandmother losing her youngest daughter to sickness at residential school)
- ▶ Safety – some references to alcohol consumption (home brew)

Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Dallas Hunt, *Cree* (Wapsewsi First Nation – Swan River)

ILLUSTRATOR

Amanda Strong, *Métis*

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL K – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

Cree language, food, intergenerational relationships, problem solving, ancestral knowledge, friendship, identity, social awareness and responsibility

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 22

DESCRIPTION

A young Cree girl learns how to problem solve when she needs to find the ingredients for her Kôhkum's world famous bannock. With help from her animal friends, she learns some very important lessons.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes *nêhiyawêwin* (Cree) words and teachings, along with a pronunciation guide, recipe

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Belief Systems – Awâsis expresses some beliefs regarding the connections between animals, ancestors
 - ▶ Safety – Awâsis is wandering the woods alone, a situation that would be dangerous for many K-4 children
-

B Is for Basketball: An Alphabet Book

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Teachers and Students of School District No. 50 (Haida Gwaii)

ILLUSTRATOR

Judy Hilgemann

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTOR

foreword by Robert Davidson, *Haida*

PUBLISHER

McKellar & Martin

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Physical Education

THEMES & TOPICS

sports, community, collaboration & co-operation, respect

PUB DATE 2010

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

B is for Basketball is a narrative told in the form of an alphabet book. It was the official book of the 2011 All Native Basketball Tournament. Held in Prince Rupert, BC, for over 50 years, this event is now an important cultural gathering.

Back to Batoche

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERTanya C. Leary, *Salteaux* First Nation**ILLUSTRATOR**

Leanne Franson

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 2 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

sets of 10s, leftover 1s, composing and decomposing numbers to 100, subtracting and adding numbers by 10 without counting, comparing and ordering numbers, skip-counting, comparing digits, Métis culture

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

Told from the point of Raine, a seven-year-old, the book covers a day at the Back to Batoche festival, which celebrates Métis culture. Students experience various cultural events and get to learn (or revisit) a number of math literacy skills.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- ▶ a scannable link to the publisher's website is provided, where one can listen to the book and try an activity

The Bannock Book

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Linda Ducharme, with support from Métis community members

PUBLISHER

Pemmican Publications

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education (diet and nutrition)

THEMES & TOPICS

family, healthy choices

PUB DATE 2015**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

A young Métis girl helps her mother bake bannock for grandfather, who has diabetes. This is a lively and warm-hearted story that helps young readers understand diabetes and the importance of eating well.

FEATURES

- ▶ two bannock recipes are included, one traditional and one with a more contemporary health consciousness

The Barren Grounds

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERDavid A. Robertson, *Cree* (Norway House)**PUBLISHER**

Penguin Random House (Puffin Canada)

www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/606650/the-barren-grounds-by-david-a-robertson/

READING LEVEL 8 – 12**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Science
- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

environment, interconnectedness, Indigenous knowledge, survival, family, relationships

PUB DATE 2020**PAGES** 256**DESCRIPTION**

This title is the first volume of a projected series, “the Misewa Saga.” Morgan and Eli, two Indigenous children forced away from their families and communities, are brought together in a foster home in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Feeling rootless and alienated, they each struggle to fit in at school and at their new home – until they find a secret place, walled off in an unfinished attic bedroom. A portal opens to another reality, Askí, bringing them onto frozen, barren grounds. There they meet Ochek (Fisher), the only hunter supporting his starving community, Misewa. Ochek welcomes the new arrivals, teaching them traditional ways to survive. But as the need for food becomes desperate, they must embark on a dangerous mission to save Misewa before the icy grip of winter freezes everything – including them.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Language – there is occasional profanity but this does not detract from the story
- ▶ Safety – the story is set in another dimension, and some physical and emotional wellbeing intentionally comes into question; but the portrayal is clearly contextualized within the story

Bear & Coyote

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Mike Bowden, *Secwepemc* and *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**Kelsey Jules, *Secwepemc***PUBLISHER**

Strong Nations

READING LEVEL 3 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Physical and Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Indigenous Language study

THEMES & TOPICS

oral narratives, trickster; Indigenous language, teachings, and values; reciprocal relationships, cooperation, community

PUB DATE 2020**PAGES** 24

DESCRIPTION

Kenkéknem (Bear) and Seklép (Coyote) are busy preparing for the long winter months. They have always done this separately. However, Kenkéknem is curious about what Seklép is doing, and he is very hungry. His curiosity and hunger soon get him (and Seklép) into trouble. The two are forced to work and learn together to solve their problems. By reflecting and experiencing together (reciprocal relationships) they realize they have discovered many new stories and ways to prepare food. They gather their relations and tell their stories so they can share this way of learning through connectedness and relationships.

FEATURES

- ▶ integrates Secwépemc language and contains a pronunciation guide to assist the reader

Beaver Steals Fire

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, *Salish*

ILLUSTRATOR

Sam Sandoval, *Salish*

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTOR

story told by Johnny Arlee, *Salish*

PUBLISHER

University of Nebraska Press

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, relationships, collaboration & co-operation

PUB DATE 2008

PAGES 64

DESCRIPTION

A Salish Coyote story, *Beaver Steals Fire* recounts how the animals worked together to obtain fire and help prepare the world for habitation by humans. *Beaver Steals Fire* is an ancient and powerful tale springing from the hearts and experiences of the Salish people of Montana. Steeped in the rich and vital storytelling tradition of the tribe, this illustrated tale teaches both respect for fire and awareness of its significance – themes particularly relevant today.

FEATURES

- ▶ A note to the reader at the beginning asks those who use *Beaver Steals Fire* in the classroom or others who read it aloud to tell or discuss the story only in winter, when snow is on the ground, as this is a strongly ingrained part of tribal seasonal tradition.
- ▶ includes a Brief Guide to Written Salish and the International Phonetic Alphabet

Beneath Raven Moon

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

David Bouchard, *Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Andy Everson (Kwakwaka'wakw)

PUBLISHER

More Than Words

READING LEVEL 5 - 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

trickster, creation, traditional celestial knowledge,

PUB DATE 2012

PAGES 33

DESCRIPTION

Author Bouchard has imagined a story of the moon’s first creation, rendered in the style of a traditional creation story.

FEATURES

- ▶ the story is rendered in both English and Kwak’wala, the Kwakwaka’wakw language
- ▶ includes a CD produced by Mary Youngblood (*Seminole*), featuring flute and other music

Big and Small: with Northwest Coast Native Art

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Native Northwest

ILLUSTRATORS

various (Haida, Bella Bella, Heiltsuk, Coast Salish, Namgis)

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL K

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

sizes (big and small), animal names, coastal First Nations art forms

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 14

DESCRIPTION

Each page of this attractive little board book uses a single word to introduce a particular coastal animal. It affirms the value of all animals, regardless of size.

A Blanket of Butterflies

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Richard Van Camp, Dene (Dogrib/Tlicho Nation)

ILLUSTRATOR

Scott B. Henderson

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 4 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, family, hereditary gifts, WWII, Dene laws, power of the spirit world

PUB DATE 2015**PAGES** 46**DESCRIPTION**

Based on a true story, *A Blanket of Butterflies* is a graphic novel about the importance of cultural ties and the repatriation of significant cultural objects.

When Shinobu, a mysterious Japanese man, arrives in Fort Smith, Northwest Territories to retrieve traditional objects of significance to his family, he encounters hostility and violence. As Shinobu pursues his perilous quest with the help of a local Dene boy (Sonny) and his family, remarkable events unfold, and unexpected relationships emerge.

Bush Pilots

AUTHOR AND PHOTOGRAPHERMichael Kusugak, *Inuit***PUBLISHER**

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**▶ English Language Arts
▶ Social Studies**THEMES & TOPICS**

airplanes, pilots, Nunavut, Northwest Territories

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

With descriptions of different planes, the author (an Indigenous storyteller) describes five bush pilots he has known and flown with. Historic and contemporary photos (including several taken by the author) showcase the landscape of the North, as well as people who live there.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a reference map to help students locate communities and features of the land
- ▶ includes a list of the Big Ideas, as well as “Thinking about My Reading” questions and “Wondering” questions
- ▶ although marketed as part of the publisher’s “Celebrate Canada” series, this title can be purchased individually

Byron through the Seasons

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Dene Children of La Loche and Friends

ILLUSTRATORstudents of Ducharme Elementary, *Dene***PUBLISHER**

University of Nebraska Press

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

seasonal cycle, seasonal activities

PUB DATE 1990**PAGES** 44**DESCRIPTION**

Byron through the Seasons is a story told by Grandfather Jonas and imagined by his grandson, Byron. The balloon diagram in each picture represents the symbolic journey taken by Byron as he listens to stories of what Dene life is like during the four seasons of the year.

This Dene-English story book was produced by the students and teachers of Ducharme Elementary School in La Loche, Saskatchewan, with assistance from local advisors and Elders. Together, they wrote the story, translated it, and worked on the pictures. Their goal was to highlight some aspects of Dene culture that were vital in the past and are still important today. They wanted to show the continuity of a genuine and successful way of life and emphasize culturally significant events and attitudes.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is in both Dene and English
- ▶ written and illustrated by students

Canada's Oldest Sport

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERNadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Jean Morin

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Health & Physical Education

THEMES & TOPICS

counting, lacrosse, addition, subtraction, quantities to 20

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

In a conversation with her children, Rose and Cody, a mother explains the game of lacrosse. They attend a game and encounter a series of opportunities to practise counting, addition, and subtraction skills.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- ▶ a scannable link to the publisher’s website, where one can listen to the book and try an activity, is provided
- ▶ additional “Fast Facts” are provided throughout text

The Canoe He Called Loo Taas

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Amanda Reid-Stevens, *Haida*

ILLUSTRATOR

Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, *Haida*

PUBLISHER

Benjamin Brown Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional technologies (canoes)

PUB DATE 2010

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

Loo Taas is the amazing 50-foot canoe designed by legendary artist Bill Reid and carved by members of the Haida community. Her name means “Wave Eater.” This picture book, told through the eyes of the designer’s daughter, tells the story of how the canoe came to be.

Caring for Me series

AUTHORS

Karen W. Olson, Cree *Anishinaabe* (Peguis First Nation), Denise Lecoy, Penticton Island Band, and Leanne Flett Kruger, *Cree, Métis*

ILLUSTRATORS

Marie-Micheline Hamelin, Inuit/Montagnais and Leonard George, Thompson First Nation, Lytton

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

well-being, nutrition, exercise, hydration, rest, sleep, personal hygiene, oral health, healthy choices, accident & injury prevention, passenger safety, self-reliance, vitality, expression of feelings, appropriate touch, sustainability, recycling, composting, gardening

PUB DATE 2009 rev

PAGES 20

DESCRIPTION

This series consists of six health-oriented books for beginning readers. Key health considerations are identified (nutrition, exercise, rest/sleep) and their importance is explained. Titles in the series are:

Eat, Run, and Live Healthy A school or public health nurse visits a class and she and the teacher discuss with students the importance of nutrition, exercise, and rest/sleep. Also, diabetes — an issue of growing concern in many northern and First Nations communities — is mentioned.

Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Mouth When a young boy accidentally pushes a bead up into his nose, his mother takes him to see a doctor. The doctor takes the opportunity to conduct a check-up, and she and the boy discuss appropriate self-care practices to ensure continued good health of eyes, ears, nose, and mouth.

Healthy Choices, Healthy Lives A child asks his mother about alcohol and cigarette use and she welcomes his questions, explaining the choices adults make. Topics covered include avoiding the use of alcohol and tobacco during pregnancy.

Living Safe, Playing Safe Three episodes featuring different characters focus on Safety at School, Safety in the Kitchen, and Safety on the Playground. In the first two episodes, adults and children discuss dangers to watch out for. In the third episode, a young boy hurts himself at the playground and his mother takes him to get treatment at the hospital.

Looking After Me Baby quail talks about what he has learned from his family. Topics discussed include listening skills, appropriate expression of feelings, personal space, staying safe, responding to inappropriate touch or behaviour from strangers, trust, and family relationships.

Taking Care of Mother Earth A grandmother spends an afternoon doing household “chores” with her grandson. In a light-hearted way, she teaches him about composting, recycling, and growing/gathering/preserving food for the family.

Cedar Readers series		BC
<p>AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR Pam Holloway, <i>Kwakwaka'wakw</i></p> <p>PUBLISHER Cedar Moon Creations</p>	<p>READING LEVEL pre-K – 1</p> <p>CURRICULUM AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ English Language Arts ▶ Mathematics (for <i>Ten Cockles</i>) ▶ Social Studies <p>THEMES & TOPICS relationship with the natural world, traditional knowledge, counting</p> <p>PUB DATE see titles below PAGES 8 (each)</p>	

DESCRIPTION

The eight early reader books in this series each contain simple text along with vivid photographs depicting a range of settings and topics. The titles in the series are:

- ▶ At the Beach (2006)
- ▶ Berries (2006)
- ▶ Cedar (2006)
- ▶ The Echo Mask (2006)
- ▶ Little Cedar, Big Cedar (2006)
- ▶ Northwest Coast Colours (2013)
- ▶ Salmon (2006)
- ▶ Ten Cockles (2006)

Titles can be purchased individually or as a set.

Cedar Readers A to Z series

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Pam Holloway, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

PUBLISHER

Cedar Moon Creations

READING LEVEL pre-K – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

English alphabet letters and sounds used at the beginnings of words, culturally valued activities and items

PUB DATE 2013

PAGES 8 (each)

DESCRIPTION

There are 26 early reader books in this series, one for each letter of the alphabet. The following are titles in this series:

A is for Abalone Shell
 B is for Buttons
 C is for Carve
 D is for Dance
 E is for Eagle
 F is for Fish
 G is for Game
 H is for Harvest
 I is for Insects
 J is for Jewelry
 K is for Killerwhale
 L is for Legend
 M is for Mask

N is for Native Design
 O is for Ovoid
 P is for Plant
 Q is for Quilt
 R is for Regalia
 S is for Shells
 T is for Totem
 U is for Undergrowth
 V is for Vase
 W is for Wings
 X in Six
 Y is for Yummy
 Z is for Zipper

Titles can be purchased individually or as a set.

Ch’askin: A Legend of the Sechelt People

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Donna Joe, *Sechelt*

ILLUSTRATOR

Jamie Jeffries, *Sechelt*

PUBLISHER

Harbour Publishing

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, storytelling, Thunderbird

PUB DATE 2003

PAGES 20

DESCRIPTION

This compelling book recounts how the enormous and awe-inspiring Thunderbird aided and protected the members of the Sechelt villages for many years in many ways. From helping Chief Spelmu’lh (the father of the Sechelt Nation) build both the first longhouse and the many villages of his people, to delivering goats and grizzly bears for the hungry people to eat and creating islands from pebbles for the tired Sechelt hunters to rest, the story of Ch’askin is a story of protection, friendship, and respect for fellow living beings.

Chief Goose

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR OR COMPILER

Mike Bowden, *Secwepemc* and *Métis*

Illustrator

Jules Kelsey, *Secwepemc*

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations

READING LEVEL 3-7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Physical and Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Languages (Indigenous)

THEMES & TOPICS

oral narratives, Indigenous culture, teachings, and values, Indigenous language, leadership, listening, cooperation

PUB DATE 2020

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This is a contemporary story about Kúkwpi7 kwsicw (Chief Goose) who is the leader of his people. The story is about his personal connection to the importance of learning from others. He learns that listening, and allowing his people to help lead the way, is the path to the well-being of the kwsicw (geese) people. Through trial and error Kúkwpi7 kwsicw finally leads his people to a better place to live during the long winter months.

FEATURES

- ▶ This book integrates Secwépemc language and contains a pronunciation guide to assist the reader.

Chiwid

BC

EDITOR AND COMPILER

Sage Birchwater, *Tsilhqot’in*

PUBLISHER

New Star Books

READING LEVEL 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

seasonal cycles, relationships, spirituality, co-operation, rights and responsibilities

PUB DATE 1995

PAGES 128

DESCRIPTION

Chiwid was a Tsilhqot'in woman who spent most of her adult life "living out" in the hills and forests around Williams Lake, BC. *Chiwid* is the story of this remarkable woman told in the vibrant voices of Chilcotin old-timers, both First Nations and non-First Nations. The range of interview sources present a variety of perspectives on Chiwid and her life, providing opportunities for students to compare diverse viewpoints.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence — several interviewees describe domestic violence that Chiwid experienced
- ▶ Language — the term "whiteman" is used
- ▶ Safety — the main character spent the majority of her life in solitude and living off of the land. In many cases, the weather is extreme, and teachers should let students know that they should not try this without the appropriate knowledge and experience

Christmas at Wapos Bay

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Jordan Wheeler and Dennis Jackson, *Cree*

READING LEVEL 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

PUBLISHER

Coteau Books for Kids

**may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

THEMES & TOPICS

family, traditional knowledge

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 134

DESCRIPTION

At Christmas time in Northern Saskatchewan, three Cree kids visit their Moshum's (grandfather's) cabin to learn about traditional ways and experience a life-changing adventure. The kids, who have never lived in the bush, visit their Moshum's cabin to prepare for Christmas. But food is scarce this year, and Moshum is afraid Christmas may have to be cancelled. The kids decide to help by going hunting, but they don't understand how unprepared they are or what danger they're in. They get lost, forcing Moshum to come after them. But when they find him collapsed in the bush, it is the children who have to bring Moshum safely home. The experience helps them to grow in skill and understanding and to become more mature. They learn that they can benefit from two kinds of knowledge — traditional learning through their Elders and the things they learn in school.

This message-laden novel provides a portrait of urban Cree children who learn about the culture and way of life of their Elders.

FEATURES

- ▶ a corresponding Teacher Resource is also available

Chuck in the City

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Jordan Wheeler, *Cree*

ILLUSTRATOR

Christopher Auchter, *Haida*

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

adventure, safety

PUB DATE 2009

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

Follow the adventures of Chuck as he gets lost on his first trip to the big city. Chuck encounters stray dogs and alley cats, kids on skateboards and rollerblades, and tall office towers. After realizing he is lost, Chuck relies on what he has learned to find his way back to his kookum’s (grandmother’s) condo.

Written to excite young readers and to leave a smile on their faces, the book features a rhythmic ebbing and flowing of words and phrases that punctuates Chuck’s exciting escapade.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Stereotypes — the book makes more than one mention of police officers eating doughnuts

The Class Hike

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)
 **may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

relationship to the natural world, traditional knowledge, respect

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 22

DESCRIPTION

A class goes on a field trip and learns about the outdoors, while respecting their surroundings. The passing on of traditional knowledge, from an uncle to the children, takes place in this story.

Cloudwalker

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Roy Henry Vickers (& Robert Budd), *Ts’msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk*

READING LEVEL 3-7

CURRICULUM AREAS

ILLUSTRATOR

Roy Henry Vickers, *Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk*

PUBLISHER

Harbour Publishing

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

weather, river ecology, the water cycle, identity, choices, community

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

This beautifully illustrated version of a traditional Gitksan story can be read aloud and discussed with young children at the prereader or emergent reader stages.

Colour and Draw: Northwest Coast Native Formline

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

various coastal First Nations artists

ILLUSTRATOR

various coastal First Nations artists

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL 4 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

elements and principles of visual composition

PUB DATE 2015

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

This “consumable workbook” begins with the basic elements used to create coastal First Nations formline art. Subsequent pages provide line art samples of many complex images that contributing artists have created using the basic elements. Blank facing pages provide room for learners to attempt their own copies or adaptations of suggested images. Younger students may need additional supplied paper along with assistance and direction to work on single pages (i.e., one at a time). Older students may be able to work more independently.

Colouring Journal: Northwest Coast First Nations and Native Art **BC**

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Melaney Gleeson-Lyall, Musqueam, Coast Salish

ILLUSTRATOR

various coastal First Nations artists

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL 4 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Mathematics (pattern & symmetry)
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

family, identity, goal setting, conflict, patience, personal growth

PUB DATE 2016

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

This “consumable workbook” contains prompts for journal entries and inspirational observations, accompanied by line illustrations that can be elaborated or simply coloured. With younger students, individual pages can be the focus of teacher-supported work. Older students can use it more independently.

Counting to 100 in the Bighouse **BC**

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Pam Holloway, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

PUBLISHER

Cedar Moon Creations

**may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

READING LEVEL K – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

basic numeracy

PUB DATE 2015

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This resource uses images of objects familiar to coastal First Nations as a means of teaching quantity concepts (numbers 1-20, then 30, 40, 50, etc. to 100).

FEATURES

- ▶ includes three pages of counting challenges (prompts) at the back

A Coyote Solstice Tale

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERThomas King, *Cherokee***ILLUSTRATOR**

Gary Clement

PUBLISHER

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL 4 – 6**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education (Social and Emotional Health)

THEMES & TOPICS

Christmas, consumerism, sharing, family, environment, trickster

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 64**DESCRIPTION**

Trickster Coyote is having his friends over for a festive solstice get-together in the woods when a little girl comes by unexpectedly. She leads the party-goers through the snowy woods to a shopping mall – a place they have never seen before. Coyote gleefully shops with abandon, only to discover that filling your shopping cart with goodies, and the experience of the bright lights of the mall is not as fulfilling as he thought it might be.

A Dance Through the Seasons

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Leona Prince, Dakelh (Lake Babine Nation), Nak'azdli

ILLUSTRATORCarla Joseph, *Cree***PUBLISHER**

Fireweed Canada

READING LEVEL 5 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

animals, family, responsibility, seasonal rounds, patience, leadership, land

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 55**DESCRIPTION**

This story is about the journey of Young Woman and Turtle. They move through the seasons together and Young Woman learns that growing up takes patience and time. Leadership comes from within, but also from listening to the world around you. The focus of the story is both one girl's path and the seasonal rounds of the Dakelh (Carrier) people of BC.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes guiding questions

Dancing in My Bones

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Wilfred Burton & Anne Patton, *Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Sherry Farrell Racette, Timiskaming First Nation

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL 4 – 6

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

performance, relationships, beliefs, ceremony

PUB DATE 2008

PAGES 36

DESCRIPTION

Dancing in My Bones, the sequel to the highly successful book *Fiddle Dancer*, returns us to the story of a young Métis boy named Nolin as he continues to discover his Métis heritage. *Dancing in My Bones* takes the reader on a journey to discover Moushoom’s first moose hunt, red lipstick kisses, Uncle Bunny’s fiddling, and the return of the “Bannock Jig.”

FEATURES

- ▶ English text with Michif translation
- ▶ includes Michif glossary
- ▶ includes English narration CD

Dancing with the Cranes

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Jeannette Armstrong, Okanagan First Nation

ILLUSTRATOR

Ron Hall, Okanagan & Thompson First Nations

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

birth, life, death; change; birds/migration; cultural teachings; family; cycles of nature

PUB DATE 2009

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

A young girl is struggling with the arrival of a new baby in her family and the loss of her grandmother. Her father works away from home. Her mother helps her to understand life/death through the teachings of nature.

FEATURES

- ▶ portrays positive personal and cultural identity
- ▶ addresses issues of self-awareness and personal and social responsibility

Darkness Calls

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Steven Keewatin Sanderson, *Cree*

READING LEVEL 5 – 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education (emotional health)

PUBLISHER

Aboriginal Health Network
 **may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

THEMES & TOPICS

well-being, self-reliance, bullying, suicide, depression, mental health

PUB DATE 2010 **PAGES** 48

DESCRIPTION

This graphic novel tells the story of a teenager who is bullied at school, misunderstood by his teacher, and feels socially isolated from his family. He finds one day very overwhelming and considers taking his own life.

FEATURES

- ▶ graphic novel format is appealing for many reluctant readers

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence - contains some violent imagery
- ▶ Safety - the topic of suicide may be sensitive for many students and should be approached with caution

A Day with Yayah

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Nicola I. Campbell, *Nle?kepmx, Syilx, Métis*

READING LEVEL K – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education
- ▶ Indigenous Language Education

ILLUSTRATOR

Julie Flett, *Cree, Métis*

THEMES & TOPICS

harvesting and gathering, plants, caring for Mother Earth, intergenerational relationships, traditional medicines, TEKW (Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Wisdom)

PUBLISHER

Tradewind Books

PUB DATE 2017 **PAGES** 32

DESCRIPTION

Nikki, her Yayah, and the rest of her family go to gather edible plants and mushrooms. During the trip, Yayah teaches about which plants are safe to eat and the traditions of using natural resource technology.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes *Nle?kepmx* backgrounder, pronunciation guide, and glossary

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Safety – Although recognition of edible and non-edible plants & medicines is taught, students should be informed they should never pick, eat, or use wild foods without proper teaching and support from knowledgeable adults.

Deadly Loyalties

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Jennifer Storm, *Ojibway* (Couchiching First Nation)

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 9+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

teen pressures, gang violence, life on the street, choices, belonging

PUB DATE 2007

PAGES 129

DESCRIPTION

Set in Winnipeg, *Deadly Loyalties* is a story of gang life and violence. Blaise, a young First Nations girl, is the only witness when her best friend is murdered by the Reds, a local gang. Turning to a rival gang (the West Bloods) for protection, she must quickly learn to navigate the violent and often volatile world of street gangs or meet the same fate as her friend.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence - Blaise, the main character, survives attempted rape; murder and other gang violence are described
- ▶ Language - there is considerable swearing
- ▶ Ethical/Legal - use of drugs and alcohol are part of the partying scene portrayed in the novel

The Diamond Willow Walking Stick: A Traditional Métis Story about Generosity

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Leah Marie Dorion, *Métis*

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Norman Fleury (Michif translations), *Métis*

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL 4+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

generosity, Métis traditions, respect, thankfulness, intergenerational relationships, protocols, care

PUB DATE 2012

PAGES 48

DESCRIPTION

In this dual-language book (text is in both English and Michif) with illustrations done in Métis dot art style, a Métis Elder recounts teachings from his grandparents with specific reference to the story of the willow tree and the walking stick.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a CD with narration in both English and Michif
- ▶ includes appendices: Métis uses for Willow Trees, Information about Willow Trees, a glossary, and a reflection about James Patrick Brady

Dipnetting with Dad

BC

AUTHOR

Willie Sellars, *Secwepemc*

ILLUSTRATOR

Kevin Easthope

PUBLISHER

Caitlin Press

READING LEVEL 1 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Health

THEMES & TOPICS

family values & community living, multi-generational teaching, coming of age, fishing processes, food preparation

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 46

DESCRIPTION

This engaging autobiographical story portrays the continuity of First Nations (Secwepemc) cultural traditions today.

FEATURES

- ▶ expresses positive personal and cultural identity
- ▶ includes a glossary that can be used to teach young readers about looking up new words
- ▶ a white background where type overlays full-page cartoon-style visuals helps make the text easy to read
- ▶ Lillooet-style cutting technique and “secret ingredients” used by grandmother (but unfamiliar to the neighbours) alludes to intermixing of cultural traditions among varying First Nations

Discover the Animals: First Nations and Native Art Colouring and Learning Book **BC**

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

11 different First Nations artists

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest, various

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

animals, symbolism, and significance of imagery in varied First Nations cultures

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

This colouring book features beautiful line drawings for children to colour as they learn each animal's name. Each page includes a quotation from someone representing a Canadian First Nation explaining the significance of the animal within the traditional culture (a wide range of Canadian First Nations are represented). Note that these quotations are of a much higher reading level and will have to be read aloud to primary students.

Discovering Series**AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR**Neepin Auger, *Cree***PUBLISHER**

Rocky Mountain Books

READING LEVEL K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, trickster, ways of learning

PUB DATE 2017, 2019**PAGES** 30, 32**DESCRIPTION**

This series is available in board book and in softcover forms. There are three recommended titles in the series:

Discovering Animals – The focus is on learning the names of animals in English, Cree, and French.

Discovering Numbers – The focus is on learning the numbers from one to ten in English, Cree, and French.

Discovering Words – The focus is on learning basic words in English, Cree, and French.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is in English, Cree, and French
- ▶ a guide to the pronunciation of Cree words is included

Dream Catcher

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Stella Calahasen, Woodland Cree First Nation

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 5 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

continuity, art, relationship with spirit world

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 92**DESCRIPTION**

When nightmares start troubling her, young Marin goes to her grandmother’s home to see an Elder. After visiting with the Elder Maskwa, Marin better understands her dreams and the importance of ritual, respect, and connection to the Great Spirit, Kici Manitow. With the help of her family, Marin makes a dream catcher. It helps her appreciate herself and her connection to the land and the creatures around her.

FEATURES

- ▶ high interest and easy-to-read
- ▶ of particular interest to girls
- ▶ teaches how to make a traditional dream catcher and explains the background

Dreaming in Indian

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Lisa Charleyboy, *Tsilhqot’in*, and Mary Beth Leatherdale (eds.) with multiple Indigenous contributors**PUBLISHER**

Annick Press

READING LEVEL 8 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

youth perspectives, identity, popular culture

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 128**DESCRIPTION**

This anthology of artwork, writing, and photographs shatters commonly held stereotypes and challenges readers to rethink their own place in the world. Emerging and established Indigenous artists, including renowned visual artist Bunky Echo Hawk and stand-up comedian Ryan McMahon, contribute thoughtful and heartfelt pieces on their experiences growing up Indigenous and how they express their identity through such mediums as art, food, the written word, sport, dance, and fashion.

Eaglecrest Books – Set A

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Lorraine Adams, *Haida*

ILLUSTRATOR

Lorraine Adams, *Haida*

PUBLISHER

Eaglecrest Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

family and community roles

PUB DATE 2009

DESCRIPTION

The stories in this set of 30 short picture books reflect experiences of First Nations children involved in cultural activities and in everyday life at home and school. The books are also leveled to assist teachers in choosing texts that are appropriate for children at various stages of reading.

The following are titles in this series:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ▶ At the Beach | ▶ Skipping Rocks | ▶ The Enormous Rock |
| ▶ Snack Time | ▶ Everett Rides His Horse | ▶ Choosing a Kitten |
| ▶ My big Brother | ▶ Come and Play, Peaches | ▶ Hope’s Necklace |
| ▶ I Like to Read | ▶ Wilson’s Canoe Ride | ▶ Shona Plays the Fiddle |
| ▶ Here Comes the Bus | ▶ Chicken’s Ride | ▶ Summer Adventure |
| ▶ The Big Puddle | ▶ Dennis Rides His Bike | ▶ Climbing the Apple Tree |
| ▶ The Water Slides | ▶ The New Boats | ▶ A Gift for Kohkum |
| ▶ Animals at the Fair | ▶ Time to Play Soccer | ▶ The Basketball Game |
| ▶ Dorothy’s Mittens | ▶ The Lemonade Stand | ▶ Gonzo is Missing |
| ▶ Stuck in the Tree | ▶ Collecting Eggs | ▶ Dorian’s Cast |

Eaglecrest Books – Set B

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Lorraine Adams, *Haida*

ILLUSTRATOR

Lorraine Adams, *Haida*

PUBLISHER

Eaglecrest Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

family and community roles

PUB DATE 2009

DESCRIPTION

The stories in this set of 50 short picture books reflect experiences of First Nations children involved in cultural activities and in everyday life at home and school. The books are carefully levelled to assist teachers in choosing texts that are appropriate for children at various stages of reading.

The following are titles in this series:

- ▶ My Grandma
- ▶ Picking Flowers
- ▶ Going Outside
- ▶ School is Fun
- ▶ My Grandpa
- ▶ In the Forest
- ▶ The Raven
- ▶ Big and Little
- ▶ My Buddy
- ▶ My Family
- ▶ Louie’s Hat
- ▶ The Hungry Pony
- ▶ The Water Toys
- ▶ Holly’s Surprise
- ▶ The Eagle
- ▶ The Frog
- ▶ The Hawk Drum
- ▶ Daffodils for You
- ▶ The Raven Necklace
- ▶ Where is Fluffy
- ▶ The Fishing Trip
- ▶ The Picnic
- ▶ New Slippers
- ▶ Alysha’s Flat Tire
- ▶ The Lost Necklace
- ▶ Helping with Baby
- ▶ Helping Grandma
- ▶ Bonkers is Hungry
- ▶ Going to the Store
- ▶ Fluffy’s Accident
- ▶ Hungry Red Fox
- ▶ The Tree Fort
- ▶ Picking Blackberries
- ▶ The Best Bread
- ▶ Fun on the Sled
- ▶ Crabs for Dinner
- ▶ Anthony’s New Glasses
- ▶ Tree Fort Adventure
- ▶ Hot Moose Stew
- ▶ The Dream Catcher
- ▶ Lost and Found
- ▶ Best Friends
- ▶ Going Camping
- ▶ At the Park
- ▶ Spear Fishing with Dad
- ▶ Dean’s Fish
- ▶ The Sleepover Party
- ▶ The Powwow
- ▶ A Bunny to Love
- ▶ The Dog Sled Ride

The Elders are Watching

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

David Bouchard, *Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Roy Henry Vickers, *Ts’msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk*

PUBLISHER

Raincoast Books

READING LEVEL 5 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Science (Environmental Studies)
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

stewardship, sustainability, environment, sustainability, community, culture, the value of Indigenous knowledge

PUB DATE 2003

PAGES 56

DESCRIPTION

Through a combination of moving poetry and beautiful artwork, this book pleads the cause of respect for the natural environment. It describes how deforestation, mining, over-hunting, over-fishing, the elimination of animal habitats, and unbridled greed have worked together to destroy the Earth, as departed Elders look on in despair and anger. Highlighting the importance of Elders in transferring knowledge and making a difference, even after their lives have ended, the book offers a note of quiet hopefulness that we can create significant change.

Explore the Animals: Northwest Coast First Nations and Native Art Colouring and Learning Book

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

13 different First Nations artists

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest, various

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

animals

PUB DATE 2010

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This colouring book features beautiful line drawings for children to colour as they learn each animal’s name. Quotations from individuals representing a wide range of Canadian First Nations explain the significance of each animal to the traditional culture. These quotations are of a higher reading level and will have to be read aloud to primary students.

Exploring Quatsino

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Marion (Roze) Wright and Sara Child, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

PUBLISHER

Tri-Bands Education Committee and School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island North)

**may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, tradition, family and community roles

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

Told from the point of view of a young Kwakwaka'wakw boy and supported by candid photographs, this book takes the reader on a tour of the village of Quatsino and the daily lives of its residents.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a Kwak'wala glossary

Exploring Ts'ax̓is

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Marion (Roze) Wright and Sara Child, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

PUBLISHER

Tri-Bands Education Committee and School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island North)

**may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, tradition, family and community roles

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

Told from the point of view of a young Kwakwaka'wakw girl and supported by candid photographs, this book takes the reader on a tour of the village of Ts'ax̓is and the daily lives of its residents.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a Kwak'wala glossary

Exploring Tsulquate

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Marion (Roze) Wright and Sara Child, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

PUBLISHER

Tri-Bands Education Committee and School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island North)

**may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, tradition, family and community roles

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

Told from the point of view of a young Kwakwaka'wakw girl and supported by candid photographs, this book takes the reader on a tour of the village of Tsulquate and the daily lives of its residents.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a Kwak'wala glossary

A Family Cookout

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Melissa Purcell, *Thebati Dene Suhne* (Smith’s Landing First Nation, NWT)

ILLUSTRATOR

Leanne Franson

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

estimating and counting to 50, counting to compare, inter-generational relationships, family

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

A family gathers with all the ingredients they need for a summer cookout. As the family prepares the meal, students get a chance to count, estimate, and compare numbers up to 25.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Teaching Guide on inside front cover
 - ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
 - ▶ a scannable link to the publisher’s website, where one can listen to the book and try an activity, is provided
-

Fatty Legs

AUTHORS

Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton, *Inuit*

ILLUSTRATOR

Liz Amini-Holmes

PUBLISHER

Annick Press

READING LEVEL 8 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

residential schooling, family, change, relationships

PUB DATE 2010

PAGES 112

DESCRIPTION

This memoir deals with eight-year-old Margaret Pokiak’s residential school experience. At school, Margaret is tormented by one of the nuns, who takes a dislike to the strong-willed young girl. Intending to humiliate her, the bullying nun gives gray stockings to all the girls except Margaret, who gets red ones, thus becoming the laughingstock of the entire school. Margaret refuses to be intimidated and bravely gets rid of the stockings. Although a sympathetic nun stands up for Margaret, in the end it is this brave young girl who gives the bully a lesson in the power of human dignity.

FEATURES

- ▶ complemented by archival photos from Margaret Pokiak-Fenton’s collection and informative footnotes

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Language: residential school students are referred to in derogatory terms (lazy, stupid) by some school staff
- ▶ Violence: physical neglect and abuse of the students are implied in some of the incidents narrated; in one instance a browbeaten child has an accident and wets herself

Fiddle Dancer

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERWilfred Burton & Anne Patton, *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**Sherry Farrell Racette, *Timiskaming First Nation***PUBLISHER**

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL 4 – 6**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Dance)

THEMES & TOPICS

tradition, relationships, grief and loss, performance

PUB DATE 2007**PAGES** 46

DESCRIPTION

This book is about a young boy and his grandfather and their relationship after the death of the grandmother. The grandfather teaches the young boy how to jig. The boy shows off his new moves at a community gathering where everyone dances to fiddle music.

FEATURES

- ▶ English text with Michif translation
- ▶ includes a CD with music and English narration
- ▶ see also annotation for the sequel, *Dancing in My Bones*

Fire Starters

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERJen Storm, *Ojibwe*

graphic contributors

Scott B. Henderson (illustrator), Donovan Yaciuk (colourist)

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 7-12**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

Racism, honesty, community, mischief

PUB DATE 2016**PAGES** 56

DESCRIPTION

Looking for a little mischief after discovering an old flare gun, Ron and Ben find themselves in trouble when the local gas bar on Agamiing Reserve goes up in flames, and they are wrongly accused of arson by the sheriff's son. As the investigation goes forward, community attitudes are revealed, and the truth slowly comes to light.

FEATURES

- ▶ an age-appropriate graphic novel, marketed by the publisher as part of The Debwe Series

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence, racism, and vandalism/arson – grade appropriate, do not detract from the story
- ▶ Racism and stereotypes – intentional to the storyline

A First Nations Alphabet: ABC Book

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

literacy, traditions

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 50

DESCRIPTION

The book tells many stories through the photographs it contains. The cultural activities and events that take place depict today’s First Peoples, while often giving a glimpse into the past.

A First Nations Alphabet to Read and Draw

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL 1 – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

literacy, traditions, art

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 55

DESCRIPTION

Students read through this alphabet book and draw a picture of the words on the adjacent pages.

FEATURES

- ▶ a great resource for practising reading and writing at the same time
- ▶ includes challenge words at back of book

47,000 Beads

AUTHORS

Koja and Angel Adeyoha, *Lakota*

ILLUSTRATOR

Holly McGillis

PUBLISHER

Flamingo Rampant

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Workplace Skills
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

resilience, identity, two-spirit, belonging, family and community, LGBTQ, Lakota culture and cultural events

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 28

DESCRIPTION

47,000 Beads tells a story about Peyton who loves to dance, especially at pow wow. When Peyton’s auntie notices that she’s been dancing less and less she looks for answers. Peyton shares that she just can’t be comfortable wearing a dress anymore, so Auntie Eyota asks some friends for help to get Peyton what she needs.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a brief glossary

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Sexual Orientation – deals with a young person’s questioning about sexual identity

From Lishamie

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORAlbert Canadien, Dene (*Deh Gah Got'ie* First Nation)**PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 8 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional Dene teaching and learning, residential school experience in NWT, change & the impacts of new settlement on Indigenous societies

PUB DATE 2012**PAGES** 272**DESCRIPTION**

This emotional and poetic memoir about a Dene childhood deals with village life and the residential school experience.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Language & Belief Systems - nuns and priests in a residential school make disparaging comments about the Slavey language and Dene values and beliefs; opposing viewpoints on religion and spirituality are portrayed
- ▶ Violence - portrays physical and mental abuse of children (hitting, kicking, humiliation) by residential school staff

From the Mountains to the Sea (series)

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)
Brenda Boreham

ILLUSTRATOR

Bill Helin

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL K - 2**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

Kwakwaka'wakw ways of life: fishing, culture, values, design; river ecosystems, circle of life

PUB DATE 2015**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

These large-format books contain a mix of photos and illustrations. Each of the three recommended titles targets a specific reading/grade level:

- ▶ ***From the Mountains to the Sea: We Live Here*** – Reading level K; includes a focus on the life-cycle of salmon
- ▶ ***From the Mountains to the Sea: We Share the Seasons*** – Reading level Grade 1; introduces the concepts of seasonal cycle and stewardship
- ▶ ***From the Mountains to the Sea: We are a Community*** – Reading level Grade 2

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an introduction for adults that describes the series and provides background information about each page, (enabling teachers to provide better explanations for students)

From Turtle Island to Gaza

AUTHOR, EDITOR OR COMPILER

David Groulx, Anishinaabe - Ojibwe

PUBLISHER

AU Press (Athabasca University)

READING LEVEL 8 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

colonization, settler, cross cultural, community, land

PUB DATE 2019**PAGES** 70**DESCRIPTION**

This poetry collection weaves together the experiences of Indigenous peoples in settler Canada with those of the people of Palestine, revealing a shared understanding of colonial pasts and presents.

FEATURES

- ▶ is available as a free pdf download from www.aupress.ca/books/120284-from-turtle-island-to-gaza/
-

The Gathering Tree

AUTHORSLarry Loyie, *Cree* with Constance Brissenden**ILLUSTRATOR**

Heather D. Holmlund

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Health

THEMES & TOPICS

health awareness, traditions and healing, self-care, acceptance and inclusion

PUB DATE 2005, 2012**PAGES** 44**DESCRIPTION**

This is a children's book about HIV with a First Nations storyline.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Q&A information about AIDS, separate from the story, at the back (prepared by Melanie Rivers, *Squamish Nation* educator and reviewed by qualified sexual health educators)

The Gift is in the Making: Anishinaabeg Stories

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Leanne Simpson, *Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg* –
Alderville First Nation

ILLUSTRATOR

Amanda Strong, *Métis*

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 5 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

gift giving, tradition, well-being, food,
wisdom & “right behaviour”

PUB DATE 2013

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

The 21 stories in this compilation embody Anishinaabeg values and teachings.

FEATURES

- ▶ some stories include earthy humour, but all reflect values of gentleness and inclusion
 - ▶ stories include many Anishinaabe words, the meanings of which are explained or easily inferable from context
 - ▶ a list of Further Reading titles enables interested readers to pursue related interests
-

A Girl Called Echo (vol. 1 & 2)

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Katherena Vermette, *Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Scott B. Henderson, Donovan Yaciuk (colourist)

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 9+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

resistance, Métis, Pemmican War,
perspective, foster care, time travel, identity

PUB DATE 2017, 2018

PAGES 47 (each)

DESCRIPTION

Governor General Award–winning writer Katherena Vermette has created a compelling work of graphic fiction in four volumes. As of this guide’s publication, the first two have been reviewed and recommended:

- ▶ ***Pemmican Wars*** – Struggling with loneliness in a new school, Echo Desjardins learns about Métis history in her history class. She falls asleep and is transported back in time to the Pemmican Wars.
- ▶ ***Red River Resistance*** – Echo is beginning to create new relationships in her life. She continues to learn about Métis history in her history class. Once more, Echo falls asleep and is transported back in time to the Red River during the summer 1869 and the start of the Red River Resistance.

FEATURES

- ▶ Vol 1 includes a timeline of the Pemmican Wars, a recipe for pemmican, and the lyrics to “The Battle of Seven Oaks” (La Chanson de la Grenouillère)
- ▶ Vol 2 includes a timeline of the Red River Resistance, the Métis list of rights 1870, and a map of the Red River Settlement 1870

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence – both volumes contain mature content with acts of violence, as well as depictions of separation from a parent in treatment and of foster care

Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Chief Jake Swamp, *Akwesasne Mohawk*

ILLUSTRATOR

Erwin Printup, Jr., *Cayuga/Tuscarora*

PUBLISHER

Lee & Low Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

time and place, tradition, well-being, food, wisdom

PUB DATE 2003 revised **PAGES** 24

DESCRIPTION

For as long as anyone can remember, Mohawk parents have taught their children to start each day by giving thanks to Mother Earth. Also known as the Thanksgiving Address, this good morning message is based on the belief that the natural world is a precious and rare gift. The whole universe — from the highest stars to the tiniest blade of grass — is addressed as one great family.

FEATURES

- ▶ a corresponding Teacher Guide is available online at www.leeandlow.com/books/giving-thanks/teachers_guide

The Giving Tree: A Retelling of a Traditional Métis Story

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORLeah Marie Dorion, *Métis***TRANSLATOR**Norman Fleury, *Métis* (Michif translation)**PUBLISHER**

Gabriel Dumont Institute Press

READING LEVEL K – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Michif language studies
- ▶ Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

Métis culture, history, protocols, reciprocal relationships, decision making, and core values (including generosity, courage, honesty, respect, and kindness)

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

This charming story, richly steeped in Métis culture, focuses on the boyhood reminisces of Moushoom as he describes finding the “great giving tree” with his mother and father (where travellers would leave items to help other travellers along the trail). This vibrantly illustrated children’s book is a beautiful retelling of a traditional Métis story.

FEATURES

- ▶ the book is written in both English and Michif (the Métis language); an audio CD provides readings in both languages
- ▶ includes a “Métis Values Wheel” (Red River Cart Wheel Teachings) and glossary with descriptions of Métis values (albeit one perspective only, which is not necessarily universal among Métis people)
- ▶ the Métis three-fold decision making model is explained
- ▶ various appendices and maps on locations, history, and additional resources are provided

Goodbye Buffalo Bay

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERLarry Loyie, *Cree***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 6 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

rites of passage, Elders, residential school, ways of learning

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 141

DESCRIPTION

Goodbye Buffalo Bay is based on the author's own experiences. The main character, Lawrence, just has to make it through his final year of residential school. Then he will never have to set foot in this horrible place again. But despite his efforts to stay out of trouble, he finds himself in a few frightening predicaments: an escape attempt fails, and a stolen gun misfires. Fortunately, his friendships and the tutelage of Sister Theresa help make his last school days bearable. When he finally returns home, however, Lawrence struggles to find acceptance in a community that seems to have forgotten him. He tries a few different jobs and is eventually recognized as a hard worker. With increased confidence and some hard-earned savings, he leaves Slave Lake to fulfill his dream of living in the mountains.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes glossary of Cree words
- ▶ epilogue with historical notes about residential schools
- ▶ a website link to photos is provided

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence — boys play with imaginary guns (Chapter 1); children are mistreated by nuns and priests at the school; in Chapter 10 a nun beats a child’s head into the floor; and in Chapter 12 Father Superior hits a boy who runs away from school; in Chapter 21 Lawrence is attacked by a girl and has scratches all over his face
- ▶ Ethical/Legal — mentions of cigarette smoking
- ▶ Safety — children ride in a grain truck to the residential school, Lawrence steals a gun from the priest’s bedroom in Chapter 7; family is trapped at home during a forest fire; James breaks his leg while working at a mill

Good Morning World

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Paul Windsor (Haisla, Heiltsuk)

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

coastal First Nations art, animals, relationship to the natural world

PUB DATE 2011-14

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

Each two-page spread in this attractive little board book introduces a particular aspect of the ecosystem on the coast, using a repeated “Good morning” greeting that affirms the value of each.

**Goodnight World:
Animals of the Native Northwest**
BC**AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS**

This book is a collaborative project of 26 noted artists of First Nations ancestry from a wide variety of BC coastal First Nations

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

► cross curricular

THEMES & TOPICS

First Nations art, animals, seasons, family, language learning

PUB DATE 2011-14**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

This bedtime-style story features gorgeous artwork focused on the indigenous fauna of coastal BC.

The Great Dogsled Race
AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Darryl Baker, *Inuit*

ILLUSTRATOR

Kukik Baker, *Inuit*

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- Mathematics
- English Language Arts
- Social Studies
- Science

THEMES & TOPICS

estimating sums and differences, modelling and symbolizing addition and subtraction, comparing and ordering quantities to 100, calculating distances, number sentences, dogsledding, Inuit culture, inter-generational relationships, Kivalliq Adventure race

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

Students learn about many details of dogsledding as Natalie and her father Darryl prepare for the Kivalliq Adventure race. Students can use charts with information about dog food, race details, and puppy litters to estimate sums and differences and to compare and order quantities.

FEATURES

- includes a variety of maps, charts, lists, and tables, as well as a Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- a scannable link to the publisher's website, where one can listen to the book and try an activity, is provided

Hearts Unbroken

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERCynthia Leitich Smith, *Muscogee Creek* (Oklahoma)**PUBLISHER**Candlewick Press (order from [Penguin Random House](#))**READING LEVEL** 9 – 10**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

romance, racism, prejudice, integrity

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 304**DESCRIPTION**

When Louise Wolfe’s first real boyfriend mocks and disrespects Native people in front of her, she breaks things off and dumps him over e-mail. It’s her senior year, anyway, and she’d rather spend her time with her family and friends and working on the school newspaper. The editors pair her up with Joey Kairouz, the ambitious new photojournalist, and in no time the paper’s staff find themselves with a major story to cover: the school musical director’s inclusive approach to casting *The Wizard of Oz* has been provoking backlash in their mostly white, middle-class Kansas town. From the newly formed Parents Against Revisionist Theater to anonymous threats, long-held prejudices are being laid bare and hostilities are spreading against teachers, parents, and students.

Hide and Sneak

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERMichael Kusugak, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Vladyana Langer Krykorka

PUBLISHER

Annick Press

READING LEVEL pre-K – 2**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

ways of learning, storytelling, adventure

PUB DATE 1992**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

Allashua, the protagonist, is very mischievous and wanders away from home despite warnings from her parents about being taken by the Ijiraq, a little man who helps children hide but they are never found. One day Allashua gets lost and meets the Ijiraq. Luckily, she finds an inuksugaq (also called an inukshuk), to help her find her way home. This beautifully illustrated book shows students the relevance of traditional stories and figures.

Him Standing

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Richard Wagamese, Ojibway (Wabaseemoong First Nation)

PUBLISHER

Orca Book Publishers (Raven Books)

READING LEVEL 8 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

First Peoples spirituality & dreams, relationships, overcoming adversity, intergenerational teaching, art/carving

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 136**DESCRIPTION**

In this story, Lucas Smoke, a talented carver taught by his Ojibway grandfather, is commissioned by a mysterious stranger to carve a traditional spirit mask. The work leads Lucas into the dream world and engages him in an ancient and epic struggle between darkness and light. Drawing upon his relationship with his deceased grandfather, the strength and support of his girlfriend, and the traditional knowledge of a wise and powerful Elder, Lucas confronts a challenge that threatens his very being.

FEATURES

▶ short, high interest novel for older readers; ideal for English Language Learners (ELL) and literacy programs (part of the “Rapid Reads” series)

Hockey Challenge

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Katherine Maximick

ILLUSTRATORLorraine Adams, *Haida***PUBLISHER**

Eaglecrest Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Health Education

▶ Physical Education

THEMES & TOPICS

well-being, fairness, respect, gender stereotypes

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 56**DESCRIPTION**

Kayla loves hockey, but there is no girls’ team in her community. Will Kayla be allowed to try out for the boys’ team? Will she be accepted if she makes the team?

FEATURES

▶ high interest, low vocabulary chapter book

**Honouring the Salmon (Łuutigm Hoon): An Anthology
Told in the Voices of the Tsimshian**
BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Kenneth Campbell

ILLUSTRATORSVernon Brown, Bill Helin, *Ts'msyen* (Lax Kw'alaams), Judy Hilgemann, *Ts'msyen***PUBLISHER**

Tsimshian Nation and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert)

READING LEVEL 4 – 6**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICSrelationship with the natural world,
traditional knowledge, salmon**PUB DATE** 1999**PAGES** 128**DESCRIPTION**

The Tsimshian voices of yesterday, today, and tomorrow in this rich and varied anthology capture the nature of the relationship the Tsimshian have with salmon.

FEATURES

- ▶ a corresponding Teacher Guide is also available

Hooshum for Everyone
BC**AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō***PUBLISHER**

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL 1 – 2**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, food, sharing

PUB DATE 2006**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

In this story, a student's mother comes to school to make "Indian ice cream" for the class.

How Devil’s Club Came to Be

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERMiranda Rose Kaagweil Worl, *Tlingit***ILLUSTRATOR**Michaela Goade, *Tlingit***PUBLISHER**

Sealaska Heritage Institute

READING LEVEL 1 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Tlingit oral stories, devils club, medicine, shaman, raven

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 34**DESCRIPTION**

This book presents an original story inspired by Tlingit oral traditions. An author’s note indicates this story was written when she was in Grade 9. Raven’s niece sets out to help save her village. She encounters the giant who took the village shaman and learns how to defeat him. In doing so she needs to learn how to heal the illness that affects her village and is shown the powerful medicine of the Devil’s Club.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Safety — Raven’s niece searches for devil’s club and uses it for medicine; students should be advised that medicines and plants ought never to be eaten or harvested without explicit knowledge and consent

How Fox Saved the People (Edàni Nqgèè Dqne Gok’ejdi)

AUTHOR/COLLECTOR

collected by Virginia Football, 1968

ILLUSTRATORJames Wedzin, *Tłjchq /Dogrib***ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS**told by Elder Harry Mantla; translated by Rosa Mantla & Mary Siemens, *Tłjchq/Dogrib***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Social studies, Science

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, importance of caribou as a food source, storytelling, trickster, Indigenous language

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 56**DESCRIPTION**

The people are sad and hungry, for the caribou have disappeared. Yet Raven seems happy and well fed. Only with the help of wolf and fox are people able to solve the mystery, outwit Raven, and find the caribou once more.

How Fox Saved the People is a beautifully illustrated picture book retelling a traditional Dogrib story.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is printed in both Dogrib and English

- ▶ includes a Dogrib orthography and pronunciation chart
- ▶ an accompanying CD-ROM contains audio narration of the story in both Dogrib and English

How Many Frogs Do You See?

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Pam Holloway, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

PUBLISHER

Cedar Moon Creations

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)
- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

basic numeracy

PUB DATE 2011

PAGES 10

DESCRIPTION

This little soft-cover, saddle-stitched book uses a traditional Kwakwaka'wakw image of the frog to teach numbers 1-10.

How Raven Stole the Sun

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Maria Williams, *Tlingit*

ILLUSTRATOR

Felix Vigil, Apache/Pueblo

PUBLISHER

Abbeville Press Publishers

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, storytelling, trickster

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

This book tells the traditional story of how “Raven stole the sun,” a story common in various forms to many Northwest Coast First Peoples cultures.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes background information about the Raven trickster character and the Tlingit people
- ▶ includes a Tlingit glossary

How the Coho Got His Hooked Nose**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Laverne Adams, *Stó:lō*; as told by Teresa Michell, *Stó:lō/Cheam***ILLUSTRATOR**Peter Lindley, *Stó:lō***PUBLISHER**

Coqualeetza Cultural Education Centre

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, storytelling

PUB DATE 2007, 2nd ed. **PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

This is a traditional story about a wonder of nature, explaining how the Coho salmon gets a hooked nose on its way to the spawning grounds. The story is alive with the salmon's struggle and keeps the reader's curiosity alive throughout the adventure. The black and white illustrations bring the underwater world to life as they document the Coho's transformation.

How the Fox Got His Crossed Legs (Edàni Nqèè Wegòò Degèè Adzà)**AUTHOR/COLLECTOR**

collected by Virginia Football, 1968

ILLUSTRATORJames Wedzin, *Tłjchq / Dogrib***ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS**translated by Rosa Mantla & Mary Siemens, *Tłjchq / Dogrib***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, storytelling, trickster, Indigenous language

PUB DATE 2009 **PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

Fox is howling, for he lost his leg to Bear. All the people want to help Fox, but don't know what to do. Raven is called upon to help retrieve his leg. Will Raven succeed in the quest for Fox's leg?

How the Fox Got His Crossed Legs is a beautifully illustrated picture book retelling a traditional Dogrib story.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is printed in both Dogrib and English
- ▶ includes a Dogrib orthography and pronunciation chart
- ▶ an accompanying CD-ROM contains audio narration of the story in both Dogrib and English

How the Robin Got Its Red Breast

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Sechelt Nation

ILLUSTRATOR

Charlie Graigan, *Sechelt*

PUBLISHER

Northwood Editions

READING LEVEL 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

► English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, storytelling

PUB DATE 1993

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

This story from the Sechelt oral tradition tells of how the robin helped the Sechelt people by keeping their fire burning.

I Am Raven

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

David Bouchard, *Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Andy Everson, *Kwakwaka'wakw*

PUBLISHER

More Than Words Publishing

READING LEVEL 4 – 6

CURRICULUM AREAS

► English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

relationship with spirit world, beliefs, trickster

PUB DATE 2007

PAGES 26

DESCRIPTION

This beautifully illustrated book tells the story of the author's search for his totem.

CAUTIONS

- Ethical - the author's spiritual journey is within a particular First Peoples cultural context. Contrary to the advice given by the author to the reader at the end of the book, teachers and students should **not** conduct a similar spiritual discovery without considerable support and advice, ensuring that local cultural protocols are followed

I Can't Have Bannock but the Beaver Has a Dam

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Bernalda Wheeler, *Cree & Saulteaux*

ILLUSTRATOR

Herman Bekkering

PUBLISHER

Eaglecrest Books

READING LEVEL 1 – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

tradition and modernity, traditional foods

PUB DATE 1993

PAGES 26

DESCRIPTION

A young boy asks his mother to make some bannock. The mother explains she can't use her stove until the hydro line is fixed. It all comes down to the fact that a beaver has cut down a tree for his dam. The picture book is set in a modern-day home where traditional foods are cooked.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a recipe for bannock

I Have a Drum

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL 1 – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, sharing

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 14

DESCRIPTION

Alex brings his hand-made drum to school. His class is proud of him and the drum. Alex is proud of his grandfather.

I Help (Niwechihaw)

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Caitlin Dale Nicholson, *Cree / Tahltan*

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

inspired by and Cree translation by Leona Morin-Neilson, *Cree*

PUBLISHER

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, family roles, ceremony

PUB DATE 2008

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This simple-to-read, beautifully illustrated book tells about a boy and his grandmother and what they do together.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is written in both Cree and English

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Other - ceremonial use of tobacco is depicted

I Know I am Precious and Sacred

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Debora Abood, with the support and participation of Elders from the Victoria Native Friendship Centre

PHOTOGRAPHER

Melody Charlie

PUBLISHER

Peppermint Toast Publishing

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

ancestral teachings (value, dignity, and respect), personal identity

PUB DATE 2016

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

I Know I Am Precious and Sacred follows a conversation between a child and loving grandfather as they talk about what the words “precious” and “sacred” mean. These culturally integral concepts are explained in simple, practical terms, so that little ones may recognize how they affect relationships in families and communities. This book is a “sequel” to *I Was Born Precious and Sacred*.

I Like Who I Am

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Tara White, *Mohawk*

ILLUSTRATOR

Lee Claremont, *Mohawk*

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

family, identity, self-reliance, ceremony, traditions, bullying, acceptance

PUB DATE 1993, 2013 **PAGES** 40

DESCRIPTION

A young girl is questioned by her classmates as to why she is on their reserve when she doesn't look like the other kids (because she has blonde hair and blue eyes). This discourages the girl from participating in traditional activities. After talking with her Grandmother, she returns to participating in activities, and even befriends the kids who teased her.

FEATURES

- ▶ explores the idea that First Peoples identity and connection to culture are not based on appearance

I See Me

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Margaret Manuel, Okanagan, Secwepemc

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL pre-K – K

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

early learning, things I can do

PUB DATE 2009 **PAGES** 14

DESCRIPTION

This board book focuses on the things babies do. It is designed to let users add the word from their own First Nations language that translates the key English-language word on each page.

I was Born Precious and Sacred**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Debora Abood, with the support and participation of Elders from the Victoria Native Friendship Centre

COVER ART

Francis Dick, Kwakwaka'wakw

PHOTOGRAPHY

SAGAcorn Productions

PUBLISHER

Peppermint Toast Publishing

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

self-worth, identity, belonging

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

I was Born Precious and Sacred recounts with simple language and poignant photographs the ancestral teachings about the sanctity of every child born into First Nations communities. The repeating reading pattern makes this good for read-aloud and for beginning readers.

If I Go Missing**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Brianna Jonnie, *Ojibwe* (Roseau River FN)

ILLUSTRATOR

Neal Shannacappo, *Nakawe* (Saulteaux – Rolling River FN)

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Nahanni Shingoose *Nahanni/Ojibwe* (Roseau River FN)

PUBLISHER

Lorimer Children & Teens (order from contact@strongnations.com)

READING LEVEL 8 – 12

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies (Social Justice)

THEMES & TOPICS

MMIWG (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls), justice, neglect, UNDRIP, racism, prejudice, stereotype, human rights

PUB DATE 2019

PAGES 64

DESCRIPTION

Combining graphic fiction and non-fiction, this young adult graphic novel serves as a window into one of the unique dangers of being an Indigenous teen in Canada today. The text uses excerpts of a letter written to the Winnipeg Chief of Police by fourteen-year-old Brianna Jonnie — a letter that went viral and was also the basis of a documentary film. In her letter, Jonnie calls out the authorities for neglecting to immediately investigate missing Indigenous people and urges them to "not treat me as the Indigenous person I am proud to be," if she were to be reported missing.

FEATURES

- ▶ a graphic novel that combines fiction and nonfiction content

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence, Safety – context required to discuss stereotypes, prejudice, MMIWG, abuse, addiction

Inquiring Minds: Global Indigenous Peoples series**BC****LEAD AUTHORS**Nadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band), Heidi Wood**OTHER CONTENT CONTRIBUTORS (ARTWORK, PHOTOGRAPHY, ...)**Joanne Chrona, *Ts'msyen*, plus contributors from featured global Indigenous communities**PUBLISHER**

Pearson Canada (Schools)

<http://pearsoncanada.ca/inquiringminds>**READING LEVEL** 3+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Workplace Skills
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

honouring the culture, land, language, and the people; life cycles

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 36-44**DESCRIPTION**

The “Inquiring Minds” collection is a BC-centric set of resources designed to support teachers working with BC’s social studies curriculum at the Grades 3-7 levels. The “Global Indigenous Peoples” series is a component of the “Inquiring Minds” collection aimed at a Grade 3+ student population. It includes 4 separate titles:

- ▶ ***The Land is Our Home*** This 36-page book focusses on two BC First Nations – the Gitga’at and the Tsay Keh Dene and one First Nation from Brazil – the Kaiowá-Guaraní. It deals with how they are connected to the land, to water, and to the plants and animals where they live.
- ▶ ***Our Words, Our Stories*** This 36-page book is about the languages and stories of two BC First Nations – the Haida and the Sto:lo. It also about the Kanaka Maoli of Hawaii. A picture box focussing on the eagle showcases the connections to the land and the environment among First Nations on the BC Coast, and the volume includes a Haida story, “Raven and Eagle” – retold by GwaaGanad Diane Brown as told to her by her father, Gaahlaay Watson Pryce.
- ▶ ***Honouring Our Ways*** This 44-page book is about the celebrations, ceremonies, and traditions of several Indigenous Nations from BC, across Canada, and other parts of the world. A picture box focussing on the salmon showcases the connections to the land and the environment among First Nations on the BC Coast, and the volume includes a pertinent story retold with permission by renowned Musqueam artist, Susan Point.
- ▶ ***Our Ancestors, Our Families*** This 36-page book is about two BC First Nations, Kwakwaka’wakw and the Secwepemc, and the Māori Peoples of New Zealand – what their communities are like, and how people live and work. The coyote, identified as a trickster in some Indigenous traditions, is showcased in this book.

FEATURES

- ▶ charts and graphs provide some of the information
- ▶ includes scan codes for supporting documents such as video, sound files, pictures
- ▶ online student companion and teacher’s guide are available
- ▶ includes language pronunciation chart and suggested inquiry questions and explorations

Jack and the Boys Adventure Series**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Delia Dumont and Lorraine Adams ed., *Haida***ILLUSTRATOR**Lorraine Adams, *Haida***PUBLISHER**

Eaglecrest Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, traditional technologies, relationship to the natural world, citizenship & service, sharing, fairness, respect, friendship

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 56**DESCRIPTION**

This series, featuring Jack the dog and his human friends, includes four titles:

- ▶ ***Adventure on Gull Island*** Brian and Adrien head out in their canoe to Gull Island with their dog, Jack. They are all having a great time fishing and exploring the island until something goes terribly wrong!
- ▶ ***Eagle's Cry*** Jack and the boys set off on a hike when suddenly they hear a gun shot. Jack leads the boys to an injured eagle. Was the eagle shot? Will he survive? Where did the shot come from?
- ▶ ***Mountain Biking Adventure*** Adrien and Glynn head up the trails on their mountain bikes. Suddenly they spot smoke coming from one of the cabins.
- ▶ ***Soccer Adventure*** Adrien and Glynn make it to the soccer tournament finals. When the game ends, the boys aren't focussed on the score. Instead, they're watching their dog Jack. Why is he with the boy from the other team?

FEATURES

- ▶ high interest, low vocabulary chapter book for young readers

Jenneli's Dance**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Elizabeth Denny, *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**Christopher Auchter, *Haida***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Dance)
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

performance, traditional knowledge, diversity, belonging

PUB DATE 2008**PAGES** 44

DESCRIPTION

Children of all ages will be able to relate to the main character in *Jenneli’s Dance*. Jenneli is the child who doesn’t seem to excel at anything and who feels as if she isn’t good at anything. She is often the victim of bullying and teasing. Jenneli is shy and feels different from the other children at school. Her hair and skin are darker, her eyes are an unusual colour, and the bannock in her lunch is different from the bread in the other students’ lunches. She is also certain that other students are not even aware of her favourite music: fiddle music. No wonder Jenneli deals with low self-esteem.

Jenneli’s Dance is a story that illustrates the importance of recognizing and appreciating each other’s differences. It highlights the need to expose children to a broad range of skills, talents, and cultural traditions to develop an appreciation of diversity.

The Jingle Dancer		BC
AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR Noreen Pankewich, <i>Stó:lō</i>	READING LEVEL 1 – 2 CURRICULUM AREAS ▶ English Language Arts	
PUBLISHER School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson) **may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings	THEMES & TOPICS performance, traditional knowledge, belonging	
	PUB DATE 2006	PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

In a clear demonstration of cultural pride and family ties, Jenna tells her friends about the upcoming pow wow. Her friends are excited and want to attend the pow wow with her.

The Journey: North American Indigenous Games	
AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER Lorraine Adams, <i>Haida</i>	READING LEVEL 4 – 6 CURRICULUM AREAS ▶ English Language Arts ▶ Health Education ▶ Physical Education
ILLUSTRATOR Lorraine Adams, <i>Haida</i>	THEMES & TOPICS respect, fairness, self-reliance, identity, competition
PUBLISHER Eaglecrest Books	PUB DATE 2010 PAGES 64

DESCRIPTION

Follow Michelle’s personal journey as she participates in the North American Indigenous Games. As Michelle travels on her own for the first time, she meets athletes from all over North America, participates in a sport she loves, and is introduced to her First Nations culture.

FEATURES

- ▶ high-interest, low-vocabulary chapter book

- ▶ since it features a teenage protagonist, this book may also be appropriate for older students with reading difficulties

The Journey of Dog Salmon

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Bruce Martin, *Tla-Keesh-Pihk-Uh*; adapted by Donna Klockars & Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)

ILLUSTRATOR

Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publications

READING LEVEL 1 – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

respect, bullying

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 18

DESCRIPTION

Dog Salmon is the bully of the river. The other salmon need to work together to teach him the importance of empathy and change.

Just a Story

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Steven Keewatin Sanderson, *Cree*

PUBLISHER

Aboriginal Health Network
 **may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

READING LEVEL 5 – 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

self-reliance, identity, belonging, well-being

PUB DATE 2010

PAGES 48

DESCRIPTION

Wendy doesn't have any friends her age and feels overwhelmed at school. Her little brother is more social but he's quick to lose his temper and get into fights. Something is clearly bothering them both. Good thing they're open to getting help and breaking down the stigma of mental health.

FEATURES

- ▶ graphic novel format

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence — contains some mildly violent imagery
- ▶ Other — the topic of parents fighting is sensitive for many students and will have to be approached with caution

Just a Walk**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Jordan Wheeler, *Cree***ILLUSTRATOR**Christopher Auchter, *Haida***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

relationship to the natural world

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

A young boy named Chuck goes for a simple walk that turns into a day of crazy adventure. Chuck encounters animals, fish, and birds that lead him on a wild journey through their various habitats.

Keepers of the Earth: Native Stories and Environmental Activities for Children**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac, *Abenaki***ILLUSTRATOR**John Kahionhes Fadden & Carol Wood, *Akwesasne Mohawk***PUBLISHER**

Fifth House Publishers

READING LEVEL 3-5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Drama)
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

tradition, sustainability, storytelling, respect, relationship to the natural world

PUB DATE 1988**PAGES** 209**DESCRIPTION**

First Peoples' stories combine with related hands-on activities to inspire children with a deep respect for the Earth and Indigenous cultures in this critically acclaimed book. *Keepers of the Earth* uses an interdisciplinary approach to introduce environmental concepts to children. The activities address many areas of learning and are designed to engage all of the senses.

Keepers of the Night: Native Stories and Nocturnal Activities for Children

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac, *Abenaki*

ILLUSTRATOR

David Kanietakeron Fadden, *Akwesasne Mohawk*

PUBLISHER

Fifth House Publishers

READING LEVEL 3-5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Arts Education (Drama)
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, beliefs, storytelling, relationship to the natural world

PUB DATE 1994 revised **PAGES** 168

DESCRIPTION

Night is more than just a period of time between sunset and sunrise. It is another world, fascinating and mysterious to children curious about the night and its nocturnal inhabitants. This book combines Indigenous stories with hands-on activities to encourage children to explore the night world. By studying astronomy, First Peoples' beliefs, nighttime weather, and North American nocturnal plants and animals, children learn to appreciate the importance of night in the natural cycle and overcome common fears about the nighttime world.

Kou-Skelowh/ K^wu squilx^w – We are the People: A Trilogy of Okanagan Legends

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Okanagan Tribal Council & Elders

ILLUSTRATOR

Barbara Marchand

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

animals; respect, humour, relationship of people and the natural world; the origins of coyote as trickster

PUB DATE 1984, 2009 **PAGES** 86

DESCRIPTION

This dual-language book (English and Syilx) presents three authentic Okanagan stories as told by Elders: “How Food was Given,” “How Names were Given,” and “How Turtle Set the Animals Free.”

FEATURES

- ▶ text is printed in both Syilx and English, and a glossary of Syilx words is included at the back
- ▶ a preface outlines the interesting publishing history of this collection

**Learn from the Animals of the Salish Sea: Coast Salish
Native Art Colouring and Learning Book**
BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

11 different Coast Salish artists

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest, various

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science (biology & ecology)
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

animals

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

This colouring book features beautiful line drawings for children to colour as they learn each animal's name.

Each page includes a quotation from contributing Coast Salish artists, telling the significance of the animal to the traditional culture. Note that these quotations are of a much higher reading level and will have to be read aloud to primary students.

Learn the Alphabet with Northwest Coast Native Art (board book)
BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Native Northwest, various

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest — Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Namgis, Salish, and Ts'msyen artists

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – K**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

literacy, alphabet

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 10**DESCRIPTION**

This alphabet book features beautiful First Peoples artwork from a range of Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Namgis, Salish, and Tsimshian artists.

Learn the Colours with Northwest Coast Native Art (board book)**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Native Northwest, various

ILLUSTRATORNative Northwest — *Bella Bella*, Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Namgis, Salish, and *Ts'msyen* artists**PUBLISHER**

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – K**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

literacy, colours

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 10**DESCRIPTION**

This “learn the colours” book features beautiful First Peoples artwork from a range of Bella Bella, Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Namgis, Salish, and Tsimshian artists.

Learn to Count with Northwest Coast Native Art (board book)**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Native Northwest, various

ILLUSTRATORNative Northwest — Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Namgis, and *Ts'msyen***PUBLISHER**

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – K**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

numeracy, counting

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 10**DESCRIPTION**

This counting book features beautiful First Peoples artwork from a range of Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, Namgis, and Tsimshian artists.

Learn and Play (board books)**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORS**

series titles developed by Native Northwest (publisher) with various First Nations artists contributing images

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest — various

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

literacy, symbols, counting, colours, ABCs

PUB DATE 2010-14**PAGES** 18

DESCRIPTION

Two related “Learn and Play” titles (*Learn and Play with Northwest Coast Native Art* and *Learn and Play with First Nations & Native Art*) each feature simple text and activities supported by beautiful First Peoples artwork. Although the latter title is somewhat scattered in its selection of topics and artists (mixing imagery from eastern Cree and BC coastal artists with little attempt to differentiate) both should prove lively and engaging for early readers.

The Legend of the Caribou Boy

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERJohn Blondin, *Dogrib***ILLUSTRATOR**Ray McSwain, *Dene***ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS**

translated by Mary Rose Sundberg

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, rites of passage

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

A young boy is having trouble sleeping at night. He is being called to fulfill his destiny, a destiny which lives on today in the traditions and culture of the Dene people and their relationship to the caribou and the land on which they live.

The Legend of the Caribou Boy is a beautifully illustrated picture book retelling a traditional Dogrib story.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is printed in both Dogrib and English
- ▶ an accompanying CD-ROM contains audio narration of the story in both Dogrib and English

Lessons from Mother Earth

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Elaine McLeod, First Nation of Na-cho Nyak Dun (Yukon)

ILLUSTRATOR

Colleen Wood

PUBLISHER

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL pre-K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science (ecology and stewardship)

THEMES & TOPICS

resource gathering, protocols, sustainability, environment, Indigenous connection to the land, intergenerational teaching

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 24

DESCRIPTION

In this gentle story, Tess learns from her grandmother that her “garden” is all of nature that surrounds her. As they pick plants and berries with care and respect Tess discovers that if she cares for the Earth it will provide for her just as it provided for generations past. The text is complemented by beautiful watercolor illustrations.

Let’s Go! A Harvest Story

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Hannah Lindoff

ILLUSTRATOR

Michaela Goade, *Tlingit*

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

commissioned by Sealaska Heritage’s Baby Raven Reads initiative

PUBLISHER

Sealaska Heritage Institute

READING LEVEL 1 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Socials Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

southeast Alaska, subsistence, harvesting, preserving, natural cycles, seasonal rounds, connections to the land, connections to the ocean, Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 34

DESCRIPTION

Told in the second person, this book cycles through the seasonal rounds with descriptions of what is harvested in Southeast Alaska at the different times of the year. The story has a quick pace and illustrations of a family on the land.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes footnotes with Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian language translations of key words
- ▶ includes a short essay at the end of the story (“Subsistence in Southeast Alaska”).

Let’s Play Waltes: A Traditional Mikmaq Game

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Kyla Bernard, *Mi’kmaq* (Eskasoni First Nation)

ILLUSTRATOR

Ian Crysler (photography)

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Socials Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Count to 10, compare to 10, compose and decompose to 10, Mi’kmaq culture, games, inter-generational relationships

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

The book is a conversation between young Callie and her grandfather. He teaches her to play the Mi'kmaq game of Waltes, and students have the opportunity to practice counting and keeping score.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes game instructions for Waltes
- ▶ includes Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- ▶ a scannable link to the publisher's website if provided, where one can listen to the book and try an activity

Lightfinder**AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**

Aaron Paquette, *Métis* (Cree/Cherokee and Norwegian)

PUBLISHER

Kegeponce Press

READING LEVEL 8 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

family, relationships, transformation, personal identity, connection of the traditional and modern, survival

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 240

DESCRIPTION

Lightfinder is a young adult fantasy novel. Aisling, a young Cree woman, sets out into the wilderness with her Kokum (grandmother), Aunty, and two young men she barely knows to find and rescue her runaway younger brother, Eric. Along the way she learns that the legends of her people might be real and that she has a growing power of her own. The story focusses on Aisling and Eric, siblings unwittingly thrust into an age-old struggle for the future of life on earth.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence - includes some violent incidents that teachers may need to discuss with students

Little Bear's Vision Quest**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Diane Silvey, *Sechelt*

ILLUSTRATOR

Joe Silvey, *Sechelt* with Butch Dyck, *Songhees* (back cover)

PUBLISHER

School District No. 61 (Greater Victoria)

READING LEVEL K – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science (ecology and stewardship)

THEMES & TOPICS

respect, responsibility, friendship, kindness, patience, interconnectedness

PUB DATE 1995

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This full-colour story book teaches the importance of respect for others. The book deals with name calling, initially showing the main character, Little Bear, as selfish and inconsiderate of others' feelings. Little Bear learns to value the traditions of his ancestors, though, and through the daily ritual of cleansing himself becomes in tune with nature.

FEATURES

- ▶ discussion questions are included for parents and teachers

Little Cedar, Big Cedar**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Pam Holloway, *Kwakwaka'wakw***PUBLISHER**

Cedar Moon Creations

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

early numeracy

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 14**DESCRIPTION**

Written from the point of view of the cedar tree itself, this resource for emergent readers emphasizes the importance of the cedar for Kwakwaka'wakw and other BC coastal peoples.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a set of 20 “flash-type” cards showing images and text (cedar trees, bark, created objects) to encourage word recognition; also includes 2 blackline sheets featuring First Nations imagery that students can colour
- ▶ a brief backgrounder at the end gives information about the many purposes served by cedar

The Little Duck (Sikihpsis)**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Beth Cuthand, *Cree***ILLUSTRATOR**

Mary Longman, Gordon First Nation

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Cree text by Stan Cuthand

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

belonging, identity, self-esteem

PUB DATES: 1999, 2013**PAGES** 28

DESCRIPTION

Little Duck lives alone in a muddy swamp close to a camp of Plains Cree People. When he observes the Cree peoples' beauty and grace, the lonely duck decides he would like to be a Plains Cree dancer. *The Little Duck* is an engaging story with wide appeal. Because the desire to fit in with one's surroundings matters to most people, the story transcends cultural boundaries. The book teaches that we should be striving to improve our sense of self-worth.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is in both English and Cree

The Little Hummingbird**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, *Haida***PUBLISHER**

Greystone Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

relationship with the natural world, wisdom

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

This inspiring children's book — a revised edition of the award-winning *Flight of the Hummingbird* — is based on a South American Indigenous story about a courageous hummingbird who defies fear and expectations to save the forest from fire. The story is supplemented by a natural and cultural history of hummingbirds, as well as an inspiring message from Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai. The evocative artwork by renowned Haida artist Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas complements this optimistic tale that encourages us to take responsibility for our home and the planet.

Little You**AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Richard Van Camp, *Dene* (Dogrib/Tlicho Nation)**ILLUSTRATOR**Julie Flett, *Métis, Cree***PUBLISHER**

Orca Book Publishers

READING LEVEL pre-K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

individuality and uniqueness, identity, parental love, rhyming

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

This beautifully illustrated board book affirms parental love and the uniqueness of each child.

The Littlest Sled Dog

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERMichael Kusugak, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Vladyana Krykorka

PUBLISHER

Orca Book Publishers

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

belonging, identity

PUB DATE 2008**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

Igvillu is a little dog who dreams of becoming a sled dog. When Igvillu is adopted from her kennel by an Inuit storyteller and moves to northern Canada, she comes face-to-face with real sled dogs. Igvillu loves living in the North, chasing siksiks and dreaming about her future. She's a dog who believes anything is possible! This beautiful picture book is a clever, joyful, playful celebration of creative language in sound, rhyme, rhythm, and repetition.

Long Powwow Nights

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERDavid Bouchard, *Métis* & Pam Aleekuk, *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**Leonard Paul, *Mi'kmaq***OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**Patsy Paul-Martin, *Mi'kmaq* (translation)Buffy Sainte-Marie, *Cree/Mi'kmaq* (Piapot Plains Cree First Nation) (music)**PUBLISHER**

Red Deer Press

READING LEVEL 6+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Second language study (Mi'kmaw, French)

THEMES & TOPICS

powwow, Mi'kmaw, intergenerational relationships, remembrance

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 13**DESCRIPTION**

A single long-form lyric poem, *Long Powwow Nights* is an elegy that honours the traditions and life-lessons taught by the speaker's mother. The poem and Leonard Paul's illustrations celebrate powwow without explaining it. It is translated into Mik'maw on each page.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a CD containing poem spoken in English by Bouchard (Track 1), "Darling, Don't Cry" sung by Sainte-Marie (Track 2), poem spoken in Mi'kmaw by Paul-Martin (presumably; Track 3), and "Darling, Don't Cry" reprise
- ▶ available in a French-language version

CAUTION

- ▶ Language – English-language version of the poem includes some phrases in Cree

The Mask that Sang

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERSusan Currie, *Cayuga***READING LEVEL** 6+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

PUBLISHER

Second Story Press

THEMES & TOPICS

bullying, adoption, family, friendship, Cayuga ways, urban reserve, the 60s scoop (implied)

PUB DATE 2016**PAGES** 192**DESCRIPTION**

Twelve-year-old Cass and her mother unexpectedly inherit a new home, where Cass finds a wooden mask in a drawer. Cass embarks upon a quest to learn more about the masks, building a new friendship and discovering connections to the local Cayuga community (author Susan Currie is an adopted person who discovered her Cayuga heritage as an adult).

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence – contains descriptions of physical bullying and references to the Indian Residential School experience
- ▶ Language – verbal bullying is portrayed, including socio-economic and racist insults (but no profanity)
- ▶ Safety – twelve-year-olds are unsupervised in a variety of urban environments

Mayuk the Grizzly Bear

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Sechelt Nation

READING LEVEL 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

ILLUSTRATORCharlie Graigan, *Sechelt***THEMES & TOPICS**

traditional knowledge, storytelling

PUBLISHER

Harbour Publishing (formerly published by Northwood Editions)

PUB DATE 1993**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

This story from the Sechelt oral tradition tells of three brave hunters and their encounter with a cunning grizzly bear.

Medicines to Help Us

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORChristi Belcourt, *Métis***OTHER CONTRIBUTORS (PHOTOGRAPHY)**

Chamberlain, Fyon, Harris, Johnsson, Pittillo, Quinn, Stockert, Van den Bos

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL 6 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Science
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

medicinal plants in the homeland of the Métis, health and wellness, culture and language, geography (Canadian places), artwork (beadwork)

PUB DATE 2007**PAGES** 80**DESCRIPTION**

Built around a set of 27 paintings by Métis artist and author Christi Belcourt (each focussing on a particular plant), this resource honours the centuries-old healing traditions of Métis women. The artwork and commentary fuse Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and western science. With contributions from Métis Elders Rose Richardson and Olive Whitford, *Medicines to Help Us* describes Métis healing traditions and covers various uses of each highlighted plant (e.g., for making functional objects, as food, as medicine – in the form of edibles, teas, washes, inhalants).

FEATURES

- ▶ book is available on its own or with a set of 27 display prints
- ▶ key Michif phrases and terminology pertaining to the content are included

Memory Book

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Nadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Kim Lafave

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

2-D shapes, 3-D solids, maps, positional language

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

After Art and his family move to the city, he receives a Memory Book from his Aunt Mary to help him feel close to his Shuswap home. While they read, students can use the map to locate and identify 2-D and 3-D shapes.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- ▶ a scannable link to the publisher’s website, where one can listen to the book and try an activity, is provided

Métis Christmas Mittens

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Leah Marie Dorion, *Métis*

TRANSLATOR

Norman Fleury, *Métis* (Michif translation)

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute Press

READING LEVEL K – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Michif language studies
- ▶ Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies
- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

mittens, Métis, protocols, clothing, design, beading

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 42

DESCRIPTION

Holidays are a special time for Métis. One special gift often made for loved ones are mittens. Learn about the protocols, importance, and traditions of the Métis mittens.

FEATURES

- ▶ the book is written in both English and Michif (the Métis language); an audio CD provides readings in both languages
- ▶ includes mitten templates

Missing Nimâmâ

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Melanie Florence, *Cree*

ILLUSTRATOR

François Thisdale

PUBLISHER

Clockwise Press

READING LEVEL 5 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

loss, family, social justice, identity, community

PUB DATE 2015

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

Kateri is a young girl, growing up in the care of her grandmother. As her story unfolds, it becomes evident that her absent mother is one of Canada's murdered and missing Indigenous women. This reality is handled in a respectful and sensitive manner. We see Kateri reaching important milestones (her first day of school, first dance, first date, wedding, first child). All the time, her mother is always there, watching her child growing up without her.

FEATURES

- ▶ the story is told from two points of view: the child's and the mother's (each with its own font)
- ▶ an informative Appendix provides helpful background information to support discussion of the story

The Moccasins**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Earl Einarson, *Ktunaxa***ILLUSTRATOR**Julie Flett, *Cree/Métis***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

family, belonging

PUB DATE 2008**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

This endearing story is of a young Indigenous foster child who is given a special gift by his foster mother. Her gift of warmth and thoughtfulness helps the child by encouraging self-esteem, acceptance, and love. This story, based on the author's personal experience, speaks to children of all backgrounds, offering a positive message of unconditional love.

Moonshot: The Indigenous Comics Collection, vol. 1 & 2**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Hope Nicholson (ed.) with various Indigenous (and non-Indigenous) contributors

PUBLISHER

AH! Comics (Alternate History Comics Inc.)

READING LEVEL 7+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Indigenous storytelling, contemporary interpretations of traditional stories, identity, intergenerational teaching

PUB DATE 2015, 2017**PAGES** 176, 164**DESCRIPTION**

Moonshot is a two-volume collection of short graphic-novel-style stories created by Indigenous writers and artists in Canada and the US. Entries range from traditional stories to visions of the future. The traditional stories presented are with the permission of Elders in their respective communities. Following up on the success of vol. 1 (2015), vol. 2 (2017) offers 14 more graphic stories, each of which involves collaboration of an Indigenous storyteller and a celebrated artist.

FEATURES

- ▶ introductions to each story set a context and provide biographical information about each author and illustrator
- ▶ vol. 2 contains a Foreword by James Leask, an Introduction by Michael Sheyahshe, and an Afterword by Elizabeth LaPensée; a behind-the-scenes sketchbook is also included

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Belief Systems – some vol. 1 stories include references to cannibalism; one story in vol. 2 contains sexual images
- ▶ Violence – some vol. 2 stories contain instances and graphic portrayals of physical and emotional violence; issues raised include Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and youth suicide
- ▶ Other – minor historical inaccuracies/anachronisms (e.g., characters wearing headbands in “Home,” “Ayantsach”)

Mothers of Xsan Series**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Hetxw’ms Gyetxw (Brett D.) Huson, *Gitxsan***ILLUSTRATOR**Nataxha Donovan, *Métis***PUBLISHER**

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 5 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

life cycle, salmon, Gitxsan traditional territory, interconnectedness, environment, Indigenous knowledge, survival

PUB DATE 2017, 2019 **PAGES** 22, 32**DESCRIPTION**

Focussing on key animal species that inhabit the Gitxsan traditional territories, the “Mothers of Xsan” series titles are available in hardcover and eBook formats. Already recipients of publishing awards for excellence, two of the planned series titles have been reviewed and recommended here:

- ▶ ***The Sockeye Mother*** The story of the life cycle of the sockeye salmon and the interconnected relationship between the salmon, the land, and the Gitxsan.
- ▶ ***The Grizzly Mother*** For the Gitxsan people of Northwestern BC, the grizzly is an integral part of the natural landscape; Gitxsan and grizzly share the land and forests that the Skeena River runs through, as well as the sockeye salmon within it; follow mother bear as she teaches her cubs what they need to know to survive on their own.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Gitxsan background page and territory map
- ▶ supported by an online video pronunciation guide (www.portageandmainpress.com)
- ▶ for series information (including pending further volumes) and samples, see <https://www.portageandmainpress.com/Series/M/Mothers-of-Xsan>

Mouse Celebrates the Winter Solstice**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Bill Helin, Ts'msyen (Lax Kw'alaams)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing Inc.

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

family, tradition, solstice

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

This beautifully illustrated poem celebrating the winter solstice includes explanations, in both a Preface and a follow-up addendum. It can be used either as a read-aloud or with emergent readers.

My Elders Tell Me**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Marion (Roze) Wright, *Kwakwaka'wakw***ILLUSTRATOR**

Judy Hilgemann

PUBLISHER

Tri-Bands Education Committee and School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island North)

READING LEVEL 3 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Health Education

▶ Science

▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

seasonal cycle, Elders, tradition, family and community roles

PUB DATE 1996**PAGES** 106**DESCRIPTION**

Based on input from the Elders of Quatsino, Fort Rupert, and Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw, Marion Roze Wright gathered materials and consensus for this anthology, rendered as a season-by-season story about two nine-year-old cousins who live near Port Hardy.

This wide-ranging volume provides some Kwakwala language terms and educational sidebars and contains factual information as it tells the story of two cousins and their adventures and experiences throughout the seasons. An index allows readers to quickly find specific information they may be seeking.

My Family Has Fun**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō***READING LEVEL** pre-K – K**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

**may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

THEMES & TOPICS

family

PUB DATE 2006**PAGES** 18**DESCRIPTION**

This book shows an extended family enjoying each other's company and spending quality time together.

My First Métis Lobstick**AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Leah Marie Dorion, *Métis***READING LEVEL** 2 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Social Studies

▶ Science

▶ Michif language studies

▶ Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies

▶ Arts Education

TRANSLATORNorman Fleury, *Métis* (Michif translation)**THEMES & TOPICS**

Métis, culture, history, protocols, fur trade, geography, lobstick, spruce tree

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute Press

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 72**DESCRIPTION**

Through the eyes of a young boy, young readers learn about the importance of lobstick making and ceremony in Métis communities during the fur trade of the 1800's.

FEATURES

- ▶ the book is written in English and Michif (the Métis language); an audio CD provides readings in both languages
- ▶ includes a glossary, maps, an explorer's account of lobsticks, and information on traditional Métis uses of spruce

CAUTION

- ▶ Socio-Economic – the story portrays very rigidly traditional male/female societal roles, due to the historic setting

My Heart Fills with Happiness

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Monique Gray Smith, *Lakota*

ILLUSTRATOR

Julie Flett, *Métis, Cree*

PUBLISHER

Orca Book Publishers

READING LEVEL pre-K – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Health
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

loving, identity, First Nations family values

PUB DATE 2016

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

Each page in this beautifully illustrated board book completes the sentence stem, “My heart fills with happiness when.....”

My Life in a Kwagu’ł Big House

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Diane Jacobson, ‘Namgis First Nation

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 6 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

family/kinship, generosity, traditional ways of knowing and teaching (strong connections to First Peoples Principles of Learning), coming of age

PUB DATE 2005

PAGES 202

DESCRIPTION

Diane Jacobson has written a readable and engaging autobiographical account of growing up in Alert Bay during the 1960s, in a home that retained many of the features and qualities of a traditional Kwakwaka’wakw Big House. Her account provides insight into an experience of childhood that by that time had become increasingly rare due to the imposition of residential schooling.

FEATURES

- ▶ easy to read: language is colloquial and somewhat salty at times (e.g., references to “ass”), but the story is infused with humor and warmth
- ▶ includes a collection of personal photographs that provides a visual reference point for events in the account

My Life with the Salmon**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Diane Jacobson, *'Namgis Nation***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 7 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

stewardship, ecological relationships, identity, and family

PUB DATE 2011**PAGES** 174**DESCRIPTION**

This memoir and “coming of age” story provides an informative look at the rich and complex relationship between the Kwakwaka'wakw peoples and their primary resource, the salmon.

FEATURES

- ▶ contains a retelling of the 'Namgis origin story, Kwakwaksanukw (as per Agnes Alfred), with references to hiding a boy's sex by making him look like a girl
- ▶ includes photos of salmon & hatchery management

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Ethical/Legal - some adult behaviour (smoking)
- ▶ Language - some profanity

My Name Is Seepeetza**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Shirley Stirling, *Interior Salish***PUBLISHER**

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL 5 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, rites of passage, residential schools

PUB DATE 1992**PAGES** 126**DESCRIPTION**

Seepeetza is renamed Martha Stone when she is enrolled in residential school. At the school, Seepeetza finds strict and unhappy nuns, arbitrary and unfair rules, and a denial of everything being First Peoples means to her. Told in diary format, this easy-to-read novel is based on the author's own experiences at the Kamloops residential school.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Socio-economic — depictions of extreme hunger of the children

- ▶ Violence — scenes of abuse of the children by the nuns, occasional fights between students at the school, one student hangs himself
- ▶ Language — occasional use of ethnic slurs pertaining to First Peoples, Chinese people, and Irish people
- ▶ Ethical/Legal — Seepeetza uses chewing tobacco but it makes her sick; at home, Seepeetza’s father drinks occasionally

Neekna and Chemai

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Jeannette C. Armstrong, *Okanagan*

ILLUSTRATOR

Barbara Marchand, *Okanagan*

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

roles and responsibilities, seasonal cycles, traditional learning

PUB DATE 2008

PAGES 44

DESCRIPTION

Neekna and Chemai are two little girls growing up in the Okanagan Valley in pre-contact time. Through these two friends, we learn about the seasonal life patterns of the Okanagan people.

The Night Sky

AUTHORS, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Wilfred Buck, *Cree* (Opaskwayak Cree Nation), Melissa Purcell, *Denesuline* (Smith's Landing First Nation, Northwest Territories)

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

various visual credits

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 –3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

astronomy, northern lights, constellations, moon, stars, First Nations, Inuit, Métis

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

Divided into sections based upon different parts of the night sky, this book teaches lessons from Anishanaabe, Plains Cree, Ininewuk, Secwepemc, Saanich, and European astronomers and Elders.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a list of Big Ideas as well as star maps, fact boxes, and diagrams

- ▶ includes “Thinking about My Reading” questions and “Wondering” questions
- ▶ although marketed as part of the publisher’s “Celebrate Canada” series, this title can be purchased individually

Nimoshom and His Bus

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Penny M. Thomas, *Cree/Ojibway*

ILLUSTRATOR

Karen Hibbard

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Cree Language Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Cree language, intergenerational relationships

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 26

DESCRIPTION

Riding the school bus with Nimoshom (grandfather) was always interesting. His grandchild now enjoys remembering the Cree words he would teach the students on the drive.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a pronunciation guide and word list for Cree language content (there are, however, no accents on any of the Cree words; reference to an online Cree language dictionary will be required)

No Borders: Kigliqangittuq

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Darla Evyagotailak, *Inuit*, Mindy Willett

ILLUSTRATOR

Tessa Macintosh

PUBLISHER

Fifth House (available from Strong Nations)

READING LEVEL 4 – 7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

family, land, community, Inuit

PUB DATE 2012

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

No Borders shares the life of Darla Evyagotailak, a 16-year-old Inuk girl. The story offers a glimpse into the intricately connected families of Inuit living in the communities of Kugluktuk, Nunavut and Ulukhaktok, Northwest Territories. Although now divided by the border between the two territories, the communities share a common ancestry and language (Inuinnaqtun), and for inhabitants, the border is invisible. As Darla's grandfather tells her, "we are just like the caribou; they don't see the border and neither do we." In *No Borders*, Darla accompanies her grandmother and great grandparents on a journey, crossing the border between the community of her birth and the lands of her ancestors.

Fifth House markets *No Borders* as part of a ten-book series for children, "The Land Is Our Storybook." It is, however, the only title in the series that has been reviewed and recommended for this guide.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes side bars with questions and facts

No Time to Say Goodbye: Children’s Stories of Kuper Island Residential School

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Sylvia Olsen with Rita Morris and Ann Sam, *Tsartlip*

ILLUSTRATOR

Connie Paul, *Tsartlip*

PUBLISHER

Sono Nis Press

READING LEVEL 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

ways of learning, traditional knowledge, family, residential schools

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 188

DESCRIPTION

This book, based on the memories of members of the Tsartlip First Nation, is the fictionalized story of five First Nations children sent to residential school. The stories are sometimes sad and sometimes funny, but are all very engaging.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Socio-economic — extreme hunger of some of the children in the residential schools
- ▶ Violence — depictions of mistreatment of children in the schools throughout
- ▶ Language — some racial slurs, some homophobic slurs such as “fairy”
- ▶ Ethical/Legal — children steal food because they are very hungry

Northwest Coast Native Animals**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Native Northwest, various

ILLUSTRATOR

Kelly Robinson, Nuxalk, Nuu-Chah-Nulth

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL K**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, relationship with the natural world

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 12**DESCRIPTION**

Each animal has many lessons to teach us — to care for our habitat, to live cooperatively with others, to have courage, to think before we act, and to be wise and respectful.

Not My Girl**AUTHORS**Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Gabrielle Grimard

PUBLISHER

Annick Press

READING LEVEL 1 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

residential schooling, Inuit culture, language, and environment (dog sleds, northern lights, traditional foods)

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 36**DESCRIPTION**

This memoir deals with 10-year-old Margaret Pokiak’s return to her home community in the arctic following two years at a residential school run by the church. Coming ashore, Margaret spots her family, but her mother barely recognizes her, screaming, “Not my girl.” Margaret realizes she is now marked as an outsider. Slowly, Margaret must relearn her language and her family’s way of living. This beautifully illustrated children’s book is a retelling of Margaret Pokiak’s earlier memoir, *A Stranger at Home*, written for older readers (also with the collaboration of Christy Jordan-Fenton).

The Old Man with the Otter Medicine

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERJohn Blondin, *Dogrib***ILLUSTRATOR**Archie Beaverho, *Dogrib***ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS**

translated by Mary Rose Sundberg

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge

PUB DATE 2008**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

It is winter and the people are starving. There are no fish. They must seek the help of a medicine man to save them. The *Old Man with the Otter Medicine* tells of medicine power, the struggle for survival, and an important part of the history and culture of the Dene people as it has been passed down through stories for generations.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is printed in both Dogrib and English
- ▶ includes a Dogrib orthography and pronunciation chart
- ▶ an accompanying CD-ROM contains audio narration of the story in both Dogrib and English

Ojibway Animals

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERJason Adair, *Ojibway***PUBLISHER**

Native Northwest (Native Explore series)

READING LEVEL K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

animals, Ojibway artistic traditions

PUB DATE 2011**PAGES** 10**DESCRIPTION**

This lovely board book includes traditional-style drawn/painted representations of animals familiar to the Ojibway people along with facts about each animal.

FEATURES

- ▶ back cover describes traditional Ojibway teachings about animals portrayed in the book
- ▶ back cover includes cultural information about the provenance and interpretation of traditional imagery

Ojibway Clans: Animal Totems and Spirits

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Mark Anthony Jacobson, *Ojibway*

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest (Native Explore series)

READING LEVEL 4 – 7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

Ojibway social and political structures, family, community roles, personal talents, Ojibway artistic traditions, colour, line, connection to the environment

PUB DATE 2012

PAGES 25

DESCRIPTION

Although sometimes challenging to read (due to difficulties associated with coloured type on certain coloured backgrounds), this beautifully illustrated book provides an insightful introduction to family and social organization among the Ojibway.

FEATURES

- ▶ the introduction provides a context-setting explanation of Ojibway visual art and key aspects of Ojibway spiritual teaching

The Orange Shirt Story

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Phyllis Webstad, *Secwepemc*

ILLUSTRATOR

Brock Nicol

PUBLISHER

Medicine Wheel Education

READING LEVEL 3 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

Truth and Reconciliation, resiliency, Indigenous ways of being and values, food harvesting and processing, seasons

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 44

DESCRIPTION

At age 6, Phyllis went to residential school for the first time. On her first day, she wore a “shiny orange shirt” that her Granny had bought her; but when she got to the school, it was taken away and never returned. This is a true story of the author’s experience. It is also a story of Orange Shirt Day, an important day of remembrance for all Canadians.

CAUTION

- ▶ Safety – the story refers to nuns treating children harshly

Orca Chief**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Roy Henry Vickers (& Robert Budd), *Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk***ILLUSTRATOR**Roy Henry Vickers, *Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk***PUBLISHER**

Harbour Publishing

READING LEVEL 1 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science (attributes and behaviour of marine organisms)

THEMES & TOPICS

respect for the environment, ocean species of the Pacific, cultural teachings, protocols, forgiveness, gratitude, sharing

PUB DATE 2015**PAGES** 25**DESCRIPTION**

One in a series of coastal stories by Roy Henry Vickers and Robert Budd, this traditional story features gorgeous original illustrations.

FEATURES

- ▶ an audio recording of Roy Henry Vickers narrating this story is also available online at <https://memoriestomemoirs.ca/portfolio/orca-chief/> (site includes a bonus story as well)

The Origin of Day and Night**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Paula Ikuutaq, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Lenny Lishchenko

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc

READING LEVEL 2 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

Inuit, sky stories, astronomy, sun, moon, collaboration

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 29**DESCRIPTION**

Before there was day and night, the hare and fox had to learn to work together to find food. They took turns using the words that would bring light and dark to help each other. Retold from an oral story, this is an Inuit story of night and day.

CAUTION

- ▶ Violence – the fox hunts for food, and images show him eating his kill.

Peace Pipe Dreams: The Truth about Lies about Indians**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Darrell Dennis, *Secwepemc***PUBLISHER**

Douglas & McIntyre Ltd.

READING LEVEL 8 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

stereotypes, perceptions and myths, treaties, historical understandings, belief systems, contemporary challenges

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 239**DESCRIPTION**

This accessible explanation of issues related to Indigenous peoples in North America (including the historical context of those issues) is both humorous and engaging.

People of the Land: Legends of the Four Host Nations**BC****AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS**

storytellers of the Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh nations

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 4 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, storytelling, sacred teachings, connection to the land

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 110**DESCRIPTION**

Spectacular imagery (a blend of the traditional and the modern) adorns this rich anthology of Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations traditional stories. These stories link people to the land and to each other and pass on traditional knowledge and history. These sacred teachings — which range from creation stories to naming stories — are collected in an anthology of stories willingly shared by the respected storytellers of each nation.

The book is a unique commemorative collection that celebrates the four host First Nations on whose ancestral territories the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games were held.

Persistence and Change: A History of the Ts’msyen Nation

BC

AUTHORS AND ILLUSTRATORS

Kenneth Campbell, with the support and collaboration of the First Nations Education Council, the Tsimshian Nation, and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert)

PUBLISHER

Tsimshian Nation and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert)

READING LEVEL 7 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

oral tradition, history, persistence/resilience/change, Ts’msyen communities, and the Sm’algyax language, Ts’msyen perspectives and worldviews

PUB DATE 2005

PAGES 240

DESCRIPTION

This book shares a history of the Ts’msyen peoples of British Columbia. The book is the product of a thorough process of consultation and collaboration between Ts’msyen communities and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert).

Porcupine

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Mike Bowden, *Secwepemc/Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Jules Kelsey, *Secwepemc*

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations

READING LEVEL 3 – 7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Physical & Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Indigenous Language Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

oral narratives, Indigenous culture, teachings, and values, Indigenous language, emotions, self-exploration, relations, family

PUB DATE 2020

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This is a contemporary story about Kú7pece (Porcupine), whose struggles with his emotions have pushed his relations away. Recognizing that learning ultimately supports the well-being of the self, one’s family, one’s community, and the land, Kú7pece sets out to explore his identity and learn more about himself and others. Along the way, he learns some hard lessons that support him in being healthier and more mindful of others and, most importantly, himself.

FEATURES

- ▶ integrates Secwépemc language and contains a pronunciation guide to assist the reader

Powwow: Counting in Cree

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERPenny M. Thomas, *Cree* (Fisher River Cree Nation)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Melinda Josie

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

cardinal numbers to ten, in Cree

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 20**DESCRIPTION**

This illustrated counting guide is designed to support the teaching of Cree for early learners. A pronunciation guide at the end will help the teacher who is a non-speaker.

Powwow Dancing with Family
BC**AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Perry Smith, *Secwepemc***OTHER CONTRIBUTOR**Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)**PUBLISHER**

Strong Nations

READING LEVEL K – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

powwow, regalia, Intergenerational relationships, respect, protocols, dance

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 20**DESCRIPTION**

Perry and his family travel from powwow to powwow to participate in the family and community gatherings. Based on true events, the story is told through the eyes of his young boys as they are learning how to dance, care for their regalia, and respect the protocols of a powwow.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes helpful Appendices: What is a Powwow; Powwow Regalia; Powwow Dances
- ▶ illustrations done in the Ledger Art style, whose importance and use is described on the cover

The Rabbits' Race

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERDeborah L. Delaronde, *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**Virginia McCoy, *Métis***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

sharing, friendship, wisdom

PUB DATE 2009**PAGES** 50**DESCRIPTION**

When his grandfather is invited to participate in the school's Grandparents Day celebrations, Joey does not know what to expect. His grandfather gently reassures him before going on stage and launching into a beguiling tale of two groups of rabbits that must co-exist in the forest and share their resources to survive. The wisdom of the elder rabbits plays a pivotal role in the story which provides a valuable lesson for Joey and his classmates.

Racin' Jason

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERElise Wagner, *Ojibwe***ILLUSTRATOR**Janet Kaszonyi, *Métis***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 4 – 6**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

responsibility, competition

PUB DATE 1995**PAGES** 52**DESCRIPTION**

After helping his Mishoomis (Grandfather) save an orphaned Appaloosa colt from a bog, Jason takes a special interest in caring for it. At school, the bullies make fun of his affection for the funny-looking colt he hopes to race one day. With support from his Grandparents, Jason raises and trains the colt. On the day of the big race, Jason and the colt are ready. The teasing only makes Jason more determined than ever to win.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an Ojibwe glossary

Raven and Eagle

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Ray Qwulshemut Peter, *Cowichan*

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTORS

Donna Klockars, Natalie Bryce, Larry Bob, Kim Stewart, and Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publications

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, self-reliance

PUB DATE 2001

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

Raven learns a powerful lesson from his friend, Eagle: learn and understand from others, but most importantly, be yourself!

The Raven and the Loon

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Rachel Qitsualik-Tinsley, *Inuit/Cree*, and Sean Qitsualik-Tinsley, *Mohawk*

ILLUSTRATOR

Kim Smith

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc.

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

raven, loon, impatience, Inuit

PUB DATE 2013

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

Raven, bored of flying around, goes to visit Loon in her iglu as she sews. Together, the two birds come up with the idea to create each other new coats; however, their plans don't quite work out the way they had hoped. Provenance of this story is unclear (it may be a retelling of a story within the Inuit oral tradition; it might also be entirely original).

FEATURES

- ▶ a version in Inuktitut is available

Raven Brings the Light**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Roy Henry Vickers (& Robert Budd), *Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk***ILLUSTRATOR**Roy Henry Vickers, *Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk***PUBLISHER**

Harbour Publishing

READING LEVEL 3 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

storytelling, social responsibility

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

This beautifully illustrated version of a traditional trickster story common to several north coastal peoples was shared with the authors by a Ts'msyen Chief and Elder.

Raven series**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)**PUBLISHER**

Strong Nations Publications

READING LEVEL pre-K – K**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

literacy, numeracy

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 8 (each)**DESCRIPTION**

The Raven Series is a set of six books written for the emergent reader and learner. Each book focusses on a specific learning intention that builds on strengthening learning with the support of an adult:

- ▶ ***Raven and the Box*** — based on oral retell
- ▶ Raven and Duck — concepts
- ▶ ***Raven Can Count*** — number sense
- ▶ ***I Spy Raven*** — rhyme and perspective
- ▶ ***Raven Sings the ABC's*** — letter recognition
- ▶ ***Raven Makes a Necklace*** — colours and patterns

Raven Tales series**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

David Bouchard, *Métis* and David Booth (series editors), with individual titles written and illustrated by Simon Daniel James, Chris Kientz, Caleb Hystad, and Chris Johnston

PUBLISHER

Rubicon Publishing Inc. (Scholastic)

READING LEVEL 4 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional teachings, creation stories, humour

PUB DATE 2012**PAGES** 48 (each)**DESCRIPTION**

Raven Tales is a set of graphic novels based on the screenplays for a series of animated videos. A few are adaptations of traditional stories, while others are originals produced *in the style of* traditional stories. Series creators worked with various tribal councils to develop these materials. The following titles have been reviewed and recommended. Others are commendable, though some might not be deemed authentic according to the identified criteria:

- ▶ ***How Raven Stole the Sun*** — based on a Haida traditional story
- ▶ ***Raven and the First People*** — based on a Haida traditional story
- ▶ ***Great Bear Rock*** — based on a Kwakwaka'wakw traditional story

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Other — the imagery in some of the non-recommended titles tends to blur distinctions among First Peoples, despite stories being drawn from different cultures; depictions do not acknowledge the diversity of First Peoples across the Canada; teachers are advised to address this concern with students

Ready for School**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

family and community roles

PUB DATE 2006**PAGES** 26**DESCRIPTION**

This book is about a typical morning at home, preparing to go to school.

Relatives with Roots: A Story about Métis Women’s Connection to the Land

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORLeah Marie Dorion, *Métis*

Translator

Rita Flamand, *Métis***PUBLISHER**

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Michif language learning

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional medicine, family and community roles

PUB DATE 2011**PAGES** 60**DESCRIPTION**

Relatives with Roots: A Story about Métis Women’s Connection to the Land is a touching story about a Métis grandmother who takes her granddaughter out onto the land to teach her how to harvest traditional medicines. As the granddaughter learns the traditional knowledge about how the Métis people use the plants, she feels joy to be Métis.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a concurrent translation into Michif-Cree and an accompanying audio CD that provides both English and Michif narration of the text
- ▶ includes a glossary of terms and background information about the traditional Métis learning philosophy and the Anishnaabeg Order of Creation

Returning the Feathers: Five Gitxsan Stories

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**M. Jane Smith — Xsiwis, *Gitxsan***ILLUSTRATOR**Ken N. Mowatt — Maasliki’insxw, *Gitxsan***PUBLISHER**

Creekstone Press

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

rites of passage, sustainability, family, traditional knowledge

PUB DATE 2004**PAGES** 72**DESCRIPTION**

The title of this collection of five Gitxsan stories was chosen to thank and pay tribute to the Gitxsan storytellers of the past, some of whom were the author’s mentors and teachers as she was growing up and learning the art of storytelling. *Returning the Feathers* includes four traditional stories: the origin of the Gitxsan people; how the blue jay and the mosquito came to live in northwestern BC; and the time when the porcupine first discharged its quills. The fifth in the anthology is an original story, inspired by the appearance of an egret at the author’s smokehouse. These stories serve to connect the author to her ancestors, and give readers a taste of the rich cultural heritage of the Gitxsan people.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence — the second story, “K’alidakhl,” includes scenes of killing and domestic violence, and should be used with caution

A Rhyming Coastal Alphabet**BC****AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR**Pam Holloway, *Kwakwaka'wakw***PUBLISHER**

Cedar Moon Creations

READING LEVEL K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

letters of the alphabet, rhyming words; people, places, and events in coastal First Nations communities

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 26**DESCRIPTION**

This soft-cover, saddle-stitched book introduces the upper-case and lower-case variants of each letter of the alphabet by using the letter as part of the rhyming captions for two separate photographs per letter. The photos feature people, places, objects, and events characteristic of Kwakwaka'wakw and other coastal First Nations cultures.

A River Lost**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Lynn Bragg, *Sinixt* (Arrow Lakes Tribe, Colville Confederated Tribes)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Virgil “Smoker” Marchand, Arrow Lakes Tribe, Colville Confederated Tribes

PUBLISHER

Hancock House Publishers

READING LEVEL 4 – 6**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

tradition and modernity, relationship with the natural world

PUB DATE 1995**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

When the Grand Coulee Dam was constructed, the community on the banks of the river was forced to move away from its ancestral land and the people lost their homes and many traditional practices. The story opens as the great-grandmother, Toopa, is about to leave her home, and she tells her great-granddaughter of their old ways of life that could not continue, such as salmon fishing, seasonal nomadic practices, and trading with other peoples.

FEATURES

- ▶ intertwining real history with a fictionalized narrative
- ▶ strong factual basis for the story

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Safety — Toopa waited until the last minute before leaving her home when the lake began to flood.
- ▶ Ethical/Legal - Students may need some explanation about land settlements and compensation (Arrow Lakes Band – now Sinixt Nation – was not compensated for the loss of their lands until fifty years after the dam’s construction).

River of Salmon Peoples

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Gerry Williams, Jeanette Armstrong, Okanagan (ed.), presenting content from Nak’azdli, Secwepemc, Stó:Lō, Sta’at’imc, Musqueam, Lil’wat7ul, Nle’kepmxcin, Tsilhqot’n, Dakelh, and Syilx contributors

ILLUSTRATORS AND DESIGNERS

Florene Belmore & others (contributing photographers)

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 5 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

interconnectedness, relationships, story, ceremony, connection with the land, life cycles, diversity, contemporary Fraser basin watershed issues

PUB DATE 2015

PAGES 151

DESCRIPTION

This gorgeous and authentic book is a genuine collaboration among members of First Nations communities that live in the Fraser River watershed. Created with aim of “revitalizing ancient voices written in the land and river,” it presents memories and stories that represent the diverse cultures and that share a common focus on the river. As well, the anthology integrates archival photos, contemporary photos, and photos of First Nations art objects and artifacts.

FEATURES

- ▶ descriptions and acknowledgments that reflect a deeply collaborative and inclusive process

River Run

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Brandon Mitchell, *Mi’gmaq*

ILLUSTRATOR

Tara Audibert, *Mi’gmaq*

PUBLISHER

Aboriginal Health Network

READING LEVEL 5 – 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

well-being, ceremony

PUB DATE 2010

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

This graphic novel tells the story of a group of youth who learn the traditional use of tobacco while on a canoe trip. One of the youths, who smokes, gets her world opened up along the way.

FEATURES

- ▶ graphic novel format is appealing for many reluctant readers

Road Allowance Kitten

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Wilfred Burton, *Métis*

ILLUSTRATOR

Christina Johns, *Métis*

OTHER CONTRIBUTOR

Norman Fleury (Michif translation)

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL 4 – 7+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Métis, relocation, family, history, games, friendship

PUB DATE 2015

PAGES 49

DESCRIPTION

Based on actual events, this story follows the forced removal and relocation of a Métis family living along the Road Allowance.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a concurrent translation into Michif-Cree and an accompanying audio CD that provides both English and Michif narration of the text
- ▶ includes a glossary of Michif words, plus background notes: “Road Allowance Métis” and “Canny Can Instructions”

CAUTION

- ▶ Socio-Economic (oppression) – the family home is burned to the ground with some of their belongings

Ruler of the Forest: Why Raccoon Wears a Mask – yuw’i’na’qws tthu hwthuthiqut: nutschim’ yuhw ‘a’lu ‘ushus shtii’ a’lus tthu sxayukw’us **BC**

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Ruby Peter and other members of the SD 79 Elders Advisory Group, *Cowichan*

ILLUSTRATOR

Sally Hart

PUBLISHER

School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley)

READING LEVEL 3 – 7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

creation story

PUB DATE 201?

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

This non-commercial, Creative Commons picture book is written in both English and Hul’q’umi’num’ and was specifically developed to support Hul’q’umi’num’ language revitalization efforts.

FEATURES

- ▶ the SD 79 website includes a page <http://abed.sd79.bc.ca/hulqumimum-resources/> that allows free download of this resource and links to an audio file (click on **Web Based Ruler of the Forest**) of Thomas Jones, *Cowichan Nation*, reading the story in Hul’q’umi’num’

Salish Stories Series **BC**

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Celestine Aleck, Snuneymuxw (Coast Salish)

ILLUSTRATOR

Joel Good, Snuneymuxw (Coast Salish)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 1 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, values, ceremony, and spirituality within Coast Salish cultures; seasons, plants, hunting, fishing, and food gathering

PUB DATE 2016

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

This set of 8 illustrated booklets includes a mix of informational texts and stories. The following are titles currently available in this series:

- ▶ The Great Trade
- ▶ The Cedar
- ▶ Granny and I
- ▶ Taking Care of Our Mother Earth
- ▶ Sun and the Moon
- ▶ The Great Blanket of Moss
- ▶ Mom, How do you Make Smoked Fish?
- ▶ Raven and Wolf

Salmon Boy: A Legend of the Sechelt People

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Donna Joe, *Sechelt*

ILLUSTRATOR

Charlie Craigan, *Sechelt*

PUBLISHER

Harbour Publishing

READING LEVEL 3 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, relationship with the natural world

PUB DATE 1999

PAGES 18

DESCRIPTION

Simple and compelling drawings illustrate this dynamic story that teaches respect for the environment and describes the life cycle of the salmon.

The Scout

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

David Alexander Robertson, mixed ancestry, including *Cree*

ILLUSTRATOR

Scott B. Henderson

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 6 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, World War II, First Nations veterans, storytelling

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 30

DESCRIPTION

In this graphic novella, a mysterious veteran encounters a young First Nations girl by a monument in a Winnipeg park. He proceeds to tell her the real-life story of Sergeant Tommy Prince, a World War II hero from the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation.

FEATURES

- ▶ graphic novel format is appealing for many reluctant readers

Sealiya**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Kwitelut t — Lena Jacobs, *Squamish***ILLUSTRATOR**Xwa-lack-tun — Rick Harry, *Squamish***PUBLISHER**

Traffod Publishing

READING LEVEL K – 2**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

community, storytelling

PUB DATE 2010**PAGES** 26**DESCRIPTION**

In this richly illustrated picture book, Elder Lena Jacobs shares a story from her childhood when her uncle shot and killed a pregnant mother seal.

FEATURES

▶ text is included in both Skwxwú7mesh sníchim and English

Secret of the Dance**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Andrea Spalding and Alfred Scow, *Kwakwaka'wakw***ILLUSTRATOR**

Darlene Gait, Coast Salish

PUBLISHER

Orca Book Publishers

READING LEVEL 2 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

performance, ceremony, tradition

PUB DATE 2006**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

This picture book is a fictionalized version of a real incident in the childhood of Kwakwaka'wakw Elder Alfred Scow. Alfred's family sailed from Gilford Island to isolated Kingcome Inlet to attend a forbidden potlatch. His parents forbade him to attend so he wouldn't be apprehended if they were raided by the authorities. Alfred sneaked inside to watch and recognized the Hamatsa. Beautifully written and incorporating fantastic, creative illustrations of Coast Salish designs, this book shows students the relevance of traditional practices.

FEATURES

▶ a Teacher Guide is available at <http://www.orcabook.com/Assets/PDFs/Guides/secretofthedance.pdf>

7 Generations: A Plains Cree Saga

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERDavid Alexander Robertson, mixed ancestry, including *Cree***ILLUSTRATOR**

Scott B. Henderson

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 7 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

survival, identity, intergenerational transmission of knowledge, family healing

PUB DATE 2010, 2011, 2012 **PAGES** 128**DESCRIPTION**

This graphic novel, a compilation of four shorter graphic novels first published separately, follows one Plains Cree family from the early 19th century to the present day. Although some details may reinforce established stereotypical portrayals of First Nations peoples, the content for the most part aligns well with historical fact.

FEATURES

- ▶ engaging and easy to read
- ▶ the narrative line in this graphic novel is not always easy to follow (single discrete frames, juxtaposing material from differing time periods with some “jumps” between one and the next)

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence — accounts of residential schooling portray a priest hitting a child and allude to the sexual abuse of a child
- ▶ Language — derogatory comments about First Peoples as savages
- ▶ Safety — allusions to, or depictions of, suicide (via overdose, hanging), alcoholism, addiction, death of children due to accident, and death via smallpox are all part of this story

The Seven Teachings Stories Series

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERKatherena Vermette, *Métis* (Treaty One)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Irene Kuziw

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)
<https://www.portageandmainpress.com/Series/T/The-Seven-Teachings-Stories>

READING LEVEL K – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

seven teachings, beliefs,... (see the book descriptions below for volume-specific themes & topics)

PUB DATE 2015 **PAGES** 24 (each)

DESCRIPTION

This set of stories for children consists of seven volumes, each focussing on one of the “seven teachings” of the Anishinaabe—love, wisdom, humility, courage, respect, honesty, and truth. The stories are set in urban landscapes and feature Indigenous children dealing with situations they encounter at home, at school, and in the community. Of the seven titles in the series, only three had been reviewed and recommended as of this edition (teachers will need to conduct their own assessments of the remaining four titles):

- ▶ ***Amik Loves School: A Story of Wisdom*** Amik tells Moshoom about his wonderful school. Then his grandfather tells him about the residential school he went to, much different from Amik’s school. So Amik has an idea,...
- ▶ ***Misaabe’s Stories: A Story of Honesty*** Misaabe tells great stories – about trolls, and x-ray glasses, and secret agents, and his super-exciting life. But is real life so bad?
- ▶ ***What is Truth, Betsy?: A Story of Truth*** Miskwaadesi is puzzled about the teaching “Truth.” But she knows more than she thinks she does.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Religious and/or Spiritual Belief Systems — although widely recognized (some nations refer to them as “the grandfather teachings”), the Seven Teachings as outlined in this series are not shared by all Indigenous peoples.

Shannen and the Dream for a School

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Janet Wilson, with the participation and support of members of the Attawapiskat (*Cree*) community

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest, various

PUBLISHER

Second Story Press

READING LEVEL 7 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies (contemporary social justice)

THEMES & TOPICS

critical thinking, social justice, Canadian politics and law, personal awareness & responsibility, activism, human rights in Canada, life in a northern community

PUB DATE 2011

PAGES 208

DESCRIPTION

This is the true story of Shannen Koostachin and the people of Attawapiskat, a Cree community in Northern Ontario, who have been fighting for a new school since the late 1970s, when a fuel leak contaminated their original school building. In 2008, 13-year-old Shannen and the other students at J.R. Nakogee Elementary, tired of attending class in portables that smell and don’t keep out winter’s freezing cold, make a YouTube video about the poor conditions, gaining attention and support across the country. Inspired, the students turn their Grade 8 class trip into a visit to Ottawa to speak to the Canadian government. Shannen becomes their passionate spokesperson. The following summer, she is nominated for the International Children’s Peace Prize. Her passion and that of the other students makes politicians take notice and becomes a rallying point for the community and for the entire country.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Other - although the story is true, much of the dialogue has been reconstructed (i.e., fictionalized), drawing on the recollections of Shannen’s family and others involved (sadly, Shannen herself was killed in a car crash in 2010)

Shanyaak'utlaax: Salmon Boy

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Johnny Marks, Hans Chester, David Katzeek, and Nora and Richard Dauenhauer

ILLUSTRATOR

Michaela Goade, *Tlingit*

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

commissioned by Sealaska Heritage's Baby Raven Reads initiative; Deikeenaak'w (original story contributor)

PUBLISHER

Sealaska Heritage Institute

READING LEVEL 1 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Socials Studies
- ▶ Physical & Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

care, respect, salmon, nature

PUB DATE 2017 2nd ed. **PAGES** 34
(1st ed. 2004)

DESCRIPTION

Shanyaak'utlaax: Salmon Boy" is a children's story that teaches about respect for nature, animals and culture. It comes from an ancient Tlingit story: a Tlingit mother feeds her son a mouldy piece of dried salmon; but when he throws it away the Salmon People are offended and take him away to teach him lessons of respect.

Sharing Our World: Animals of the Native Northwest Coast

BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Native Northwest, various

ILLUSTRATOR

Native Northwest, various

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

symbolism, relationship with the natural world

PUB DATE 2010 **PAGES** 24

DESCRIPTION

This richly illustrated book offers readers an introduction to the symbolism and cultural context of various animals from the Northwest Coast.

Shi-shi-etko**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Nicola I. Campbell, *Nte?kepmx*, *Syilx*, and *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**

Kim LeFave

PUBLISHER

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

family, wisdom, traditional knowledge, residential schools

PUB DATE 2005**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

In four days Shi-shi-etko will have to leave her family and all she knows to attend residential school. She spends her last days at home treasuring the beauty of her world — the dancing sunlight, the tall grass, each shiny rock, the tadpoles in the creek, her grandfather's paddle song. Her mother, father, and grandmother, each in turn, share valuable teachings they want her to remember and Shi-shi-etko carefully gathers her memories for safekeeping. Richly hued illustrations complement this gently moving and poetic account of a child on the verge of great loss who finds solace all around her.

Shin-chi's Canoe**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Nicola I. Campbell, *Nte?kepmx*, *Syilx*, and *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**

Kim LeFave

PUBLISHER

Groundwood Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

family, wisdom, traditional knowledge, residential schools

PUB DATE 2008**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

A sequel to *Shi-shi-etko*, *Shin-chi's Canoe* tells the story of Shi-shi-etko's younger brother Shin-chi and his experience during his first year at residential school. In this haunting and beautifully illustrated story, Shin-chi is not excited to go to school, unlike his sister. This story deals with the realities of residential school: hungry children, missing home, hard work, haircuts, and scalps washed with kerosene are not glossed over, but are dealt with in an age-appropriate way. Yet Shin-chi finds solace in his toy canoe, friendship, nature, and the memory of his grandfather's prayer song.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Socio-economic — students at the residential school are very hungry, and are fed “porridge and burnt toast” while the teachers eat “bacon, eggs, and potatoes”
- ▶ Violence — Shi-shi-etko remembers her hair being cut and her head being washed with kerosene
- ▶ Ethical/Legal — some of the children at the residential school steal food
- ▶ Safety — children are transported to the residential school in the back of a cattle truck

Siuluk: The Last Tuniq

AUTHORNadia Sammurtok, *Inuit* (Rankin Inlet, Nunavut)**EDITORS**

Neil Christopher, Kelly Ward

ILLUSTRATOR

Rob Nix

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

Indigenous values (acceptance, humility), social responsibility, landforms, geography

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

A man renowned among his fellow villagers for his strength (Siuluk) goes to a new village, where he is ‘mocked’ and ‘teased’ by a group of young men who question his capacity. Siuluk proves his strength in a humble way. This story is based on traditional stories from the Chesterfield Inlet area of the Kivalliq region of Nunavut.

Sleds and Toboggans

AUTHORS, EDITOR, OR COMPILERMelissa Purcell, *Denesuline* (Smith's Landing First Nation, NWT)**OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

various visual credits

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

▶ English Language Arts

▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

First Nations, Inuit, sleds, toboggans

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

This book provides introductory information about sleds and toboggans as they are used in Inuit and First Nation communities.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a list of Big Ideas as well as fact boxes (“Snowy Facts”), and diagrams
- ▶ includes “Thinking about My Reading” questions and “Wondering” questions
- ▶ although marketed as part of the publisher’s “Celebrate Canada” series, this title can be purchased individually

Speaking Our Truth: A Journey of Reconciliation

AUTHORS, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Monique Gray Smith, *Cree/Lakota*

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Gerilee McBride (graphic design)

PUBLISHER

Orca Book Publishers

READING LEVEL 5–9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Indian Residential Schools, Truth and Reconciliation, Indigenous voice, Seven Sacred Teachings, medicines, healing journey

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 159

DESCRIPTION

This book deals with the history and legacy of colonial oppression (especially residential schooling) and provides a practical guide to the reconciliation process. Grounded in careful research it draws often on primary sources, including photos and personal accounts from those who lived in the residential schools and their families. Moving beyond the chronicle of oppression, however, it focuses as well on the ways today's children can be allies and actors in the ongoing process of reconciliation and anti-oppression.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an Index, Glossary, and Table of Contents, along with Reflection Questions and self-care guidance
- ▶ a Teacher's Guide is available separately from the publisher

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence/Safety – the narrative presents some difficult content for younger students, including references to abuse
 - ▶ Belief Systems – the Seven Sacred Teachings and some of the medicinal practices are not universally embraced
-

The Special Visitor

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL 1–2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, traditional technologies

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 14

DESCRIPTION

Brenda attends the local school to share with the students the art of making pine needle baskets. Students watch and learn as the needles are wound to make an eventual basket.

Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERCindy Blackstock, *Gitxsan***ILLUSTRATOR**Amanda Strong, *Métis***OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

Koostachin family and the Attawapiskat First Nation

PUBLISHER

First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Physical & Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

resiliency, leadership skills, community, collaboration

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 49**DESCRIPTION**

Spirit Bear learns about traditional knowledge and residential schools from Uncle Huckleberry and his friend, Lak'inswx, before heading to Algonquin territory, where children teach him about Shannen's Dream – a true story that is also retold in *Shannen and the Dream for a School*. Inspired by Shannen's story, Spirit Bear and his new friends won't stop until Shannen's Dream of "safe and comfy schools" comes true for every First Nations student.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a timeline from 1976-the present and links to more information about Shannen's Dream
- ▶ available as a free downloadable e-book from the publisher's website (<https://fncaringsociety.com/publications/spirit-bear-fishing-knowledge-catching-dreams-ebook>)
- ▶ a related Learning Guide (Teacher's Guide) is also available separately from the publisher (free download)

Spirit of the White Bison

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERBeatrice Culleton, *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**Robert Kakaygeesick Jr., *Ojibwe***PUBLISHER**

Portage & Main Press

READING LEVEL 5 – 7+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

tradition and modernity, relationship with the natural world, continuity, First Peoples-European contact

PUB DATE 1996 (revised) **PAGES** 64**DESCRIPTION**

A young bison growing up on the plains in the late 1800s faces peril at the hands of soldiers, who are destroying the great buffalo herds as a way to control First Nations. He is befriended by a First Nations warrior and a European hunter who try to save him and his herd from annihilation. In eight easy-to-read chapters, the devastation of the buffalo in Canada is portrayed simply and straightforwardly through a unique perspective. Cyclical aspects of life are evident in the black-and-white illustrations which incorporate a circle into almost every delicately drawn image.

Stolen Words

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Melanie Florence, *Cree*

ILLUSTRATOR

Gabrielle Grimard

PUBLISHER

Second Story Press

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Second Language Studies (Cree)
- ▶ Physical & Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

residential school, family, language and culture, First Nations values, resiliency, healing, inter-generational teachings

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

This is a story about the beautiful relationship between a little girl and her grandfather. When she asks him how to say something in his language – Cree – he admits that his language was stolen from him when he was a boy. The little girl then sets out to help her grandfather find his language again. This sensitive and warmly illustrated picture book explores the intergenerational impact of the residential school system – the pain of those whose culture and language were taken from them, how that pain is passed down, and how healing can also be shared.

FEATURES

- ▶ incorporates Cree-English translation

CAUTION

- ▶ Safety – the treatment of children in residential schools may be a sensitive topic for some students

Stories of Robin Town series

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

James Andrew McDonald

ILLUSTRATOR

Gerald Samson, *Tsimshian*

PUBLISHER

Gila Kyew Nluulk Head Start and Daycare
 **may not be readily available for sale: check local library holdings

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

family and community roles, decision making, traditional knowledge

PUB DATE 2008

PAGES 16-20

DESCRIPTION

Three initial titles in this series of picture books depicting the history of the Kitsumkalum people are:

- ▶ ***Newcomers Arrive*** (This story explains how Kitsumkalum came to consist of two Tsimshian Eagle clans)
- ▶ ***The Robin People*** (This story describes how the ancestors of the Kitsumkalum people come to live in the Kitsumkalum Valley, and the mysterious people whom Nisgeel and his family encounter while seeking a new home.)
- ▶ ***The Salmon Are Gone*** (This title describes how two clans were relocated to another area within their traditional territory due to a rockslide that affected their salmon supply.)

FEATURES

- ▶ books incorporate Tsimshian text in context and provide a translation and pronunciation guide

A Stranger at Home: A True Story

AUTHORS

Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton, *Inuit*

ILLUSTRATOR

Liz Amini-Holmes

PUBLISHER

Annick Press

READING LEVEL 5 – 8

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

residential schooling, Inuit culture, language, and history; family dynamics, social and emotional learning, belonging

PUB DATE 2011

PAGES 128

DESCRIPTION

This memoir deals with 10-year-old Margaret Pokiak’s return to her home community in the arctic following two years at a residential school run by the church. Coming ashore, Margaret spots her family, but her mother barely recognizes her, screaming, “Not my girl.” Margaret realizes she is now marked as an outsider. She has forgotten the language and stories of her people, and she now finds the food her mother prepares unfamiliar and displeasing. Slowly, Margaret must relearn her language and her family’s way of living. Along the way, she discovers how important it is to remain true to the ways of her people—and to herself.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an appendix containing information about residential schooling and a scrapbook of black & white photographs that relate to the story

Strength and Struggle: Perspectives from First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples in Canada

EDITOR/COMPILER

Rachel A. Mishenene, *Anishinaabe* &
Dr. Pamela Rose Toulouse, *Anishinaabe* (Sagamok First Nation)

ILLUSTRATORS

various First Nations & Métis artists

PUBLISHER

McGraw-Hill Ryerson

READING LEVEL 7 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)

THEMES & TOPICS

identity, traditional ways of teaching & learning, goal setting & realization, struggle and resilience, self-determination, history

PUB DATE 2011

PAGES 148

DESCRIPTION

This anthology of interviews, essays, memoirs, and various types of creative pieces (poetry, graphic journal, story) captures perspectives and insight from a variety of contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artists, thinkers, jurists, and other public figures.

FEATURES

- ▶ two alternate Tables of Contents show differing ways of grouping the selections included in the anthology – allowing for a richly layered perspective on the contents
- ▶ support for discussion of the selections includes explicit questions focused on big ideas (e.g., “How have your experiences defined your identity?” “What would you stand up for?”); for each selection there are also thinking and discussion prompts of things to consider before, during, after, and beyond reading the individual selection
- ▶ author statements and/or biographies help provide context for each selection
- ▶ glossaries of literary terms and of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit terms help ensure that the material is accessible to a range of readers

Strong Readers Guided Reading Series – Set A

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Donna Klockars
Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)
Brenda Boreham

ILLUSTRATOR

Bill Helin, *Ts'msyen* (Lax Kw'alaams)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Math

THEMES & TOPICS

see individual book titles below

PUB DATE 2012-2013

PAGES from 8-16

DESCRIPTION

The books in this series engage learners in science, numeracy, social responsibility, health, language arts, and oral language teachings. Many titles are interwoven with other books in the series, providing students with opportunities to make connections. The books contain stories and informational text along with beautiful illustrations and photographs.

The books are levelled (levels 1-10), with 40 titles for beginning readers. The following are titles reviewed in this series. Many of the other 34 titles in this series are likewise commendable, though some might not be deemed authentic according to the identified criteria:

- ▶ Fish for Supper
- ▶ Salmon to Share
- ▶ Just Like Grandma
- ▶ A Circle of Friends
- ▶ Bannock Surprise
- ▶ Let's Go for a Paddle

Strong Readers Guided Reading Series – Set B

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Donna Klockars
 Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)
 Brenda Boreham

ILLUSTRATOR

Bill Helin, *Ts'msyen* (Lax Kw'alaams)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 1 – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Math

THEMES & TOPICS

see individual book titles below

PUB DATE 2012-2013 **PAGES** from 8-16

DESCRIPTION

The books in this series engage learners in science, numeracy, social responsibility, health, language arts, and oral language teachings via stories and informational text along with beautiful illustrations and photographs. Many titles are interwoven with other books in the series, providing students with opportunities to make connections. The books are levelled, with 40 titles for emergent readers. The following are titles reviewed in this series. Many of the other 38 titles in this series are likewise commendable, though some might not be deemed authentic according to the identified criteria:

- ▶ Planning the Feast
- ▶ Cedar - The Tree of Life

Strong Readers Métis Series

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Leah Marie Dorion, *Métis*

PHOTOGRAPHY AND DESIGN

Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Math

THEMES & TOPICS

see individual book titles below

PUB DATE 2012-2013 **PAGES** from 8-16

DESCRIPTION

This leveled reader set (for emergent readers) contains 8 titles for a range of early readers:

- ▶ My Métis Sash
- ▶ Métis People Travel!
- ▶ I Can Bead
- ▶ Giving Thanks
- ▶ A Métis New Year
- ▶ Two Métis Vests
- ▶ A Red River Cart
- ▶ Ways to Carry a Métis Baby

Strong Stories: Coast Salish Series

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Celestine Aleck, *Snuneymuxw*

ILLUSTRATORS

Cole Good, *Snuneymuxw*, Joel Good, *Snuneymuxw*

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

astronomy, Mother Earth, nature, plants, animals, salmon; Coast Salish food, stories, and ceremony

PUB DATE 2016 **PAGES** 16 (each)

DESCRIPTION

Strong Stories: Coast Salish Series is a collection of primary readers that focusses on the connections amongst the land, culture, and traditions of the Coast Salish. Titles in this series include the following:

- ▶ Granny and I Get Traditional Names
- ▶ Mom, How Do You Make Smoked Fish?
- ▶ Taking Care of our Mother Earth
- ▶ The Cedar Tree – The Heart of Our People
- ▶ The Great Blanket of Moss
- ▶ The Great Trade
- ▶ The Sun and the Moon
- ▶ Why Ravens and Wolves Hunt Together

Strong Stories: Dakelh Series

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Cecilia John, *Saik’uz* First Nation (*Dakelh*), author
 Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka’wakw* (Da’naxda’xw Awaetlala Nation), editor

ILLUSTRATOR

Cecilia John, *Saik’uz* First Nation (*Dakelh*)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 1 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Language learning (Carrier, French)

THEMES & TOPICS

plants and animals within the Dakelh territory; Dakelh stories, language, and culture; numeracy; the seasonal cycle and activities

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 16 (each)

DESCRIPTION

Strong Stories: Dakelh Series is a collection of primary readers that focusses on the connections amongst the land, culture, and traditions of the Dakelh people. Titles in this series include the following:

- ▶ Bald Eagle, Bald Eagle
- ▶ Berries of the Dakelh Territory
- ▶ Berry Picking with ‘Atsoo
- ▶ Counting in Carrier (in Carrier and English)
- ▶ Fall in Saik’uz (in Carrier, English, and French)
- ▶ Spring in Saik’uz (in Carrier, English, and French)
- ▶ Summer in Saik’uz (in Carrier, English, and French)
- ▶ Winter in Saik’uz (in Carrier, English, and French)

Strong Stories: Kanyen’kehà:ka Series

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Michelle Corneau, *Mohawk*

ILLUSTRATOR

Monica Wysotski, *Mohawk*

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies

THEMES & TOPICS

Kanyen’keha:ka history, governance, astronomy, Mother Earth, plants, animals, nature, beliefs, Haudenosaunee

PUB DATE 2016

PAGES 16 (each)

DESCRIPTION

Strong Stories: Kanyen’kehà:ka Series is a collection of primary readers that focusses on the connections amongst the land, culture, history, and traditions of the Kanyen’kehà:ka people. Titles in this series include the following:

- ▶ Big Bear
- ▶ Creation Story – Sky Woman
- ▶ Kanyen’kehà:ka Clans
- ▶ The Game
- ▶ The Thanksgiving Address
- ▶ The Three Sisters
- ▶ The Woodpecker
- ▶ Two Row Wampum

Strong Stories: Kwakwaka’wakw Series

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Bobbie Wildman, *Musgamagw Dzawada’enuxw* First Nation (*Kwakwaka’wakw*) and Sally Williams, *Gwawa’enuxw* First Nation (*Kwakwaka’wakw*)

ILLUSTRATOR

Lou-ann Neel, *Mamalillikulla* and *Kwagiulth* First Nations (*Kwakwaka’wakw*)

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 4 – 6

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

resources, potlatch, culture, regalia, governance, medicine

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 16 (each)

DESCRIPTION

Strong Stories: Kwakwaka’wakw Series is a collection of primary readers that focusses on the connections amongst the land, culture, history, and traditions of the Kwakwaka’wakw people. Titles in this series include the following:

- ▶ A Kwakwaka’wakw Potlatch
- ▶ Button Blankets
- ▶ Hereditary Chiefs and Matriarchs
- ▶ Our Traditional Medicines
- ▶ Planning a Kwakwaka’wakw Potlatch
- ▶ Strength in Our “Ways of Knowing”
- ▶ The Cedar Tree Our Culture, Our Tree
- ▶ Traditional Berry Picking

Sugar Falls: A Residential School Story

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

David Alexander Robertson, mixed ancestry, including *Cree*, based on the true story of Betty Ross, *Cross Lake First Nation*

ILLUSTRATOR

Scott Henderson

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 7 – 9+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

residential schooling, intergenerational teaching, identity, resilience/survival

PUB DATE 2011

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

Dealing with the difficult subject of residential schooling, this graphic novel does an excellent job of representing the experience. The outcome for Betty, the survivor, is contrasted with the outcome for her friend Flora, who is drowned attempting to leave the school. References to the physical and sexual abuse of children and to the racist attitudes that informed much of residential school practice may need to be discussed with students.

Sukaq and the Raven

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Roy Goose, *Inuit*, Kerry McClusky

ILLUSTRATOR

Kim Soyeon

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc.

READING LEVEL 2 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Inuit traditional storytelling

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 25

DESCRIPTION

Sukaq loves to drift off to sleep listening to his mother tell him stories. His favourite story is how the raven created the world. But this time, as his mother begins to tell the story and his eyelids become heavy, he is suddenly whisked away on the wings of the raven to ride along as the entire world is formed.

CAUTION

- ▶ Ethical/Legal – The description on the back cover uses the words ‘legend’ and ‘tale’ –colonial terms that suggest/assume the stories are “untrue.”

Surviving the City, vol. 1

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERTasha Spillett, *Cree* (Nehiway)**ILLUSTRATOR**

Natasha Donovan

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 8+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

MMIWG2S+ (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2 Spirited Persons), protection & care, Cree teachings, intergenerational relationships

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 56**DESCRIPTION**

In this graphic novel, two teenage best friends live with ongoing challenges faced by many urban Indigenous women, girls, and 2S. When Dez's grandmother become ill, she may be removed from the home. When Dez takes off, Miikwan must come to terms with the disappearance of her mother and maybe her friend.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an essay and statistics on MMIWG2S+ (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2 Spirited Persons), as well as additional resources, links, and further reading

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence – deals with the trauma and emotional challenges of MMIWG2S+, especially for those left behind when a loved one goes missing
- ▶ Socio-Economic – includes portrayal of Residential School and shows a “priest” removing a child from their family
- ▶ Safety – presents the urban environment as dangerous for Indigenous people (at one point, Dez takes off and spends the night on a bench)

Sweetest Kulu

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERCelina Kalluk, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Alexandria Neonakis

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc.

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

caring and loving family and relationships

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 29

DESCRIPTION

Sweetest Kulu is a board book infused with the traditional Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants. The text is a bedtime poem describing the gifts given to a newborn baby by animals of the Arctic.

Taanishi Books

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Wilfred Burton & Angela Caron, *Métis*

PHOTOGRAPHER

Peter Beszterda

PUBLISHER

Gabriel Dumont Institute

READING LEVEL K – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Métis traditions and history, similarities and differences among families, dance, clothing, foods, fiddling, the significance of place

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES from 8-16

DESCRIPTION

This leveled reader set (for emergent readers) contains 27 books under 9 different themes, all relating to Métis culture. Each book has a designated difficulty level from A (easiest) to I (most advanced); each also includes word count information, cultural connections, and a lesson plan. Some of the titles feature children’s art. The following are titles in this series:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ▶ Bang! Beigne! | ▶ What do you Like on Your Beignes? | ▶ Batoche Cheerleader |
| ▶ The Sash | ▶ Time to Dance | ▶ Maria Beads a Flower |
| ▶ Where’s the Roogaroo? | ▶ Andy Learns to Fiddle | ▶ High in the Sky |
| ▶ Dancing Shapes Grade | ▶ What’s for Lunch? | ▶ The Fiddle Competition |
| ▶ We Are Métis! | ▶ Back to Batoche Days | ▶ Rabooboo Stew for Lunch |
| ▶ Where is the Métis Flag? | ▶ Making Beignes with Kohkum | ▶ Let’s Make a Métis Flag Pin |
| ▶ Yummy Yummy in My Tummy | ▶ Do You Believe in Roogaroos? | ▶ Is there a Roogaroo in You? |
| ▶ Squeak Squawk | ▶ The Métis Dance Shapes | ▶ The Métis Star Dance |
| ▶ I Spy Flower Beadwork | | ▶ All about the Sash |

Taan’s Moons: A Haida Moon Story

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Alison Gear with support and contributions from Tawni Davidson, *Haida*, Beng Favreau, *Haida*, Joanne Yovanovic, and various Haida Elders

ILLUSTRATOR

Kiki Van der Heiden, and children of Haida Gwaii

PUBLISHER

McKellar & Martin

READING LEVEL 2 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Haida Language Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Haida language, knowledge, traditions, culture, and relationship to the natural world

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 48

DESCRIPTION

This wonderfully engaging and thoughtful story recounts one version of the Haida Moon cycle. It follows Taan (which means “bear” in Haida) as she experiences the wonder of the unfolding seasons.

FEATURES

- ▶ written in English with some Haida sections, which are written in two differing dialects of Haida, Old Masset Haida and Skidegate Haida
- ▶ includes photographic portrayals of people (including Haida children), animals, and nature, some of which depict fabric art renderings of these subjects

Teachings of our Grandfathers series

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Dorothy Brown, *Gitkxaala (Ts’msyen)*, Henry Reeves, *Metlakatla (Alaska)*, Kenneth Campbell, Joseph Bradley, *Gitlaan*, Agnes Haldane, *Kincolith*, Sam Bennett, *Giluts’aaw* and Dan Gasin, *Gilu* – tellers, informants, key contributors

ILLUSTRATOR

Vern Brown, *Gitkxaala (Ts’msyen)*, Sara Porter, Bill Helin, *Ts’msyen (Lax Kw’alaams)*, Carol Gosnell

PUBLISHER

The Tsimshian Chief for Tsimshian Children Present and Future

READING LEVEL 4 – 7

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Sm’algyax Language Studies
- ▶ English Language Arts

THEMES & TOPICS

Ts’msyen language teaching, Ts’msyen culture and history

PUB DATE 1992

PAGES various

DESCRIPTION

This seven-volume set of diverse materials has been published with the permission of Johnson Gordon on behalf of his mother, Dorothy Brown and with the permission of Wilfred Jackson on behalf of Ganhada of Gitkxaala. Much of the content is a written transcription of oral retelling. The following are the 7 volumes in this series:

- ▶ **Volume 1: *The Tsimshian, Trade and the Northwest Coast Economy*** focuses on Ts’msyen social, political, and economic systems; also on interactions among civilizations
- ▶ **Volume 2: *Rituals and Respect and the Sea Otter*** focuses on Ts’msyen origins, core beliefs & narratives, and on the impact of religion; also on hunting – protocols, methods – and the varied purposes of texts
- ▶ **Volume 3: *Saaban: The Tsimshian and Europeans Meet*** focuses on conflict and cooperation among Ts’msyen and Europeans
- ▶ **Volume 4: *Fort Simpson, Fur Fort at Laxlg’alaams*** focuses on humans and their environment; also on early contact, conflict, and cooperation among Ts’msyen and Europeans; other topics include the Hudson’s Bay Co., ways of life among the Ts’msyen, and the varied purposes of texts
- ▶ **Volume 5: *When the Aleuts were on Tsimshian Territory*** focuses on humans and their environment; also on early contact, conflict, and cooperation among Ts’msyen and Europeans; other topics include the Hudson’s Bay Co., ways of life among the Ts’msyen, and the varied purposes of texts
- ▶ **Volume 6: *Conflict at Gits’ilaasu*** focuses on contact, conflict, trade, and cooperation among local First Nations and Europeans
- ▶ **Volume 7: *The Story of the House of Nistgumiik*** focuses on humans and their environment; also deals with crests, clans, and the power of houses

FEATURES

- ▶ with the exception of Volume 4 and Volume 6 (in English only), all are written in both Sm’algyax and English
- ▶ Volume 4 includes historical documents related to trading (ship logs, fort records, maps, etc.)

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Other - Volume 2 mentions the sexual abstinence required of hunters before a hunt
- ▶ Safety - Volume 3 mentions using urine and ear wax for particular activities
- ▶ Violence - Volumes 5 and 6 mention of Aleuts being killed and cremated; Volume 6 makes mention of a Nisga’a chief being killed; Volume 7 mentions a trick that involves the pretense that a child has been scalped

That’s Me!

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Nadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band)

ILLUSTRATORS

various

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Secwepemc, British Columbia, pit houses, salmon, powwows, connection to the land

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

This simple book by an Indigenous educator focusses on the resources gathered from the ocean by Coast Salish peoples.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a short glossary of Secwepemc words with pronunciation and a pictograph glossary
- ▶ includes a list of Big Ideas, some “Thinking about My Reading” questions and some “Wondering” questions
- ▶ although marketed as part of the publisher’s “Celebrate Canada” series, this title can be purchased individually

Thirteen Moons on Turtle’s Back

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Joseph Bruchac, *Abenaki*

ILLUSTRATOR

Thomas Locker

PUBLISHER

Puffin Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 4

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, beliefs, storytelling, relationship to the natural world

PUB DATE 1997

PAGES 32

DESCRIPTION

In many First Peoples cultures, the 13 cycles of the moon represent the changing seasons and the passage of time. Each moon has its own special name, and many cultures recognize a story that says the 13 scales on Old Turtle's back hold the key to these moons. This book depicts this belief by presenting 13 poems that take readers through the year, from the “Moon of Popping Trees” — when the cottonwoods crack with frost, to the “Big Moon” of the Abenaki. The book’s effective design juxtaposes verse with eye-catching illustrations depicting dramatic seasonal changes.

Three Feathers

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Richard Van Camp, *Dene* (Dogrib/Tlicho Nation)

ILLUSTRATOR

Krystal Mateus

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL 8 – 9

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Indigenous Language learning
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

restorative justice, stewardship, traditional teachings, relationship with the land, spirituality.

PUB DATE 2015

PAGES 48

DESCRIPTION

This graphic novel (available in selected Indigenous languages, as well as English) weaves together the stories of three young men who have committed crimes within their community. They are sent by its Elders to live nine months on the land as part of the circle sentencing process. Their time there is transformative, and they return home changed. Their experience and changed relationships with the community members they have harmed speak to the power and grace of restorative justice in First Nations communities.

Thunderboy Jr.**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Sherman Alexie, *Spokane* (Coeur d’Alene, USA)

ILLUSTRATOR

Yuyi Morales

PUBLISHER

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (can order from Strong Nations)

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

names, family, choices

PUB DATE 2016

PAGES 40

DESCRIPTION

Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. Just because people call his dad Big Thunder doesn't mean he wants to be Little Thunder. He wants a name that celebrates something cool he's done, like Touch the Clouds, Not Afraid of Ten Thousand Teeth, or Full of Wonder. But just when Thunder Boy Jr. thinks all hope is lost, he and his dad pick the perfect name...a name that is sure to light up the sky.

Tilly: A Story of Hope and Resilience**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**

Monique Gray Smith, *Cree/Lakota*

PUBLISHER

Sono Nis Press

READING LEVEL 9+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

forced displacement, residential schooling, 60s scoop, personal and cultural resilience, cultural connections

PUB DATE 2013

PAGES 190

DESCRIPTION

This story about a young Indigenous woman coming of age in Canada in the 1980s will prove both engaging and challenging for young adult readers. Tilly, the main character overcomes abuse, illness, and addiction.

FEATURES

- ▶ a glossary of terms and a list of discussion questions supplement this novel

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Ethical/Legal - the novel contains several references to substance abuse (alcoholism, underage drinking, cannabis use) and its consequences (e.g., halfway through the story, another character tells Tilly about killing a family of four by drinking and driving; on another occasion, Tilly drinks until she blacks out at a party; she wakes up undressed and is later told that photos of her were taken – something she does not remember)
- ▶ Language - there are instances of racist language and profanity

Trudy’s Rock Story

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Trudy Spiller, *Gitxsan*

ILLUSTRATOR

Jessika Von Innerebner

PUBLISHER

Medicine Wheel Education

READING LEVEL K – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Physical & Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

healthy relationships, feelings, respecting Mother Nature’s teaching, Gitxsan teachings, intergenerational relationships, identity, social awareness and responsibility

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 42

DESCRIPTION

In this retelling of a narrative passed down to the author as part of her Gitxsan heritage, young Ruby learns how to deal with negative emotions through traditional Gitxsan teachings passed down to her from her grandmother.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Gitxsan words and conversation guide
- ▶ also available from the publisher: audiobook version, lesson plans, French-language version

Tulugaq – An Oral History of Ravens

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Kerry McCluskey (ed.)

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

37 members of Nunavut’s Inuit community (stories, photography)

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc

READING LEVEL 4 – 8

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

knowledge from the Inuit Oral Tradition, behaviour and characteristics of ravens, storytelling, life lessons, science

PUB DATE 2013

PAGES 93

DESCRIPTION

Tulugaq is a collection of traditional Inuit stories about the raven, accompanied by a collection of beautiful pictures of ravens. The result of 10 years of research and interviews, *Tulugaq* examines the raven’s place in the Arctic and reveals a bird that is variously loved, maligned, dreaded, and even revered.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes names, pictures, and biographies of the many Nunavut Nation members who have contributed to this book
- ▶ includes arresting photographs of the landscape and of ravens

Turtle Island Voices Series

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

David Bouchard, *Métis*, Robert Cutting, *Kanien’kehaka (Mohawk)*, and Robyn Michaud-Turgeon, *Anishinaabe*

PUBLISHER

Rubicon Publishing Inc.

READING LEVEL 1 – 8

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Core French
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies

THEMES & TOPICS

varied aspects of First Peoples’ lives, cultures, and heritages, across Canada

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES various

DESCRIPTION

Turtle Island Voices is a series of titles designed to foster awareness and understanding of First Peoples’ cultures in Canada for both First Peoples and non-Indigenous learners. The books reflect a wide variety of cultural areas from Canada’s west coast to the east. There are traditional stories, modern stories, and informational texts.

FEATURES

- ▶ each book has a designated difficulty level
- ▶ there is a 120-page teacher’s guide for each grade of the Turtle Island Voices series, which includes detailed, guided instruction for each Student Book
- ▶ materials for grades 1-6 are available in French
- ▶ CD-ROM disks are available containing projectable versions of each title

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Other - although the developers made efforts to maintain authenticity of content, there may be some titles in the series for which appropriate community endorsement (i.e., re the authenticity of content) has not been obtained; as an example, the story in *Marvelous Machines* (grade 7) may not be endorsed by the Council of Haida Nation

The following are titles in this series (listed here by designated grade level):

Grade 1

- Beaver and Porcupine
- Hummingbird and the Fire
- Fawn Gets Her Spots
- Bear Listens
- Buniq’s Boots
- Coyote’s Trick
- The New Girl
- Our Reserve
- What Do You Do?
- That’s Awesome!

Grade 2

- Buffalo Learns Respect
- Night and Day
- Little Bear
- Just Joking!
- Help!
- Anisha’s Dance
- The Sash
- Time to Celebrate!
- Around the World
- Exploring Art

Grade 3

- The Great Flood
- Koluskap and the Baby
- Raven and Whale
- The Hunt
- Download!
- Drummer Boy
- Little Fish
- Helping Hands
- Where Do You Live?
- Outstanding!

Grade 4

- Deer and Cougar
- The First Corn
- The Gift of the Red River Jig
- The Mystery of the Mist
- Eagles on Ice
- Sarah and the Bully
- Kirima Okpik, Master Inventor
- Get Moving!
- Connected
- Making Music

Grade 5

- The One Who Watches Over
- The White Deer
- The Big Dark
- Case of the Mysterious Paw Prints
- Eagle Girl
- Making Things Right
- Night Danger
- Helping Mother Earth
- Game On!
- House and Home

Grade 6

- Stories of Thunderbird
- Nothing Scares Me!
- Glooscap Stops the Wind
- Unexpected Friends
- The Boy Who Told Tales
- The Grandfather Stories
- The Mystery at Lake Laberge
- Contact
- Let’s Dance!
- Danger!

Grade 7

- There for You
- Protecting the Planet
- Marvellous Machines
- Action!

Grade 8

- Our Voices
- Media Matters
- Making Choices
- In Turn

Twelve Months of Fun on Haida Gwaii with Mattie & Jojo**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Carson Gray, *Haida* and Lynn Hughan, *Haida***ILLUSTRATOR**Lynn Hughan, *Haida***OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

Kevin Bosario & Denver Cross (Skidegate Haida Immersion Program), Nika Collison (Haida Gwaii Museum), the Haida Heritage Centre at Kay Llnagaay, Beng Favreau (Literacy Haida Gwaii), Leighann Rodger, staff, and students (Sk'aadga Naay Elementary School)

PUBLISHER

TakingITGlobal (this title available via Amazon.ca)

READING LEVEL K – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Language Studies (Haida)

THEMES & TOPICS

family, seasonal rounds, community, place

PUB DATE 2020**PAGES** 36**DESCRIPTION**

Mattie & Jojo live in Haida Gwaii, an island off the North Coast of British Columbia that is home to the Haida people. Mattie and his sister Jojo love living here because there are so many fun things for children to see and do.

The Two Sisters**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**E. Pauline Johnson, *Mohawk***ILLUSTRATOR**

Sandra Butt

PUBLISHER

Waterlea Books

READING LEVEL 2 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

land formations, 'Story of Vancouver', peace and relationships

PUB DATE 2016**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

The Squamish traditional story was told by Joe Capilano to Pauline Johnson, who first published it in 1911. This edition includes sumptuous illustrations that showcase the splendour of the Salish Sea. The story tells of two young girls who grow up to become courageous women and are immortalized within the landscape after bringing lasting peace to their community by convincing their father (Chief) to invite a longtime enemy to a peaceful feast.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes information about the seasons, food harvesting and prep, cultural teachings, landforms, and territory

Two Whale Stories

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Mildred Roberts, *Ts’msyen*. Don T. Roberts, *Ts’msyen*

ILLUSTRATOR

Paula Wesley, *Ts’msyen*

PUBLISHER

Biiilts’ik Colleen Austin – available as a “streamable” online version only, at https://issuu.com/colleenaustin/docs/two_whale_story_book_publish_final

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

kindness, family, history, traditional knowledge

PUB DATE 2014

PAGES 36

DESCRIPTION

This is the story of two killer whale encounters. The stories show how people can connect with their ancestors. Both stories are true and demonstrate what happens when you show kindness.

FEATURES

- ▶ available free of charge, as a streamable online version only; includes words in the Sm’algyax language

Txamsen and the Tides

BC

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Henry Tate, *Ts’msyen* (storyteller)

ILLUSTRATOR

Claudia Stewart

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Ts’msyen Sm’algyax Language Authority (TSLA), Tannis Calder (transcribing and editing)

PUBLISHER

Tsimshian Nation and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert)

READING LEVEL K – 3

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Foods
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional stories (Adaawx – True Tellings), seasonal rounds, harvesting and gathering, First Nations values, social responsibility

PUB DATE 2018

PAGES 24

DESCRIPTION

Txamsm (raven) uses his wits to trick and negotiate with the little old woman who holds the tides, securing her agreement to let the tide go out twice a day so that his people can have access to harvest shellfish.

FEATURES

- ▶ Sm’algyax language woven through the book with phrases and vocabulary

CAUTION

- ▶ Violence – Txamsm pushes the old woman and throws sand in her eyes

Unusual Friendships: A Little Black Cat and a Little White Rat

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERBeatrice Culleton Mosionier, *Métis***ILLUSTRATOR**

Rebecca Belmore

PUBLISHER

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

belonging, identity, respect, friendship

PUB DATE 2002**PAGES** 28**DESCRIPTION**

This story of an unusual friendship between a black cat and a white rat is full of colourful Métis affectations. The black cat is not accepted at the cat show as he is not considered a purebred. The white rat fiddles a tune, encouraging all the cats to learn to jig. They join together and achieve status and respect for who they are. This story is written in a complete rhyming pattern with colourful illustrations that are enjoyable for children of all ages.

Urban Tribes
BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Lisa Charleyboy, *Tsilhqot'in*, and Mary Beth Leatherdale (eds.) with multiple Indigenous contributors**PUBLISHER**

Annick Press

READING LEVEL 7 – 9+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

stereotypes, racism, relationships, history, culture, identity and self-esteem, community, leadership, tolerance

PUB DATE 2015**PAGES** 136**DESCRIPTION**

This anthology of essays, stories, interviews, graphics, and visual journals focuses on First Nations contributors throughout North America who live “off the rez” in urban spaces. Contributors explore a wide-range of topics: the trials and tribulations of dating in the city, the alienating experience of leaving a remote reserve for high school in the city, the mainstream success of Electric Pow wow music, and the humiliation of dealing with racist school mascots.

Voices from the Skeena
BC**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Roy Henry Vickers, *Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk***ILLUSTRATOR**

Robert Budd

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Essays by: Chief Jeffrey H. Johnson; Vicky Sims; Agnes Harris; Martin Starret; Sarah Glassey; Viroqua Godfrey; et al

PUBLISHER

Harbour Publishing

READING LEVEL 6 – 12**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Skeena, pioneer, journey, history, gold, trade, settlers

PUB DATE 2019**PAGES** 112**DESCRIPTION**

Combining forty illustrations with text selected from pioneer interviews that CBC radio producer Imbert Orchard recorded in the 1960s, the book follows the arrival of the Europeans and the introduction of the fur trade to the Omineca gold rush and the building of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railroad.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes primary source material and traditional place names

A Walk on the Shoreline
AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERRebecca Hainnu, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Qin Leng

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

the Qikiqtani Inuit Association

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc

READING LEVEL 3 – 5**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Workplace Skills

THEMES & TOPICS

Inuit culture, stewardship, intergenerational teachings, traditional plants, shoreline life and seafood harvesting

PUB DATE 2015**PAGES** 39**DESCRIPTION**

A Walk on the Shoreline follows Nukappia who learns from his family, his community, ...and his surroundings. For the shoreline is home to an entire ecosystem of plants and animals. From seaweed to clams to char to shore grasses, there is far more to see there than Nukappia ever imagined.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an in-depth glossary that uses photos to supplement information about plants and animals
- ▶ includes photo-enhanced explanations of landforms and of tools used on the shoreline

A Walk on the Tundra

AUTHORS

Rebecca Hainnu, *Inuit*, and Anna Ziegler, with the support of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association

ILLUSTRATOR

Qin Leng

PUBLISHER

Inhabit Media Inc.

READING LEVEL 3 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Inuit culture and environment, tundra plants and their traditional uses, Elders, intergenerational teaching

PUB DATE 2011

PAGES 48

DESCRIPTION

A Walk on the Tundra follows Inuujaq, a little girl who travels with her grandmother onto the tundra. There, Inuujaq learns that these tough little plants are much more important to Inuit than she originally believed.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a “field guide” with photos and scientific information about a wide array of Arctic flora and a glossary of Inuktitut words and phrases (with pronunciation guide)
 - ▶ an online “book study” (Teacher’s Guide) is available
-

The Water Walker

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Joanne Robertson, *AnishnaabeKwe*

PUBLISHER

Second Story Press

READING LEVEL 3+

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Science
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

water, Indigenous rights, Intergenerational relationships, social justice, Ojibwe, TEKW (Traditional Ecological Knowledge & Wisdom)

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 36

DESCRIPTION

This book is based on actual events. Nokomis Josephine Mandamin, an Ojibwe grandmother, shares the story and teachings from her walks around the Great Lakes to raise awareness for the protection of clean water and water rights.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes an Ojibwe pronunciation guide and glossary; also a Mother Earth Water Walkers background page

We All Count: A Book of Cree Numbers

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORJulie Flett, *Métis, Cree***READING LEVEL** K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Cree language learning
- ▶ Mathematics (basic numeracy)

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

THEMES & TOPICS

counting 1-10

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 20**DESCRIPTION**

Each successive two-page spread in this board book introduces one of the numbers from 1-10.

FEATURES

- ▶ as a supplement to the English text, the Cree word for each number is provided in the Cree language; a pronunciation guide at the front is supplied by the Cree Literacy Network

We All Count: Book of Ojibway Art

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORJason Adair, *Ojibway***READING LEVEL** K – 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Ojibway language learning
- ▶ Arts Education (Visual Arts)
- ▶ Mathematics (basic numeracy)

PUBLISHER

Native Northwest

THEMES & TOPICS

Ojibway artistic tradition/style, counting

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 20**DESCRIPTION**

Each successive two-page spread in this attractive little board book introduces one of the numbers from 1-10.

FEATURES

- ▶ As a supplement to the English text, the Ojibway word for each number is provided in the Ojibway language (with both spelled and a phonetic renderings).

We are All Connected series

LEAD AUTHORS

Brenda Boreman; Terri Mack, *Kwakwaka'wakw* (Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation)

OTHER CONTENT CONTRIBUTORS (AUTHORSHIP, PHOTOGRAPHY)

Celestine Aleck, *Snuneymuxw*, Joe Starr, *Haisla* (Kitimat), Kim Soo Goodtrack, *Lakota*, Leah Marie Dorion, *Métis*, Charmaine Peal, *Nisga'a*, John Haugen, *Nlaka'pamux*, Rod Peters, *Sto:lo*, Michael Kusugak, *Inuit*

PUBLISHER

Strong Nations Publishing

READING LEVEL 3 – 5

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Workplace Skills

THEMES & TOPICS

biodiversity, biomes, ecosystems and environments (e.g., rainforest, river, grassland), biodiversity, place, plants and animals (e.g., cougar, salmon, eagle, bear), peoples' ways of life and activities of daily living (e.g., fishing), aspects of culture (e.g., Nisga'a Clan system), values, stewardship, & seasonal rounds

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 32 (each)

DESCRIPTION

This series looks at how we all live in a shared balance upon Mother Earth. Each book explores a specific ecosystem with a focus on one animal and its adaptations for survival within that ecosystem. Indigenous interviewees, each living within the identified area, also explain how their community interacts with the land. The 10 titles in the series are:

- ▶ ***Coast Salish, Coastal Rainforests and Cougars*** This volume, focussed on the Coast Salish, includes a story and Interview by Celestine Aleck to set the stage for description of the territory and the teachings
- ▶ ***The Earth, Our Home*** The first of two foundational books that provide deeper understanding of the content of the “We Are All Connected” titles; explores biomes, ecosystems and biodiversity
- ▶ ***The Earth, We Share*** The second of two foundational books that provide deeper understanding of the content of the “We Are All Connected” titles; explores the interconnectedness between living and non-living things
- ▶ ***Haisla, Rivers and Chinook Salmon*** This volume, focussed on the Haisla, includes a Haisla story shared at the beginning of the book to set the stage for description of the territory and the teachings
- ▶ ***Inuit, Tundra and Ravens*** This volume, focussed on the Inuit, includes a story shared by Jennifer Anawak and an interview by Michael Kusugak to set the stage for description of the territory and the teachings
- ▶ ***Lakota, Mixed Grasslands and Bald Eagles*** This volume, focussed on the Lakota, includes a personal story from Kim Soo Goodtrack to set the stage for the description of the territory and the teachings
- ▶ ***Métis, Wetlands and Mallards*** In this volume focussed on the Métis, author Dorion shares her story via interview and poem to set the stage for the teachings
- ▶ ***Nisga'a, Ponds and Leopard Frogs*** This volume, focussed on the Nisga'a, includes a story and interview by Charmaine Peal to set the stage for the description of the territory and the teachings
- ▶ ***Nlaka'pamux, Grasslands and Rattlesnakes*** This volume, focussed on the Nlaka'pamux, includes a story and interview by Haugen to set the stage for the description of the territory and the teachings.
- ▶ ***Sto:lo, Riparian Forests and Black Bears*** This volume, focussed on the Sto:lo, includes a story shared by David and an interview with Rod Peters to set the stage for description of the territory and the teachings

FEATURES

- ▶ inquisition questions to start learner thinking on every page

- ▶ infographs, illustrations, and photographs of animals, land, cultural objects, food harvesting and preparation
- ▶ word boxes to expand thinking
- ▶ cultural calendars, language charts, maps

We Can Bead

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER

Nadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band)

PHOTOGRAPHER

Dave Starrett

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL K – 2

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Mathematics

THEMES & TOPICS

counting, beading, inter-generational relationships, patterns, sorting

PUB DATE 2017

PAGES 16

DESCRIPTION

Written from the point of view of a grandmother who is teaching her grandson to bead, this accessible little book provides students with opportunities to sort, to identify and create patterns, and to count.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes Teaching Guide on inside front cover
- ▶ the inside back cover includes a Math Mat, while the outside back cover identifies the Big Idea of the story
- ▶ a scannable link to the publisher’s website, where one can listen to the book and try an activity, is provided

We Visit Granny

BC

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

Noreen Pankewich, *Stó:lō*

PUBLISHER

School District No. 73 (Kamloops/Thompson)

READING LEVEL K – 1

CURRICULUM AREAS

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

family

PUB DATE 2006

PAGES 20

DESCRIPTION

A visit to Granny’s house is always fun, especially when the snacks are shared by all. This book shows a quality relationship between a grandmother, her son, and her granddaughter.

We-gyet Wanders On: Legends of the Northwest**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Ksan Book Builders (Kitanmax School of Northwest Coast Indian Art),
*Gitxsan***ILLUSTRATOR**

Ken Mowat, Vernon Stephen, and Sandy Heybroek

PUBLISHER

Hancock House

READING LEVEL 6 – 7+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, trickster, ways of learning, storytelling

PUB DATE 2006 rev.**PAGES** 72**DESCRIPTION**

This collection contains the ancient stories of 'Ksan who have lived in northern British Columbia for over six thousand years. We-Gyet is the essence of every person's frailties exaggerated into gentle humour or ribald laughter. His adventures always end in disaster. His blunders and tricks changed the face of the earth, and the shapes of many of earth's creatures. The stories in this collection show the relevance of traditional stories to modern life, and teach about the interconnectedness of people, animals, and land.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is in both English and Gitxsan

Welcome Family and Friends to Our Bighouse**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Nella Nelson, *Kwakwaka'wakw***ILLUSTRATOR**

Karin Clark

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Hereditary Chiefs, Elders, and students from local First Nations communities

PUBLISHER

Raven Publishing Inc.

READING LEVEL 4+**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Language Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

potlatch, language and culture, family and community, working together, traditional teachings and values, resiliency

PUB DATE 2016**PAGES** 92**DESCRIPTION**

As a child, the author experienced family Potlatches, feasts, and ceremonies in Alert Bay and Kingcome Inlet. Told from the perspective of a 12-year-old girl, the story focuses on what goes into planning, preparing, and hosting a Potlatch.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes maps and First Nations artwork

When I was Eight

AUTHORSChristy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton, *Inuit***ILLUSTRATOR**

Gabrielle Grimard

PUBLISHER

Annick Press

READING LEVEL 4 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

residential schooling, family, change, relationships, independence

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 32**DESCRIPTION**

This is an adaptation for younger readers of *Fatty Legs*, Margaret Pokiak's story about her residential school experience. At school young Margaret perseveres in her quest to learn how to read, even when she is bullied and tormented by one of the nuns.

When the Spirits Dance: A Cree Boy's Search for the Meaning of War

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERLarry Loyie, *Cree***ILLUSTRATOR**

Constance Brissenden

PUBLISHER

Theytus

READING LEVEL 4 – 7**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

WWII, First Nations servicemen/servicewomen and veterans, change and adaptation, coming of age

PUB DATE 2006**PAGES** 44**DESCRIPTION**

This story of growing up during the war years in Canada describes the challenges that faced First Nations families when a provider left to serve in the forces. A young boy is forced to call upon learned skills and teachings to make his way in a changed world.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes archival photos of Slave Lake AB in the 1940s and the author's family
- ▶ includes a glossary of Cree words

When the Tide is Out**BC****AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**Nadine McSpadden, *Secwepemc* (Shuswap Band)**ILLUSTRATORS**

various

PUBLISHER

Pearson Canada

READING LEVEL 1 – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

oceans and ocean life, inter-generational relationships, Coast Salish traditions, harvesting, gathering, fishing, food

PUB DATE 2018**PAGES** 16**DESCRIPTION**

This simple yet engaging book by an Indigenous educator focusses on the resources gathered from the ocean by Coast Salish peoples.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a list of Big Ideas
- ▶ includes “Thinking about My Reading” questions and “Wondering” questions
- ▶ although marketed as part of the publisher’s “Celebrate Canada” series, this title can be purchased individually

When We Were Alone**AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILER**David Alexander Robertson, *Cree* (Norway House)**ILLUSTRATORS**Julie Flett, *Cree/Métis***OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

William Dumas and Don Robertson (Cree language)

PUBLISHER

Highwater Press (imprint of Portage & Main Press)

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Indian residential school, intergenerational relationships, identity

PUB DATE 2016**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

This fictional picture resource tells of a conversation between a young girl and her Kóikum. In response to her granddaughter’s questions, the grandmother shares her story, including her experiences at residential school.

FEATURES

- ▶ text is in two colours: brown for past memory and black for conversation between granddaughter and her Kóikum

Where Did You Get Your Moccasins?

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERSylvia Olsen with Ron Martin, *Cree & Saulteaux***ILLUSTRATOR**

Herman Bekkering

PUBLISHER

Portage & Main Press

READING LEVEL K – 2**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, sharing, and respect

PUB DATE 1993**PAGES** 24**DESCRIPTION**

This picture book tells the story of Jody, who attends an urban multi-ethnic school. When his classmates ask him about his moccasins, it gives Jody the opportunity to talk about his family and culture.

Where I Belong

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERTara White, *Mohawk***ILLUSTRATOR**

Herman Bekkering

PUBLISHER

Trade Wind Books

READING LEVEL 7 – 9**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies

THEMES & TOPICS

Oka uprising, identity, adoption, family, young romance, intergenerational teaching, diabetes, resistance, dreams, culture, racism

PUB DATE 2014**PAGES** 109**DESCRIPTION**

This novel of self-discovery and redemption takes place during the Oka Crisis of the summer of 1990. Having been adopted as an infant, Carrie has always felt out of place—and recurring dreams keep warning that someone close to her will be badly hurt. When she finds out that her birth father is living in Kahnawake, Quebec, she goes there and finally finds in a place she truly belongs.

CAUTIONS

- ▶ Violence - descriptions of the Oka events and an account of dreams include violent events and images (guns, shooting, blood, explosions)
- ▶ Ethical/Legal - racism is portrayed (on the part of a police officer and a store customer, directed at protagonist and her family)

Which Way Should I Go?

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERBernelda Wheeler, *Cree & Saulteaux***ILLUSTRATOR**

Kasia Charko

PUBLISHER

Sono Nis Press

READING LEVEL 3 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education
- ▶ Music

THEMES & TOPICS

family, loss, decision-making

PUB DATE 2008**PAGES** 40**DESCRIPTION**

When Joey, a happy Nuu-chah-nulth boy, loses his beloved grandmother, the sun goes out in his world. Fortunately, she has left something of herself behind — a song, which keeps knocking on Joey’s heart, and a dance, which urges him to get up on his feet and choose again. Choosing was what their song was about, and Grandma’s lessons prove strong indeed. Joey chooses to remember Grandma with joy and to take up his daily life again with a spring in his step.

FEATURES

- ▶ a corresponding Teacher Guide is available
- ▶ to hear the song featured in the book, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=89IOGqfjESU

Wild Berries

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATORJulie Flett, *Cree & Métis***OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**Earl Cook, Jennifer Thomas, *First Peoples Cultural Council* (Swampy Cree translations)**PUBLISHER**

Simply Read Books

READING LEVEL K – 3**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Physical and Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

intergenerational relationships, harvesting and gathering, food preparation, caring for the land

PUB DATE 2013**PAGES** 34**DESCRIPTION**

Since he was young, Clarence would go berry picking with his grandmother and learn about the different animals, berries, and the land. Now Clarence is old enough to help and understand the teachings of his grandmother.

FEATURES

- ▶ includes a pronunciation and language guide as well as a wild blueberry jam recipe

Yamozha and His Beaver Wife (Yamoózha Eyits'o Wets'ékéé Tsá)

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERVital Thomas, *Thcho***ILLUSTRATOR**Archie Beaulieu, *Dene***PUBLISHER**

Theytus Books

READING LEVEL 3 – 4**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Social Studies
- ▶ Science

THEMES & TOPICS

traditional knowledge, relationship with the natural world

PUB DATE 2007**PAGES** 44**DESCRIPTION**

A powerful medicine man, Yamozha is prominent in many Dene stories. *Yamozha and His Beaver Wife* is based on an oral story of the Dene people. In this story, Yamozha forgets his promise to his wife and as a result she turns into a giant beaver. He follows her all over Denedeh but is unable to catch her. This story tells of how this great medicine man shaped the land in the Tchco region and its surrounding areas into what it is today.

You Hold Me Up

AUTHOR, EDITOR, OR COMPILERMonique Gray Smith, *Cree/Lakota***ILLUSTRATOR**Danielle Daniel, *Métis***PUBLISHER**

Orca Book Publishers

READING LEVEL 1**CURRICULUM AREAS**

- ▶ English Language Arts
- ▶ Health Education

THEMES & TOPICS

social emotional learning, caring and nurturing, health and wellness, reconciliation, social responsibility

PUB DATE 2017**PAGES** 26**DESCRIPTION**

This high-interest, easy-to-read book is about building relationships, fostering empathy, and promoting respect between peers. It encourages children to show love and support for each other and to consider each other's well-being in their everyday actions.

FEATURES

- ▶ available in various forms: read-along, e-book, audiobook, English-only print, bilingual English + Anishinaabemowin print, French-language print

3

INDEX OF RESOURCES

For detailed information about each of these resources, refer to the **Resource Annotations** section earlier in this guide.

Note that grade-level designations for these texts are suggestions only, and many can be used at younger or older grades for different contexts and purposes (e.g., a primary level storybook can be used at the intermediate level to examine how value lessons can be presented in a simple way; an intermediate level text can be read aloud to younger students).

Note also that the Nations identified for each book may refer to the cultural content of the text, the authorship, or both.

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Acorns for Wilaiya	Secwepemc	1 – 3	counting, addition, subtraction, inter-generational relationships
The Adventures of Txamsm Series	Tsimshian	3 – 5	traditional knowledge, trickster, ways of learning
After School	Stó:lō	K – 1	school, friendship, fun
Alego	Nunavut	2 – 3	relationship to the natural world, family, traditions
An Aboriginal Alphabet	Kwakwaka'wakw	K – 1	letters of the alphabet; people, places, and events in First Nations communities
Animal World	Heiltsuk	K – 1	animals of the BC coast
Animals of the Salish Sea	Coast Salish	1 – 3	marine life, animal species, cultural significance, land/waterways, biology, art
As I Remember It: Teachings (ʔəms taʔaw) from the Life of a Sliammon Elder	Tla'amin	10 – 12+	language, wisdom, resilience, oral tradition, protocol, well-being & wellness, healing, land, culture, ceremony, medicine, reciprocity, responsibility, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, trauma, intergenerational trauma, grief & loss, history of colonization, racism, injustice
Awâsis and the World-Famous Bannock	Wapsewipi (Swan River)	K – 4	Cree society, food, intergenerational relationships, problem solving, ancestral knowledge, friendship
B Is for Basketball: An Alphabet Book	Haida	2 – 3	sports, community, teamwork, fair play
Back to Batoche	Salteaux	2 – 4	sets of 10s, leftover 1s, composing and decomposing numbers to 100, subtracting and adding numbers by 10 without counting, comparing and ordering numbers, skip-counting, comparing digits, Métis culture
The Bannock Book	Métis	K – 3	family, healthy choices
The Barren Ground (vol. 1 of the Mishewa Saga)	Cree (Norway House)	8 – 12	environment, interconnectedness, Indigenous knowledge, survival, family, relationships
Beaver Steals Fire	Salish	2 – 3	traditional knowledge, fire, relationships, teamwork
Beneath Raven Moon	Métis, Kwakwaka'wakw	5 – 9	trickster, creation stories, traditional celestial knowledge
Big and Small: with Northwest Coast Native Art	Haida, Heiltsuk, Coast Salish, Namgis	K	sizes (big and small), animal names, coastal First Nations art forms
A Blanket of Butterflies	Dene (Dogrib/Tlicho Nation)	4 – 7	identity, family, hereditary gifts, WWII, Dene laws, power of the spirit world
Bush Pilots	Inuit	1 – 3	airplanes, pilots, Nunavut, Northwest Territories
Byron through the Seasons	Dene	3	seasons, seasonal activities

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Canada's Oldest Sport	Secwepemc Nation – Shuswap Band	1 – 3	counting, lacrosse, addition, subtraction, quantities to 20
The Canoe He Called Loo Taas	Haida	2 – 3	traditional technologies (canoes)
Caring for Me Series	Cree, Anishinaabe, Thompson, Inuit/Montagnais, Penticton, Métis	2 – 3	nutrition, exercise, hydration, rest, sleep, personal hygiene, health care, family medicine, oral health, well-being, healthy choices, accident & injury prevention, passenger safety, self-reliance, vitality, sustainability, recycling, composting, gardening
Cedar Readers series	Kwakwaka'wakw	pre-K – 1	relationship to the natural world, traditional knowledge, counting
Cedar Readers A to Z series	Kwakwaka'wakw	pre-K – 2	English alphabet letters and sounds used at the beginnings of words, culturally valued activities and items
Ch'askin: A Legend of the Sechelt People	Sechelt	3 – 4	traditional knowledge, storytelling, Thunderbird
Chief Goose	Secwepemc and Métis	3 – 7	oral narratives, Indigenous culture, teachings, and values, Indigenous language, leadership, listening, cooperation
Chiwid	Tsilhqot'in	7+	seasonal cycles, relationships, spirituality, co-operation, rights and responsibilities
Christmas at Wapos Bay	Cree	4 – 6	family, traditional knowledge
Chuck in the City	Cree, Haida	3 – 5	adventure, safety
The Class Hike	Stó:lō	K – 1	relationship to the natural world, traditional knowledge, respect
Counting to 100 in the Bighouse	Kwakwaka'wakw	K – 2	basic numeracy
Cloudwalker	Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk	3 – 7	weather, river ecology, the water cycle, identity, choices, community
Colour and Draw: Northwest Coast Native Formline	various coastal First Nations artists	4 – 9	elements and principles of visual composition
Colouring Journal: Northwest Coast First Nations and Native Art	Musqueam, Coast Salish	4 – 9	family, identity, goal setting, conflict, patience, personal growth
A Coyote Solstice Tale	Cherokee	4 – 6	Christmas, consumerism, sharing, family, environment, trickster
A Dance Through the Seasons	Dakelh & Nak'azdli	5 – 7	animals, family, responsibility, seasonal rounds, patience, leadership, land
Dancing in My Bones	Métis	4 – 6	performance, relationships, beliefs, ceremony
Dancing with the Cranes	Okanagan	2 – 5	birth, life, death; change; birds/migration; cultural teachings; family; cycles of nature
Darkness Calls	Cree	5 – 7+	well-being, self-reliance, bullying, suicide, depression, mental health

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
A Day with Yayah	Nle?kepmx, Syilx, Métis	K – 4	harvesting and gathering, plants, intergenerational relationships, caring for Mother Earth, traditional medicines, TEKW (Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Wisdom)
Deadly Loyalties	Ojibway (Couchiching First Nation)	9+	teen pressures, gang violence, life on the street, choices, belonging
The Diamond Willow Walking Stick: A Traditional Métis Story about Generosity	Métis	4+	generosity, Métis traditions, respect, thankfulness, intergenerational relationships, protocols, care
Dipnetting with Dad	Secwepemc	1 – 3	family values & community living, multi-generational teaching, coming of age, fishing processes, food preparation
Discover the Animals: First Nations and Native Art Colouring and Learning Book	various	pre-K – 1	animals, symbolism and significance of imagery in varied First Nations cultures
Discovering Series	Cree	K – 1	animals, numbers, words in English, French, and Cree
Dream Catcher	Woodland Cree	5 – 7	continuity, art, relationship with spirit world
Dreaming in Indian	Tsilhqot'in, plus other Indigenous contributors	8 – 9	youth perspectives
Eaglecrest Books – Set A	Haida	2 – 4	family and community roles
Eaglecrest Books – Set B	Haida	2 – 4	family and community roles
The Elders are Watching	Métis	5 – 9	stewardship, sustainability, environment, sustainability, community, culture, the value of Indigenous knowledge
Explore the Animals: Colouring and Learning Book	various	pre-K – 1	animals
Exploring Quatsino	Kwakwaka'wakw	3 – 4	traditional knowledge, tradition, family and community roles
Exploring Ts'axis	Kwakwaka'wakw	3 – 4	traditional knowledge, tradition, family and community roles
Exploring Tsulquate	Kwakwaka'wakw	3 – 4	traditional knowledge, tradition, family and community roles
A Family Cookout	Thebati Dene Suhne	1 – 2	estimating and counting to 50, counting to compare, inter-generational relationships, family
Fatty Legs	Inuit	8 – 9	residential schooling, family, change, relationships
Fiddle Dancer	Timiskaming, Métis	4 – 6	tradition, relationships, grief and loss, performance
Fire Starters	Ojibwe	7 – 12	racism, honesty, community, mischief
A First Nations Alphabet: ABC Book	Stó:lō	pre-K – 1	literacy, traditions
A First Nations Alphabet to Read and Draw	Stó:lō	1 – 2	literacy, traditions, art

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
47,000 Beads	Lakota	2 – 4	resilience, identity, two-spirit, belonging, family and community, LGBTQ, Lakota culture and cultural events
From Lishamie	Dene (Deh Gah Got'ie First Nation)	8 – 9	traditional Dene teaching and learning, residential school experience in NWT, change & the impacts of new settlement on Indigenous societies
From the Mountains to the Sea: series (We Live Here; We Share the Seasons; We are a Community)	Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation	K - 2	river ecosystems, life cycle of salmon, stewardship, Kwakwaka'wakw ways of life: fishing, culture, values, design
From Turtle Island to Gaza	Anishinaabe - Ojibwe	8 – 9	colonization, settler, cross cultural, community, land
The Gathering Tree	Cree	3 – 7	health awareness, traditions and healing, self-care, acceptance and inclusion
The Gift is in the Making: Anishinaabeg Stories	Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg – Alderville First Nation	5 – 9	gift giving, tradition, well-being, food, wisdom & “right behaviour”
A Girl Called Echo, vol. 1 & 2	Métis	9+	resistance, Métis, Pemmican War, perspective, foster care, time travel, identity
Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message	Akwesasne Mohawk, Cayuga/Tuscarora	2 – 3	time and place, tradition, well-being, food, wisdom
The Giving Tree: A Retelling of a Traditional Métis Story	Métis	K – 5	Métis culture, history, protocols, reciprocal relationships, decision making, and core values (including generosity, courage, honesty, respect, and kindness)
Goodbye Buffalo Bay	Cree	6 – 7	rites of passage, Elders, residential school, ways of learning
Good Morning World	Haisla, Heiltsuk	K – 1	coastal First Nations art, animals, relationship to the natural world
Goodnight World: Animals of the Native Northwest	a wide variety of BC coastal First Nations	K – 3	First Nations art, animals, seasons, family, language learning
The Great Dogsled Race	Inuit	2 – 5	estimating sums and differences, modelling and symbolizing addition and subtraction, comparing and ordering quantities to 100, calculating distances, number sentences, dogsledding, Inuit culture, inter-generational relationships, Kivalliq Adventure race
Hearts Unbroken	Muscogee Creek (Oklahoma)	9 – 10	romance, racism, prejudice, integrity
Hide and Sneak	Inuit	pre-K – 2	life lessons, storytelling, adventure
Him Standing	Ojibway (Wabaseemoong First Nation)	8 – 9	First Peoples spirituality & dreams, relationships, overcoming adversity, intergenerational teaching, art/carving
Hockey Challenge	Haida	3 – 5	well-being, fairness, respect, gender stereotypes

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Honouring the Salmon: An Anthology Told in the Voices of the Tsimshian	Tsimshian	4 – 6	relationship with the natural world, traditional knowledge, salmon
Hooshum for Everyone	Stó:lō	1 – 2	traditional knowledge, food, sharing
How Devil’s Club Came to Be	Tlingit	1 – 4	Tlingit oral stories, devils club, medicine, shaman, raven
How Fox Saved the People (Dǵne Gok’ejdi)	Tłjchǵ / Dogrib	2 – 5	traditional knowledge, importance of caribou as a food source, storytelling, trickster, Indigenous language
How Many Frogs Do You See?	Kwakwaka’wakw	K – 1	early numeracy
How Raven Stole the Sun	Tlingit, Apache, Pueblo	2 – 3	traditional knowledge, storytelling, trickster
How the Coho Got His Hooked Nose	Stó:lō, Cheam	3 – 5	traditional knowledge, storytelling
How the Fox Got His Crossed Legs	Tłjchǵ / Dogrib	2 – 3	traditional knowledge, storytelling, trickster
How the Robin Got Its Red Breast	Sechelt	3	traditional knowledge, storytelling
I Am Raven	Métis, Kwakwaka’wakw	4 – 6	relationship with spirit world, beliefs, trickster
I Can’t Have Bannock but the Beaver Has a Dam	Cree & Sauteaux	1 – 2	tradition and modernity, traditional foods
I Have a Drum	Stó:lō	1 – 2	identity, sharing
I Help	Cree / Tahltan	pre-K – 1	traditional knowledge, family roles, ceremony
I Know I am Precious and Sacred	Victoria Native Friendship Centre	K – 3	ancestral teachings (value, dignity, and respect), personal identity
I Like Who I Am	Mohawk	3 – 4	family, identity, self-reliance, ceremony, traditions
I See Me	Okanagan, Secwepemc	pre-K – K	early learning, things I can do
I was Born Precious and Sacred	Victoria Native Friendship Centre	pre-K – 1	self-worth, identity, belonging
If I Go Missing	Ojibway/Nakawe/Nahanni	8 – 12	MMIWG (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls), justice, neglect, UNDRIP, racism, prejudice, stereotype, human rights
Inquiring Minds: Global Indigenous Peoples series	various, including from BC – Gitga’at, Tsay Keh Dene, Haida, Sto:lo, Musqueam, Kwakwaka’wakw, Secwepemc – and elsewhere – Kaiowá-Guaraní (Brazil), Kanaka Maoli (Hawaii), Māori (NZ)	3+	honouring the culture, land, language, and the people; life cycles

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Jack and the Boys Adventure Series	Haida	3 – 5	traditional knowledge, traditional technologies, relationship to the natural world, citizenship & service, sharing, fairness, respect, friendship
Jenneli's Dance	Métis	2 – 4	performance, traditional knowledge, diversity, belonging
The Jingle Dancer	Stó:lō	1 – 2	performance, traditional knowledge
The Journey: North American Indigenous Games	Haida	4 – 6	respect, fairness, self-reliance, identity, competition
The Journey of Dog Salmon	Tla-Keesh-Pihk-Uh, Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala	1 – 2	respect, bullying
Just a Story	Cree	5 – 7+	self-reliance, identity, belonging, well-being
Just a Walk	Cree, Haida	3 – 5	relationship to the natural world
Keepers of the Earth: Native Stories and Environmental Activities for Children	Abenaki, Akwesasne Mohawk	3 – 5	tradition, sustainability, respect, storytelling, relationship to the natural world
Keepers of the Night: Native Stories and Nocturnal Activities for Children	Abenaki, Akwesasne Mohawk	3 – 5	traditional knowledge, beliefs, storytelling, relationship to the natural world
Kou-Skelowh/ Kwu squilxw – We are the People: A Trilogy of Okanagan Legends	Okanagan	3 – 7	animals; respect, humour, relationship of people and the natural world; the origins of coyote as trickster
Learn from the Animals of the Salish Sea: Coast Salish Native Art Colouring and Learning Book	Coast Salish	pre-K – 1	animals
Learn the Alphabet with Northwest Coast Native Art	various	pre-K – K	literacy, alphabet
Learn the Colours with Northwest Coast Native Art	various	pre-K – K	literacy, colours
Learn to Count with Northwest Coast Native Art	various	pre-K – K	numeracy, counting
Learn and Play (2 board books)	various	pre-K – 1	literacy, symbols, counting, colours, ABCs
The Legend of the Caribou Boy	Dogrib, Dene	2 – 3	traditional knowledge, rites of passage
Lessons from Mother Earth	First Nation of Na-cho Nyak Dun (Yukon)	pre-K – 3	resource gathering, protocols, sustainability, environment, Indigenous connection to the land, intergenerational teaching
Let's Go! A Harvest Story	Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian	1 – 4	southeast Alaska, subsistence, harvesting, preserving, natural cycles, seasonal rounds, connections to the land, connections to the ocean, Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Let's Play Waltes: A Traditional Mikmaq Game	Mi'kmaq (Eskasoni FN)	2 – 4	count to 10, compare to 10, compose and decompose to 10, Mi'kmaq culture, games, inter-generational relationships
Lightfinder	Métis (Cree/Cherokee)	8 – 9	family, relationships, transformation, personal identity, connection of the traditional and modern, survival
Little Bear's Vision Quest	Sechelt	K – 5	respect, responsibility, friendship, kindness, patience, interconnectedness
Little Cedar, Big Cedar	Kwakwaka'wakw	K – 3	basic numeracy
The Little Duck (Sikihpsis)	Cree	2 – 3	belonging, identity, self-esteem
The Little Hummingbird	Haida	2 – 3	relationship with the natural world, wisdom
The Littlest Sled Dog	Inuit	2 – 3	belonging, identity
Little You	Dogrib (Tlicho)	pre-K – 1	individuality and uniqueness, identity, parental love, rhyming
Long Powwow Nights	Métis, Mi'kmaq/Cree	6+	powwow, Mi'kmaw, intergenerational relationships, remembrance
The Mask that Sang	Cayuga	5 – 7	bullying, adoption, family, friendship, Cayuga ways, urban reserve, the 60s scoop (implied)
Mayuk the Grizzly Bear	Sechelt	3	traditional knowledge, storytelling
The Moccasins	Ktunaxa, Cree, Métis	2 – 3	belonging, family
Medicines to Help Us	Métis	6 – 9	medicinal plants in the homeland of the Métis, health and wellness, culture and language, geography (Canadian places), artwork (beadwork)
Memory Book	Secwepemc	1 – 3	2-D shapes, 3-D solids, maps, positional language
Métis Christmas Mittens	Métis	K – 4	mittens, Métis, protocols, clothing, design, beading
Missing Nimâmâ	Cree	5 – 9	loss, family, social justice, identity, community
Moonshot, vol. 1 & 2	various	7+	Indigenous storytelling, contemporary interpretations of traditional stories, identity, intergenerational teaching
Mouse Celebrates the Winter Solstice	Kwakwaka'wakw, Ts'msyen	K – 3	family, tradition, solstice
My Elders Tell Me	Kwakwaka'wakw	3 – 5	seasonal cycle, Elders, tradition, family and community roles
My Family Has Fun	Stó:lō	pre-K – K	family
My First Métis Lobstick	Métis	2 – 5	Métis, culture, history, protocols, fur trade, geography, lobstick, spruce tree
My Heart Fills with Happiness	Lakota	pre-K – 2	loving, identity, First Nations family values

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
My Life in a Kwagu'ł Big House	'Namgis First Nation	6 – 9	family/kinship, generosity, traditional ways of knowing and teaching (strong connections to First Peoples Principles of Learning), coming of age
My Life with the Salmon	'Namgis First Nation	7 – 9	stewardship, ecological relationships, identity, and family
My Name Is Seepeetza	Interior Salish	5 – 7	identity, rites of passage, residential schools
Neekna and Chemai	Okanagan	3 – 4	roles and responsibilities, seasonal cycles, traditional learning
The Night Sky	Cree, Dene	1 – 3	astronomy, northern lights, constellations, moon, stars, First Nations, Inuit, Métis
Nimoshom and His Bus	Cree/Ojibway	K – 3	Cree language, intergenerational relationships
No Borders	Inuit	4 – 7	family, land, community, Inuit
No Time to Say Goodbye	Tsartlip	7+	ways of learning, traditional knowledge, family, residential schools
Northwest Coast Native Animals	Nuxalk, Nuu-Chah-Nulth	K	traditional knowledge, relationship with the natural world
Not My Girl	Inuit	1 – 4	residential schooling, Inuit culture, language, and environment (dog sleds, northern lights, traditional foods)
Ojibway Animals	Ojibway	K – 1	animals, Ojibway artistic traditions
Ojibway Clans: Animal Totems and Spirits	Ojibway	4 – 7	Ojibway social and political structures, family, community roles, personal talents, Ojibway artistic traditions, colour, line, connection to the environment
The Old Man with the Otter Medicine	Dogrib	2 – 3	traditional knowledge
The Orange Shirt Story	Secwepemc	3 – 5	Truth and Reconciliation, resiliency, Indigenous ways of being and values, food harvesting and processing, seasons
Orca Chief	Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk	1 – 4	respect for the environment, ocean species of the Pacific, cultural teachings, protocols, forgiveness, gratitude, sharing
The Origin of Day and Night	Inuit	2 – 4	Inuit, sky stories, astronomy, sun, moon, collaboration
Peace Pipe Dreams: The Truth about Lies about Indians	Secwepemc	8 – 9	stereotypes, perceptions and myths, treaties, historical understandings, belief systems, contemporary challenges
People of the Land: Legends of the Four Host Nations	Lil'wat, Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh	4 – 9	traditional knowledge, storytelling

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Persistence and Change: A History of the Ts'msyen Nation	Ts'msyen	7 – 9	oral tradition, persistence/resilience/change, history, Ts'msyen tribal groups and the Sm'algyax language, Ts'msyen perspectives and worldviews
Porcupine	Secwepemc/Métis	3 – 7	oral narratives, Indigenous culture, teachings, and values, Indigenous language, emotions, self-exploration, relations, family
Powwow: Counting in Cree	Cree	K – 3	cardinal numbers to ten, in Cree
Powwow Dancing with Family	Secwepemc	K – 5	powwow, regalia, intergenerational relationships, respect, protocols, dance
The Rabbits' Race	Métis	3 – 4	sharing, friendship, wisdom
Racin' Jason	Ojibwe, Métis	3 – 5	responsibility, competition
Raven and Eagle	Cowichan	K – 1	identity, self-reliance
The Raven and the Loon	Inuit	K – 3	raven, loon, impatience, Inuit
Raven Brings the Light	Ts'msyen, Haida, Heiltsuk	3 – 7	storytelling, social responsibility
Raven series	Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala	pre-K – K	literacy, numeracy
Raven Tales series	Haida, Kwakwaka'wakw, and others	4 – 7	traditional teachings, creation stories, humour
Ready for School	Stó:lō	K – 1	family and community roles
Relatives with Roots: A Story about Métis Women's Connection to the Land	Métis	3 – 5	traditional medicine family and community roles
Returning the Feathers: Five Gitxsan Stories	Gitxsan	3 – 5	rites of passage, sustainability, family, traditional knowledge
A Rhyming Coastal Alphabet	Kwakwaka'wakw	K – 1	letters of the alphabet, rhyming words; people, places, and events in coastal First Nations communities
A River Lost	Sinixt (Arrow Lakes, Colville Tribes)	4 – 6	tradition and modernity, relationship with the natural world
River of Salmon Peoples	Nak'azdli, Secwepemc, Stó:Lō, Sta'at'imc, Musqueam, Lil'wat7ul, Nle'kepmxcin, Tsilhqot'n, Dakelh, and Syilx	5 – 9	interconnectedness, relationships, story, ceremony, connection with the land, life cycles, diversity, contemporary Fraser basin watershed issues
River Run	Mi'gmaq	5 – 7+	well-being, ceremony
Road Allowance Kitten	Métis	4 – 7	Métis, relocation, family, history, games, friendship

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Ruler of the Forest: Why Raccoon Wears a Mask – yuw’i’na’qws tthu hwthuthiqut: nutsim’ yuhw ‘a’lu ‘ushus shtii’ a’lus tthu sxayukw’us	Cowichan	3 – 7	creation story
Salish Stories Series	Snuneymuxw (Coast Salish)	1 – 4	identity, values, ceremony, and spirituality within Coast Salish cultures; seasons, plants, hunting, fishing, and food gathering
Salmon Boy: A Legend of the Sechelt People	Sechelt	3 – 4	traditional knowledge, relationship with the natural world
The Scout	Cree	6 – 9	identity, World War II, First Nations veterans, storytelling
Sealiya	Squamish	K – 2	community, storytelling
Secret of the Dance	Kwakwaka’wakw, Coast Salish	3 – 4	performance, ceremony, tradition
7 Generations: A Plains Cree Saga	Cree	7 – 9	survival, identity, intergenerational transmission of knowledge, family healing
Shannen and the Dream for a School	Attawapiskat	7 – 9	critical thinking, social justice, Canadian politics and law, personal awareness & responsibility, activism, human rights in Canada, life in a northern community
Shanyaak’utlaax: Salmon Boy	Tlingit	1 – 4	care, respect, salmon, nature
Sharing Our World: Animals of the Native Northwest Coast	various	K – 3	symbolism, relationship with the natural world
Shi-shi-etko	Nl̓eʔkepmx, Syilx, and Métis	2 – 3	family, wisdom, traditional knowledge, residential schools
Shin-chi’s Canoe	Nl̓eʔkepmx, Syilx, and Métis	2 – 3	family, wisdom, traditional knowledge, residential schools
Siuluk: The Last Tuniq	Inuit	1 – 3	Indigenous values (acceptance, humility), social responsibility, landforms, geography
Sleds and Toboggans	Dene	1 – 3	First Nations, Inuit, sleds, toboggans
Speaking Our Truth: A Journey of Reconciliation	Cree/Lakota	5 – 9	Indian Residential Schools, Truth and Reconciliation, Indigenous voice, Seven Sacred Teachings, medicines, healing journey
The Special Visitor	Stó:lō	1 – 2	traditional knowledge, traditional technologies
Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams	Gitksan	3 – 5	resiliency, leadership skills, community, collaboration
Spirit of the White Bison	Métis, Ojibwe	5 – 7+	tradition and modernity, relationship with the natural world, continuity, First Peoples-European contact
Stolen Words	Cree	2 – 3	residential school, family, language and culture, First Nations values, resiliency, healing, inter-generational teachings

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
Stories of Robin Town series	Tsimshian	2 – 3	family and community roles, decision making, traditional knowledge, feasts
A Stranger at Home: A True Story	Inuit	5 – 8	residential schooling, Inuit culture, language, and history; family dynamics, social and emotional learning, belonging
Strength and Struggle: Perspectives from First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples in Canada	various	7 – 9	identity, traditional ways of teaching & learning, goal setting & realization, struggle and resilience, self-determination, history
Strong Readers Guided Reading Series – Set A	Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation	K – 1	various, including friends, family, sharing, foods, travel
Strong Readers Guided Reading Series – Set B	Da'naxda'xw Awaetlala Nation	1 – 2	various, including feasts, cedar
Strong Readers Métis Series	Métis	K – 1	various aspects of Métis culture and history
Strong Stories: Coast Salish Series	Snuneymuxw	2 – 4	astronomy, Mother Earth, nature, plants, animals, salmon; Coast Salish food, stories, and ceremony
Strong Stories: Dakelh Series	Saik'uz First Nation (Dakelh)	1 – 3	plants and animals within the Dakelh territory; Dakelh stories, language, and culture; numeracy; the seasonal cycle and activities
Strong Stories: Kanyen'kehà:ka Series	Mohawk	2 – 4	Kanyen'keha:ka history, governance, astronomy, Mother Earth, plants, animals, nature, beliefs, Haudenosaunee
Strong Stories: Kwakwaka'wakw Series	Kwakwaka'wakw	4 – 6	resources, potlatch, culture, regalia, governance, medicine
Sugar Falls: A Residential School Story	Cree	7 – 9+	residential schooling, intergenerational teaching, identity, resilience/survival
Sukaq and the Raven	Inuit	2 – 3	Inuit traditional storytelling
Surviving the City, vol. 1	Cree	8+	MMIWG2S+ (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2 Spirited Persons), protection & care, Cree teachings, intergenerational relationships
Sweetest Kulu	Inuit	1 – 3	caring and loving family and relationships
Taanishi Books	Métis	K – 2	Métis traditions and history, similarities and differences among families, dance, clothing, foods, fiddling, the significance of place
Taan's Moons: A Haida Moon Story	Haida	2 – 5	Haida language, knowledge, traditions, and culture, as well as relationship to the natural world
Teachings of our Grandfathers series	Ts'msyen	4 – 7	Ts'msyen language teaching, Ts'msyen culture and history

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
That's Me!	Secwepemc	1 – 3	Secwepemc, British Columbia, pit houses, salmon, powwows, connection to the land
Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back	Abenaki	2 – 4	traditional knowledge, beliefs, storytelling, relationship to the natural world
Thunderboy Jr.	Spokane (Coeur d'Alene, USA)	K – 3	names, family, choices
Tilly: A Story of Hope and Resilience	Cree/Lakota	9+	forced displacement, residential schooling, 60s scoop, personal and cultural resilience, cultural connections
Trudy's Rock Story	Gitxsan	K – 5	healthy relationships, feelings, respecting Mother Nature's teaching, Gitxsan teachings, intergenerational relationships, identity, social awareness and responsibility
Tulugaq – An Oral History of Ravens	Inuit	4 – 8	knowledge from the Inuit Oral Tradition, behaviour and characteristics of ravens, storytelling, life lessons, science
Turtle Island Voices Series	various	1 – 8	varied aspects of First Peoples' lives, cultures, and heritages
Twelve Months of Fun on Haida Gwaii with Mattie & Jojo	Haida	K – 5	family, seasonal rounds, community, place
The Two Sisters	Squamish	2 – 4	land formations, 'Story of Vancouver', peace and relationships
Two Whale Stories	Ts'msyen	K – 3	kindness, family, history, traditional knowledge
Txamsm and the Tides	Ts'msyen	1 – 3	traditional stories (Adaawx – True Tellings), seasonal rounds, harvesting and gathering, First Nations values, social responsibility
Unusual Friendships: A Little Black Cat and a Little White Rat	Métis	3 – 4	belonging, identity, respect, friendship
Urban Tribes	various	7 – 9+	stereotypes, racism, relationships, history, culture, identity and self-esteem, community, leadership, tolerance
Voices from the Skeena: An Illustrated Oral History	Ts'msyen, Haida, & Heiltsuk	6 – 12	Skeena, pioneer, journey, history, gold, trade, settlers
A Walk on the Shoreline	Inuit	3 – 5	Inuit culture, stewardship, intergenerational teachings, traditional plants, shoreline life and seafood harvesting
A Walk on the Tundra	Inuit	3 – 5	Inuit culture and environment, tundra plants and their traditional uses, Elders, intergenerational teaching

TITLE	NATION(S)	GRADES	RESOURCE TOPICS & THEMES
The Water Walker	Anishinaabekwe	3+	water, Indigenous rights, Intergenerational relationships, social justice, Ojibwe, TEKW (Traditional Ecological Knowledge & Wisdom)
We All Count: A Book of Cree Numbers	Cree	K – 1	counting 1-10 in Cree
We All Count: Book of Ojibway Art	Ojibway	K – 1	Ojibway artistic tradition/style, counting
We Visit Granny	Stó:lō	K – 1	family
We-gyet Wanders On: Legends of the Northwest	Gitxsan	6 – 7+	traditional knowledge, trickster, ways of learning, storytelling
Welcome Family and Friends to Our Bighouse	Kwakwaka'wakw	4+	potlatch, language and culture, family and community, working together, traditional teachings and values, resiliency
When I was Eight	Inuit	4 – 7	residential schooling, family, change, relationships, independence
When the Spirits Dance: A Cree Boy's Search for the Meaning for War	Cree	4 – 7	WWII, First Nations servicemen/servicewomen and veterans, change and adaptation, coming of age
When We Were Alone	Cree	K – 3	Indian residential school, intergenerational relationships, identity
Where Did You Get Your Moccasins?	Cree, Saulteaux	K – 2	traditional knowledge, sharing, respect
Where I Belong	Mohawk	7 – 9	Oka uprising, identity, adoption, family, young romance, intergenerational teaching, diabetes, resistance, dreams, culture, racism
Which Way Should I Go?	Tstartlip, Nuuchahnulth	3 – 4	family, loss, decision-making
Wild Berries	Cree, Métis	K – 3	intergenerational relationships, harvesting and gathering, food preparation, caring for the land
Yamohza and His Beaver Wife	Thcho	3 – 4	traditional knowledge, relationship with the natural world
You Hold Me Up	Cree, Lakota, Métis	1	social emotional learning, caring and nurturing, health and wellness, reconciliation, social responsibility

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PUBLISHERS & DISTRIBUTORS

The following pages provide website contact information for the publishers of all the titles listed in this guide.

Note that many of these publishers and distributors specialize in First Peoples resources and are adding new titles frequently. Schools doing a comprehensive evaluation of First Peoples texts should consult these websites on a regular basis for the most up-to-date information about the latest releases.

AU Press (Athabasca University)
Edmonton, AB

www.aupress.ca

Abbeville Press Publishers
New York

www.abbeville.com

AH! Comics,
ON

www.ahcomics.com

Annick Press
Vancouver, BC

www.annickpress.com/

Candlewick Press
Massachusetts, USA

www.candlewick.com

Cedar Moon Creations Limited

pam.holloway@shaw.ca

Clockwise Press
Richmond Hill, ON

www.clockwisepress.com

Coqualeetza Cultural Education Centre
Chilliwack, BC

www.coqualeetza.com/

Coteau Books for Kids
Regina, SK
no longer in operation

Creekstone Press
Smithers, BC

www.creekstonepress.com/

Douglas & McIntyre Ltd,
Madeira Park, BC

www.douglas-mcintyre.com

Eaglecrest Books
Duncan, BC

www.eaglecrestbooks.com

Fifth House Publishers
Markham, ON

www.fifthhousepublishers.ca

Fireweed Canada
BC

distribution: www.strongnations.com or
www.goodminds.com

First Nations Child & Family Caring
Society of Canada

Ottawa, ON

www.fncaringsociety.com

First Nations Education Steering
Committee

West Vancouver, BC

www.fnesc.ca

Flamingo Rampant
Toronto, ON

www.flamingorampant.com

Gabriel Dumont Institute

Saskatoon, SK

www.gdins.org & www.metismuseum.ca

Gila Kyew Nluulk Head Start and Daycare
Kitsumkalum, BC

headstart@kitsumkalum.bc.ca

Greystone Books (D&M Publishers)
Vancouver, BC

<https://greystonebooks.com/>

Groundwood Books (House of Anansi Press)
Toronto, ON
www.groundwoodbooks.com/

Harbour Publishing
Madeira Park, BC
www.harbourpublishing.com/index.php
(order: www.goodminds.com)

Hancock House Publishers
Surrey, BC
www.hancockhouse.com

Indigenous Story Studio (formerly known as the Healthy Aboriginal Network)
Courtenay, BC
<https://istorstudio.com/about-us/>

Inhabit Media Inc.
Iqaluit, NU
www.inhabitmedia.com

Kegedonce Press
Ontario
www.kegedonce.com

Lee & Low Books
New York
www.leeandlow.com/books/

Little, Brown Books for Young Readers
(Hachette Book Group, NY)
www.lbyr.com

Lorimer Children & Teens
Toronto, ON
www.lorimer.ca/

McGraw-Hill Ryerson
Ontario
www.mheducation.ca

McKellar & Martin Publishing Group Ltd.
Vancouver, BC
www.mckellarmartin.com

Medicine Wheel Education
Richmond, Victoria, BC
www.medicinewheel.education/collections/english-books

More Than Words Publishers
North Vancouver, BC
www.facebook.com/mtwpublishing/

Native Northwest
Vancouver, BC
www.nativenorthwest.com/

New Star Books
Vancouver, BC
www.newstarbooks.com

Nightwood Editions
Gibsons, BC
www.nightwoodeditions.com

Orca Book Publishers
Victoria, BC
www.orcabook.com

Pearson Canada, School Division
North York, ON
www.pearsoncanadaschool.com

Peppermint Toast Publishing,
New Westminster, BC
www.pepperminttoast.com

Portage & Main Press
Winnipeg, MB
www.portageandmainpress.com/ (order: customerservice@portageandmainpress.com)

Penguin Random House (Puffin Canada)
Toronto
www.penguinrandomhouse.ca

Raven Publishing Inc.
Union Bay, BC
www.ravenpublishing.com

Red Deer Press
Markham, ON (affiliated with Fitzhenry & Whiteside)
www.reddeerpress.com

Rocky Mountain Books
 Calgary, AB & Victoria, BC
www.rmbooks.com/ (order from
contact@strongnations.com)

Rubicon Publishing
 Oakville, ON
www.rubiconpublishing.com

Sealaska Heritage Institute
 Juneau, Alaska, USA
www.sealaskaheritage.org

School District No. 73
 (Kamloops/Thompson)
 Kamloops, BC
www.sd73.bc.ca

Second Story Press
 Ontario
www.secondstorypress.ca

Simply Read Books
 Vancouver, BC
www.simplyreadbooks.com

Sono Nis Press
 Winlaw, BC
www.sononis.com

Strong Nations
 (formerly Core Learning Resources) —
 distributor for many BC publishers
 Nanaimo, BC
www.strongnations.com/

TakingITGlobal
 Toronto, ON
www.tigweb.org

Theytus Books
 Penticton, BC
www.theytus.com/

Trafford Publishing
 Bloomington, Indiana
www.trafford.com/

Tradewind Books
 Vancouver, BC
www.tradewindbooks.com

Tri-Bands Education Committee and
 School District No. 85 (Vancouver Island
 North)
 Port Hardy, BC
www.sd85.bc.ca/

Tsimshian Nation and School District No.
 52 (Prince Rupert)
<https://sd52wap.wixsite.com/abed/online-store>

UBC Press, The University of British
 Columbia
 Vancouver, BC
www.ubcpres.ca

University of Nebraska Press
 Lincoln, Nebraska
www.nebraskapress.unl.edu/

Waterlea Books
 Pender Island, BC
www.waterleabooks.com

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APPENDIX: EVALUATION FORM

The following form was used in the evaluation of the resources listed in this guide. Schools may wish to use this form as a starting point for their own local resource evaluation processes for authentic First Peoples texts.

FNESC EVALUATION OF AUTHENTIC FIRST PEOPLES TEXTS

For FNESC/FNSA Authentic First Peoples Resources for Use in K-9 Classrooms Resource Guide

APPROVED _____ NOT APPROVED _____ (If not approved, indicate reason):

Evaluation Completed by: _____

Date: _____

Authentic First Peoples Texts (written, oral, visual, and/or digital)

A number of factors are taken into consideration when reviewing materials for this resource. For the purposes of the reviews, the resource first needs to be an *authentic First Peoples* resource. Authentic First Peoples texts are historical or contemporary texts that

- ▶ are written/created by, or in significant collaboration with, First Nations, Métis, or Inuit
- ▶ depict themes and issues that are important within the First Peoples cultures (e.g., identity, tradition, healing, role of family, importance of Elders, connection to the land, the nature and place of spirituality as an aspect of wisdom, the relationships between individual and community, the importance of oral tradition, the experience of colonization and decolonization)
- ▶ incorporate First Peoples story-telling techniques and features as applicable (e.g., circular structure, repetition, weaving in of spirituality, humour).

While a text must have been written or created by, or in significant collaboration with First Nations, Métis or Inuit, in order to qualify as an authentic First Peoples text, this criterion alone does not mean that it would be included in this guide as a recommended authentic First Peoples resource. The resource also needs to be evaluated against the criteria with respect to Representation, Accuracy, and Illustrations (as indicated in this form). For more information about the importance of using authentic First Peoples resources in K-12 education, please see the Introduction to this guide.

	First Nation	Métis	Inuit
Written or created by			
Written or created in significant collaboration with			

Title:		
Series Title (if part of a series):		Curricular Areas:
Author, Editor or Compiler:		
Last name	First name	
First Nation:		Grade Appropriateness:
Illustrator:		
Last name	First name	
First Nation:		Themes (Subject Headings):
Other Contributors (provide details re FN as appropriate):		
Publisher's Name:		Website:
<i>Harbour Publishing</i>		Ordering E-mail:
		Pub. Date:
		Pages:
Fry Reading Level (FRL) and/or SMOG Index: <i>Include only if already indicated.</i>		
Description:		
Distinctive Features:		
▶		
▶		
Notes (please include any necessary cautions (in point form) that stem from the social considerations):		

According to type of text, check and/or comment on the following statements using the scale. In some cases the criteria will not apply.

	Excellent	Fair	Poor	N/A
REPRESENTATION				
Cultural portrayals consistent with First Peoples' values and attitudes				
Shows contributions of First Peoples to contemporary society				
Recognition of diversity among First Peoples (distinct societies, communities, ways of life, languages). Includes recognition of diversity between First Nations.				
Recognition of First Peoples as enduring, not vanishing or assimilated				
Respectful portrayals of First Peoples' languages and dialects				
Accurate representation of individual First Peoples' lives, past or present				
Devoid of obvious or subtle anti-First Peoples prejudice				
Avoidance of stereotypes of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit				
Positive values, clear of negative inference				
Sensitive language, free from loaded or offensive words				
Portrayal of diversity of human strengths and weaknesses				
Respectful presentation of an event, issue, problem				
ACCURACY (where applicable)				
Reliable sources				
Careful documentation				
Thoroughly researched				
Factual information				
ILLUSTRATIONS (where applicable)				
Authentic depictions of First Peoples ways of life, past or present				
Reflect diversity of First Peoples (i.e. non pan-Indigenous approach)				
Quality product (i.e., physical binding)				
Captions compatible with text				

Social Considerations

If the **portrayal** of one of the aspects of life (as indicated below) requires a **caution**, please explain, using examples from the resource.

Ability/Disability:

Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity:

Religious and/or Spiritual Belief Systems:

Socio-economic Status:

Violence:

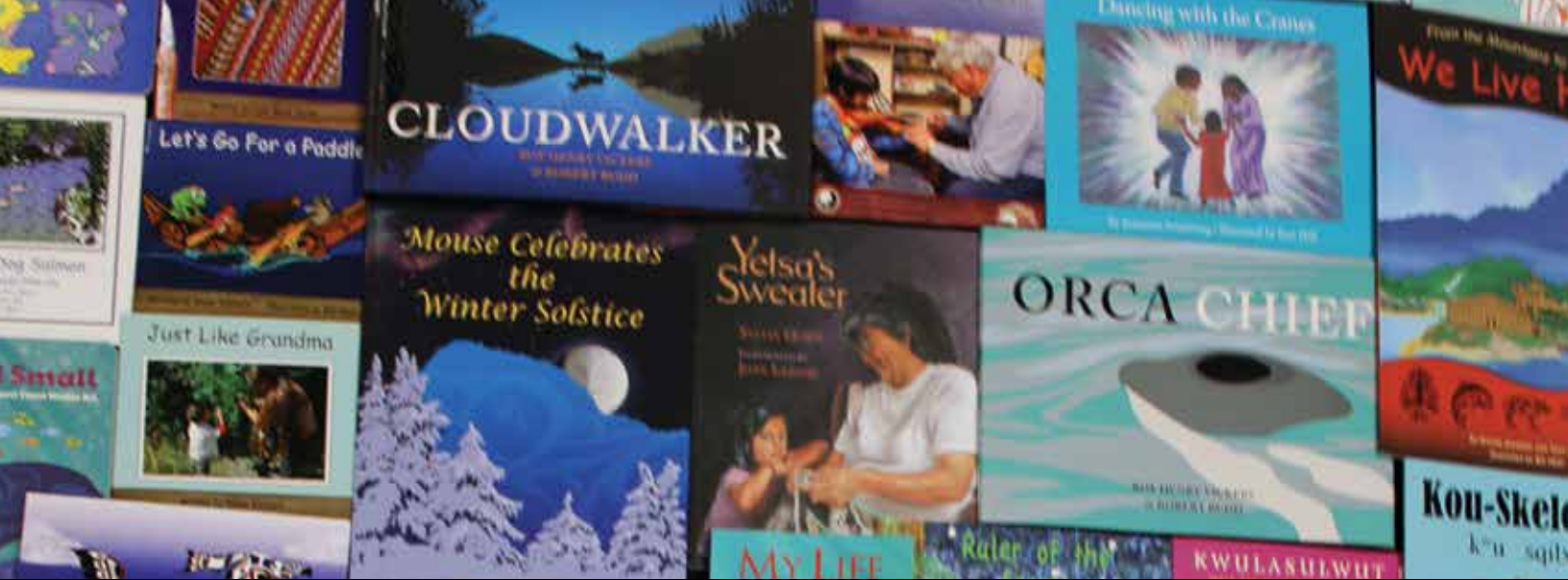
Language:

Ethical Actions:

Legal Issues:

Humour:

Safety (Physical and/or Emotional):



**FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE
& FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION**
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FNESC.CA/LEARNINGFIRSTPEOPLES

