

CURRICULUM ACTIVITY

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

CELEBRATION

TEACHER BACKGROUND

Elders are a very important component of this chapter. Their presence at the feast reinforces the importance of Traditional Knowledge and fosters Elder and youth dialogue. This type of dialogue is essential for the transfer and sharing of Traditional Knowledge for the future.

This is another opportunity for students to show their understanding of gratitude and the importance of giving thanks. Students should understand the importance of recognizing the turtle as a significant traditional leader and an appreciation for the Traditional Knowledge which Elders keep.

Additional Resources:

Ganondagan website home page

traditional Haudenosaunee recipes

<http://www.ganondagan.org/recipes.html>

Ononda – how to make hominy

a traditional Seneca recipe

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSlVg5tG300>

How to make corn soup

Seneca language instruction (3:45 min)

http://www.youtube.com/user/yoendzade#p/a/u/0/CIAdXIP_csU

Helen Roy, Ojibway Language teacher

makes frybread, speaking in both Ojibway and English (9:42min)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNn0Hjv-jEU>

Helen Roy, Ojibway language teacher

makes corn soup, speaking in both Ojibway and English (9:44 min)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5f8GqWjw6Q>

Helen Roy, Ojibway

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFG8gwmFT2M>

ACTIVITY

13.1- PREPARATION/PLAN

Through the use of the cooperative learning strategy, community links, this activity incorporates artistic expression, event planning, and organization.

Materials:

- Paper and writing tools
- Craft supplies

Steps:

As a class, have students discuss the five W's of the feast. The following questions should be answered:

1. Who will be invited? Who will we ask to help us prepare the feast food? Who will be our master of ceremonies?
2. When will the feast happen?
3. Where will the feast happen?
4. What food will we eat? What decorations or displays will be included?

Once plans have been made, pairs of students will display this information on posters. The posters should fill a letter-sized sheet of paper and include both text and images. The posters should be hung around the school and at the Band Office.

Students will also create decorative wall hangings and table centrepieces in preparation for the feast per the instructions of their teacher or an attending Elder.



Students should make invitations for special guests that are invited to the feast.

13.2- THE FEAST

Materials:

- Decorations created by the class
- Prepared food
- Plates, cups, napkins, utensils, etc.
- Special gifts for attending Elders

Steps:

Have students help prepare the area for the feast. Tables should be decorated, decorative posters should be hung on the walls, food and utensils should be laid out, and Elder gifts ready to be given.

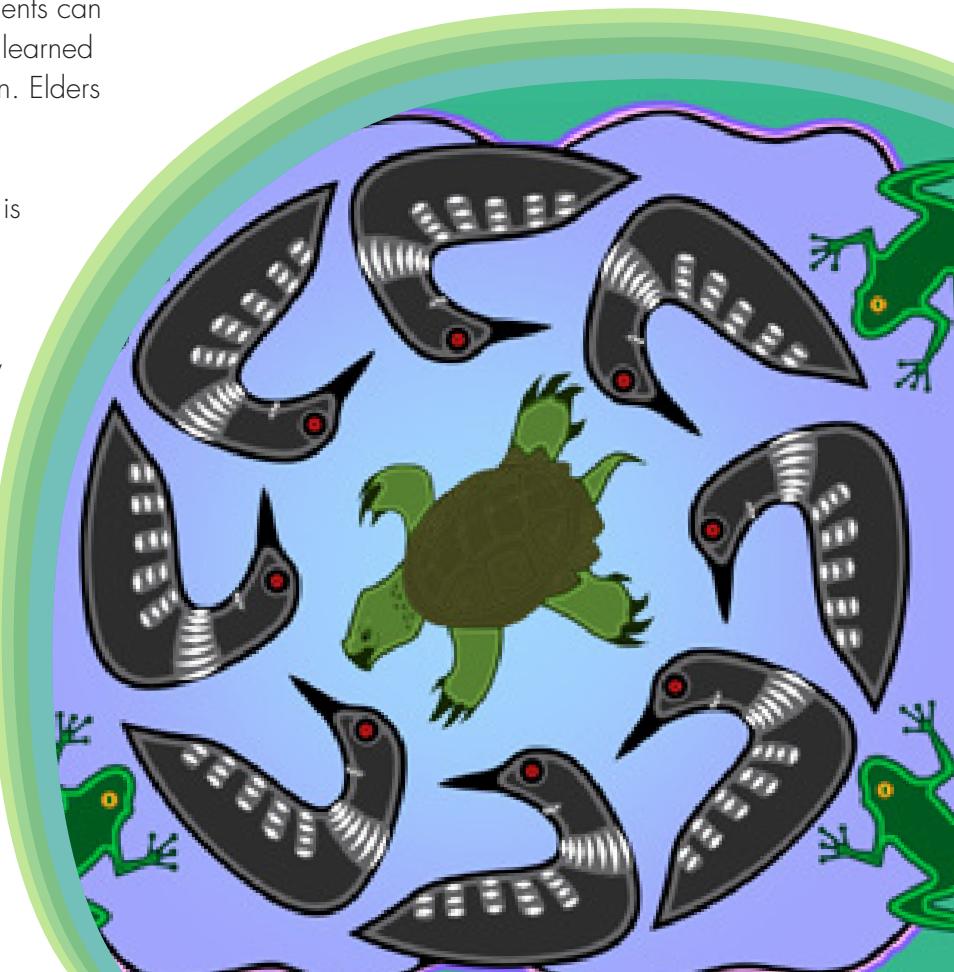
The master of ceremonies should have an itinerary of the feast to help move the day along.

Once guests have arrived, an attending Elder should say a prayer for the food and attending guests. Students can also lead their own prayer from what they have learned and practiced in class. Then, the feast can begin. Elders should be served first.

After everyone has eaten, ensure that the space is cleaned appropriately.

At this point, students can present any activities they have completed. This is also an opportunity for the Thirteen Moons Calendar to be unveiled to the students, staff, and other guests. The calendar can be erected in a central space in the school, and used for years to come.

Once all the presentations are completed, students can enjoy mingling with Elders and discuss the successes of their efforts.



13.3- SAYING MIIGWETCH

This activity incorporates artistic expression with a real-life application.

Materials:

- Paper and writing tools
- Art supplies
- Names and addresses of thank you card recipients
- Envelopes and Stamps

Steps:

Students should help make a list of people and organizations to send Thank you cards to. Students can work in pairs to create cards decorated with turtles for people whose attendance they appreciated. Assist students in sending the cards to those organizations and people identified.