

Grade 4 Social Studies

Canada and World Connections

- Canada's Provinces, Territories, and Regions

Aboriginal Teaching Strategy

Exchanges Between Communities

Students learn about goods and services produced by Aboriginal communities in Ontario and how they are exchanged for goods and services from other Ontario communities.

Related Curriculum Policy

- *The Ontario Curriculum: Social Studies, Grades 1 to 6; History and Geography, Grades 7 and 8, 2004*

Specific Expectations

Knowledge and Understanding

- describe a variety of exchanges that occur among the communities and regions of Ontario (e.g., fruit from the Niagara Peninsula, nickel from Sudbury, vehicles from Oshawa, wild rice from Kenora, cranberries from Wahta First Nation) and among the provinces and territories (e.g., potatoes from Prince Edward Island, fish from British Columbia, grain from Saskatchewan, Inuit artwork from Nunavut)

Inquiry/Research and Communication Skills

- use primary and secondary resources to locate information about natural resources and their uses (e.g., *primary sources*: interviews, classroom visitors, class trips; *secondary sources*: atlases, encyclopedias and other print materials, illustrations, videos, CD-ROMs, Internet sites)

Aboriginal Context

The following are examples of economic activity or areas of employment in Aboriginal communities in the various regions of Ontario:

Southwestern region

- Mississaugas of the New Credit: construction, transportation, utilities, agriculture, mining, automotive parts manufacturing
- Alderville: manufacturing, transportation, communication, utilities, construction
- Walpole Island: duck hunting; sweet grass production; hunting, fishing, trapping, and guiding; recreation and tourism; manufacturing; construction

Central region

- Rama Mnjikaning: fishing, crafts, tourism (including a casino complex), construction, agriculture, transportation
- Moose Deer Point: manufacturing technology, construction
- Wahta: cranberry production, maple syrup production

Eastern region

- Tyendinaga: pilot training (at the First Nations Technical Institute)
- Akwesasne: creative industries (arts and crafts, beading), bottled water production

Northeastern region

- Dokis: forestry, fishing, tourism
- Attawapiskat: precious metals mining, electrical power generation, sawmill
- M'Chigeeng: leather work, tourism, Native arts
- Beausoleil: fishing, tourism, forestry, agriculture

Northwestern region

- Wabigoon: wild rice production, trapping, forestry
- Albany First Nation: sawmill, hunting and fishing

Teaching Strategies

- Show students video clips or photographs of an isolated Aboriginal community and an urban community and ask them what differences and similarities they see.
Teacher prompts: What is similar? What is different? How do the people in the Aboriginal community get the goods they need to survive?
- Have students research one item from a posted list of goods produced and services provided by Aboriginal communities. Ensure that goods and services from each region are represented in the list.
- Have students put the name of the item on a small card along with key information about it (e.g., source, production method, location, and use) and pin it onto the appropriate location on a large posted map showing the regions of Ontario.
- Ask students which of the goods or services on the cards people in their community use.
- Have students research how and why goods and services are exchanged between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities.
Teacher prompts: Which goods and services do we get from Aboriginal communities? What do they get from us? Why do we make these exchanges?

Resources

Aboriginal Communities. <http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca/acp/community/site.nsf/en/fn134.html>. Provides links to websites that have information about individual Canadian Aboriginal communities.

Chiefs of Ontario. <http://www.chiefs-of-ontario.org/>. Provides links to the websites of all First Nation communities in Ontario.

Directory of North American Indian Portal Websites. www.firstnationsseeker.ca. Provides links to the websites of all Ontario First Nations.

National Film Board of Canada. "Aboriginal Perspectives" section. <http://www3.nfb.ca/enclasse/doclens/visau/index.php?language=english>. Documentaries by and about Canada's Aboriginal peoples.

Making Community Connections

- Have students use local flyers and advertisements to create a list of goods and services their family would use in a day, and create a class T-chart to sort the items, using the headings “Locally Available” and “From Exchange”.

ABOUT THE TEACHER’S TOOLKIT

This teaching strategy is one component of *Aboriginal Perspectives: The Teacher’s Toolkit*, a collection of resources designed to help Ontario educators bring Aboriginal perspectives into the classroom. Based on the revised Ontario curriculum, the collection includes resources for educators at both the elementary and secondary levels. Other resources in this series can be found on the ministry website, at www.edu.gov.on.ca.

