Students analyze and compare Aboriginal and mainstream newspapers to determine the difference in their viewpoints.

Programme-cadre

- Le curriculum de l’Ontario – Anglais, de la 4e à la 8e année, 2006

Contenus d’apprentissage

Comprehending and Interpreting – Interpreting Text
- identify and summarize the important ideas, information, and messages and the supporting details in literary and informational texts, providing interpretations based on detailed evidence from the text;
- identify and distinguish between facts and opinions or points of view in informational texts from various media (e.g., articles and opinion pieces from various magazines; movie reviews; websites).

Contexte autochtone

While Aboriginal newspapers and magazines report on the same local, regional, national, and international news and events covered by mainstream newspapers and magazines, their reports usually have a different focus. For example, in stories related to mining, fishing, and logging in First Nation communities, Aboriginal publications are likely to focus on the mining, fishing, and logging rights of First Nation peoples, whereas this aspect of such stories would not receive much attention in mainstream publications. Aboriginal newspapers and magazines also report on large Aboriginal gatherings; provide a forum for the opinions of Aboriginal people on social, political, and environmental issues; and cover topics related to Aboriginal culture and identity. While such events and coverage are hardly ever present in mainstream publications, they regularly receive front-page headlines in Aboriginal newspapers and magazines.
Examples of Aboriginal newspapers published in Ontario are *Turtle Island News*, a weekly owned and operated by Aboriginal people and published at the Grand River Territory of the Six Nations in southern Ontario, and the *Anishinabek News*, a monthly tabloid-format newspaper designed to inform Anishinabek Nation citizens about the initiatives and activities of the Union of Ontario Indians and provide a sampling of indigenous current affairs stories from around the globe. Aboriginal magazines published in Ontario include *Windspeaker*, a monthly that covers national Aboriginal news, and *Ontario Birchbark*, which focuses exclusively on Ontario.

These newspapers and magazines provide valuable insight into First Nation community life and a different perspective on issues facing all Canadians. In addition to these important benefits, publications created and operated by Aboriginal people give Aboriginal journalists the means to combat stereotypes while painting an accurate, contemporary picture of Aboriginal people in Canada.

Démarche et activités pédagogiques

- Locate various local/national mainstream newspapers and newspapers produced by Aboriginal groups, communities, or organizations.
- Distribute one Aboriginal and one mainstream newspaper to pairs of students.
- Pairs analyze the two newspapers, considering elements such as target audience, point of view, headlines, lead stories, proportion of local, national and international stories, contributing writers, choice and layout of images and graphics, cartoons, public service announcements.
- They complete a Venn diagram comparing the viewpoints represented in the two newspapers.
- Discuss students’ findings as a class, expecting them to cite overt and implicit examples from the newspapers to support their responses.
- Teacher prompts: How do the lead stories compare? How do other features of the newspapers compare? What different perspectives did you identify? What are the similarities? What are the differences? How would the target audience react to the perspectives? How might different audiences react to the perspectives?
- Record students’ conclusions on a T-chart.

Ressources

*Les ressources et les liens recommandés ci-dessous étaient exacts au moment de la publication. Les enseignantes et enseignants sont priés de vérifier l’actualité de ces références.*

Aboriginal Multi-Media Society.
Website of the publisher of Aboriginal publications produced across Canada for various audiences, such as *Windspeaker, Raven’s Eye, Ontario Birchbark, Buffalo Spirit, and Alberta Sweetgrass*, that contains information about the publications, including demographic and circulation data.

Canada Newspapers.
www.allyoucanread.com/canada-newspapers/
Provides links to the websites of Canadian newspapers, sorted by province.

Library and Archives Canada.
www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/aboriginal/020008-3000.9-e.html
Contains lists of and links to Aboriginal newspaper sites.

www.mondotimes.com/
Contains links to media outlets in Canada and around the world that can be viewed online.

NativeWeb: Resources for Indigenous Cultures Around the World.
www.nativeweb.org/resources/news_media_television_radio/newspapers_-_native_indigenous/
Contains links to North American Aboriginal newspapers.

**Liens avec la communauté**

- Invite a reporter from a local Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal media outlet to speak to the class.
- Invite a communications officer from a local Aboriginal organization, for example, Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians, the Chiefs of Ontario, the Union of Ontario Indians, or the Métis Nation of Ontario to explain the process of issuing news releases and how the media portrays a story described in a news release.

**À PROPOS DE LA BOÎTE À OUTILS**