

Communicating Through Story:

A Way to Navigate an Indigenous Knowledge Environment

A Teacher's Journey Begins

Knowledge Building: Teacher Develops Capacity with Relevant Content

Study	Understand	Reflect
Indigenous learning portal: Indigenous storytelling; storytelling; oral traditions	Stories that relate to land/natural law	How teaching is storytelling
Other necessary topics: types, forms, genres and methods of storytelling; listening; oral comprehension; discourse	The nature of story as a human activity	How storytelling is based on communication skills (i.e., listening, reading, writing)
	The stories hidden beneath words/images	How to incorporate land-based storytelling



Knowledge Sharing: Teacher and Student Engage in the Learning Environment

Practice	Present	Discuss
Creating a teaching grounded in storytelling	Stories of Indigenous peoples in their own voices	Ways to improve storytelling skills
Looking for contextual, local stories	Stories that highlight worldview	The usefulness of comparing stories
Presenting a story through actions/performance		



Knowledge Development: Teacher Creates Learning Experience for Student

Experience	Exploration	Expression
A learning exercise in which students reproduce stories given to them by the instructor or by knowledge keepers	Students explore a number of (possibly conflicting) stories about a topic	Students must appreciate and demonstrate listening skills
A learning exercise in which students compare stories from Western and Indigenous cultures	Students experience and practice rich description (subjective storytelling)	Students may present their learning in the form of a story



Knowledge Assessment: Evolution of Student Learning Process

Comprehension	Analysis	Consolidation
Student work demonstrates accurate comprehension of written, oral or visual stories	Students accurately identify Indigenous perspectives on historical or contemporary issues	Students develop their own voice
Student work successfully recognizes stories from Indigenous cultures	Students successfully evaluate a story from the perspective of another	Students improve their communication skills, particularly listening
	Student work recognizes that the same story can be told different ways	Students engage in reflection on the reliability of story as a means of conveying knowledge

Make a Rubric

A Teacher's Journey Continues