



Aboriginal Focus Group Activities at MPS

We celebrate Aboriginal Culture at Moosonee Public School. Primary students learn their Cree language and the school environment encourages participation in the 7 Teachings.

We also demonstrate our appreciation for the Cree culture through our Aboriginal Focus Group activities. These activities promote an appreciation and awareness of cultural skills, traditions and art.

So far this year we have had the following Aboriginal activities: Teepee visit, beading, storytelling, traditional cooking, setting snares, fur preparation, making snares, step dancing, native art: sketching with pencil crayons and painting with acrylics, animals and their furs and tamarack bird making. Later in April, some classes will be making soap stone carvings and the Early Years Kindergarten classes will learn about mossbags and tikanagans when Ms. Burke brings in her new baby!

Teacher quotes about the Aboriginal Focus Group activities:

“My students always enjoy the storytelling with Mrs. Sutherland.”

“The beading was excellent Marie and Mary taught them how to make a simple flower and my students were able to do it.”

“The trapping and fur trapping preparation workshop was excellent. My students enjoyed it and had lots of questions.”

“The traditional cooking was very good, students were engaged and of course it was yummy.”

“Excellent. It was really beneficial that all students could start and produce a mitt by the end of the sewing session. It was also cool to have a Cree speaker teach the students using their own language.”

“The Native Art sessions were excellent. We had a great time and we all love hands-on activities.”

November

TEACHINGS
in the
TEEPPE



ORIGINAL FOCUS GROUP
ACTIVITIES AT MPS

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In the grade 1/2 class the students make bannock with Elder Rachel Chakasim's guidance and help. Students listened, observed, measured, stirred and poured. Afterwards, they enjoyed their raisin bannock with tea!

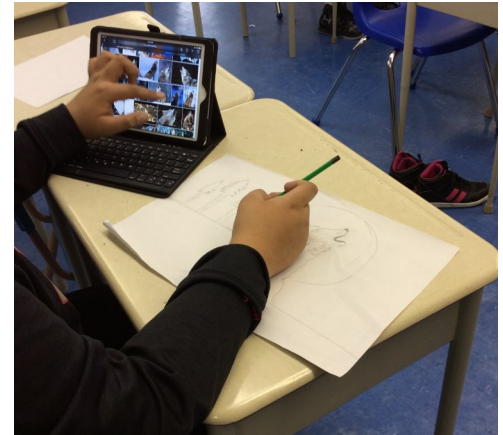


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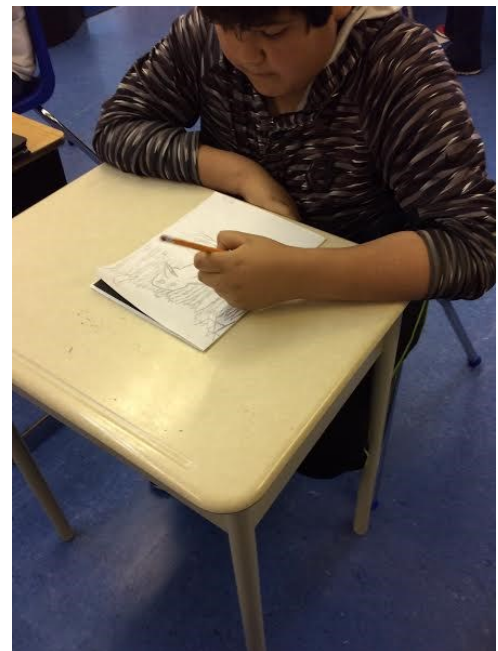
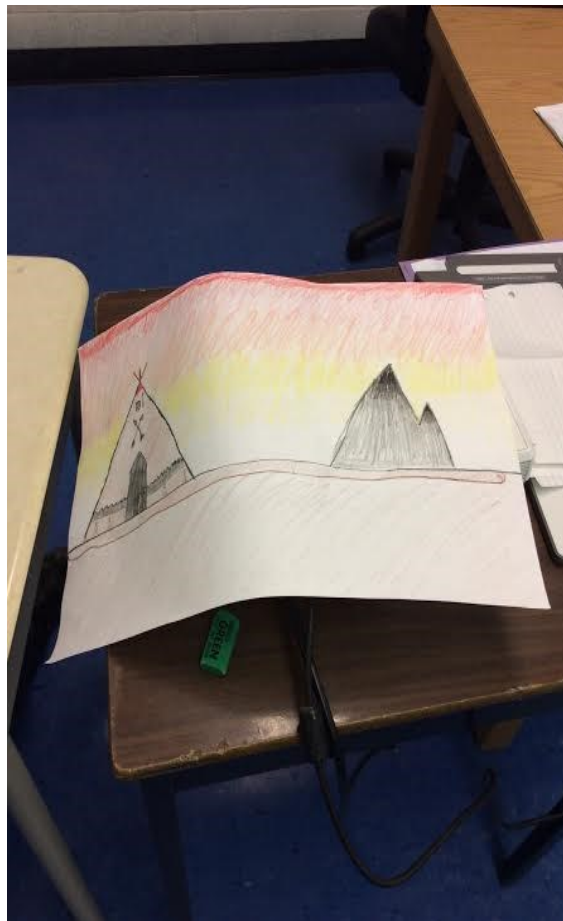


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Student quotes:
It was good. I liked sketching, drawing my landscape and painting my drawing as well.



STEP DANCING



STORY TELLING



Student quotes:
"I didn't like the dead weasel."
"Liked the story and I like touching the weasel."
"I liked it when Mrs. Sutherland roared, she startled me."
"I liked the whole story and seeing the weasel."

February



S K I N N I N G



“I liked skinning the martian.” (marten) :)

S T O R Y T E L L I N G



NATIVE ART



TRAPPING



BEADING



Student quotes:

"I enjoyed beading a keychain."

"I tried a flower, but it was too hard."

"I like learning how to make the diamonds."

"I liked how it started, but I got tired."

INDIAN TACOS



Student quotes:

"It was excellent. I loved it when we were working together."

I never tried tacos and I thought I wouldn't like them, but I did. I also liked how they gave us simple instructions that were easy to follow."

"Level 4, I liked preparing and eating the tacos. Yum!"

"Good because I liked the food and it was fun cooking."

"Fair, because I didn't really like the bun. The sauce was a little hot, too, but the rest was fine."

"Yummy, it is yummy."

"Traditional cooking is so good."



TAMARACK BIRD MAKING



Other student quotes:

“The fur preparation was excellent. I enjoyed it because I don’t get to see this very often.”

“I loved seeing the furs and getting to feel them.”

“It was good because we were learning how to catch an animal and how to skin them, but it was kind of gross.”

“I really liked how he taught us to snare a rabbit.”

“It was good because he skinned the marten in our classroom.”

“The beading workshop was excellent. I am very crafty alone but that is whole different craft. I made a mitten for goodness sake.”

“I would like to learn to ice fish and to make moccasins.”

“I really enjoyed sewing my mitt together.”

“I want to go moose hunting, goose hunting and learn how to make a blind.”

“I would like to go dog sledding.”