

Historica Canada Education Portal

Elders Collage

Overview

Trigger Event:

Show the Heritage Minute titled [The Peacemaker](#) to lead to a discussion of elders – their qualities and their personal stories. Pose the question: Who are our elders?

Aims

Students will be able to:

- research and represent their personal heritage
- understand symbolism and how it is used by different peoples to represent their identities, using models from First Nations culture
- develop and practise interview skills
- explore personal narratives in order to understand varying points of view

Activities

Teacher's Role:

- collect samples/models of collages already completed
- prepare mini-lessons on the elders in First Nations culture, mosaics and symbolism
- prepare mini-lessons on researching using primary sources and interviews
- prepare a research planning booklet to be completed by students

Student's Role:

- outline the steps s/he will take to complete his/her project, using the planning booklet
- consider what s/he has learned about elders and choose a person to interview in their own family or community
- prepare interview questions that elicit narrative style answers (eg. tell me about your childhood ...)
- search for some primary sources (eg. photographs, letters, journal writings)
- isolate key words from the elder that may serve as words of wisdom
- create a symbol that defines an aspect of her/his identity
- create a mosaic that represents her/his identity using the samples as models
- write a draft of the paragraph that will be included in the collage
- prepare a presentation that allows the students to share their identities

Needed materials:

- collage samples
- symbol samples
- mosaic samples
- Historica Heritage Minute
- poster paper, scissors, glue, pencil crayons, markers, two sided tape

- primary sources

Assessment:

- formative: students will share their process through their planning booklets and informal discussions with peers and teacher-facilitator
- summative: students will share their representation through their collages and oral presentation

Resources