

Wintertime Storytelling

Inviting Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers to share is a beautiful way to bring traditional storytelling into your classroom. If you are looking for additional ways to teach about storytelling, and to teach through stories, check out the following resources!

"Telling stories in the wintertime is the traditional way. When it is winter and cold out, there was nothing to do. So, we told stories!"

Barb Belcourt, Hythe Regional School
Cree Language Instructor & Indigenous Liaison



Learn more about Traditional Storytelling

Check out the videos & learning guides on the Power of Storytelling from [Empowering the Spirit](#)



Read this blog post: "[11 things you should know about Aboriginal Oral Traditions](#)"



Read & Teach

Order a beautiful book packages with lesson plans from [Medicine Wheel Education](#)

I've gone into grade 1 and 3 classrooms with the book 'Trudy's Healing Stone'. After we read it we talk about sharing and caring for people. Then while we're sitting in a circle, I ask the kids to turn to the person on their right and say something nice. It's sweet because you have these little kids saying things like 'you're so smart' and 'I love your smile'. Then after they get to come choose their own healing stone. They are just simple rocks, but they get really excited. They like to look at their rock and show it to the others."

Joeann Bernier, Penson School
Indigenous Liaison & Educational Assistant



Watch & Teach

Watch [The Grizzlies](#) movie and present it along with the [Study Guide](#)

(The Circle of Indigenous Students at GPRC have offered to lend their copy of the movie out to our school district)

"Grizzlies is a movie about the power of relationships and connection. The movie follows the true story of youth in Nunavut navigating their daily lives with their new teacher from the south. The new teacher helps bring a sense of community with lacrosse. While he is teaching lacrosse, he learns about the importance of community, tradition and culture.

The real challenges faced by the Inuit are shown throughout, including insane food prices, high rates of suicide, and intergenerational trauma from residential school. I would recommend this movie to 13 years old and up due to sensitive scenes about suicide and substance abuse. It is a feel good sports movie, eye opening documentary, and inspiring message all in one!"



Jackie Benning, Clairmont Community School
Educator and previous Indigenous Liaison / School Counsellor

Invite & Teach

Book a new classroom [Presentation](#) from Brigitte on Indigenous Heroes and Leadership

Our English 7/8 class is starting a new unit on Heroes, which often in the media Heroes are typically depicted through a Eurocentric lens. To enhance the conversation and to bring perspective to what a Hero is, or who a Hero is.

I contacted Brigitte about a presentation on Indigenous Heroes and leadership to increase representation of this definition. Essentially, I wanted to broaden the students view on Heroism.

Heidi Hargreaves, LaGlance School
Principal and Educator



Please reach out with questions, and share your stories with me!

Created by Brigitte Benning, Indigenous Education Coordinator, brigittebenning@pwpsd.ca, (780) – 831 – 3092