

SCHOOL PROGRAM TEACHER OVERVIEW

EXPLORING AND SORTING NATURAL MATERIALS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

From cedar tree to bentwood box — discover where natural materials come from, and how they are used by Indigenous Peoples of the Northwest Coast. The forests and seas along British Columbia's west coast are rich in natural resources, from cedar to salmon, abalone to argillite. Since ancient times, coastal Indigenous Peoples have relied upon their environment for food, shelter, clothing, and spiritual sustenance. Join your students as they discover and sort raw materials, apply their knowledge and handle objects made from raw materials.

MAIN MESSAGE

Plant, animal, mineral – these materials play an important role in the Indigenous technologies of the Northwest Coast. By learning about these materials, students gain a greater appreciation for the materials themselves, the technologies they inspired, and the people that used them.

GRADE LEVELS

ON Kindergarten to Grade 2.

QC Preschool to Cycle 1

DURATION AND PROGRAM TIMES

- 45 minutes
- Start times: 10 and 11:15 a.m., and 1 p.m.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

In addition to providing a general appreciation of the material culture of the First Peoples of the Northwest Coast, this program offers your students experiences that will deepen their knowledge and understanding in a number of specific areas.

THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, YOUR STUDENTS WILL:

- Categorize a variety of natural materials and identify where they come from.
- Recognize the use of natural materials in objects made and used by Indigenous communities on the Northwest Coast.
- Handle reproductions and identify their traditional purposes.

DELIVERY APPROACH

The Museum strives to tell the stories of Canadians through collected objects and the information these objects can provide. Our school programs aim to foster a creative learning environment for students, through hands-on and minds-on activities in which they feel free to take risks, ask questions and participate without being judged. By facilitating constructive collaboration with their peers and respect for one another's contributions, we encourage students to make personal connections with the past and develop a historical imagination, while making learning FUN!

PREPARING YOUR CLASS

To ensure that your class gets the most out of this unique educational experience, we encourage you to consider the pre-visit activities below.

- Build anticipation for your visit:

Get your students excited about history! Initiate a classroom discussion and ask a series of questions to spark students' imaginations. This will engage your students in thinking about the Museum, encourage inquiry, and help students to anticipate the field trip in a positive way.

Suggested Questions:

What is a museum?

Why do we have museums?

Why is it important to visit museums?

Where do you think all the items in a museum or exhibit come from?

Have you ever been to a museum? Which one?



- Learn more about Canada's First Peoples by visiting the Museum's website at: historymuseum.ca.
- Locate British Columbia on a map of Canada and discuss its geographical characteristics (climate, terrain, animals, main cities, natural resources, etc.).
- Bring an unusual object to the classroom. Ask students to look at it and handle it carefully. Discuss the object as a class. What is it made of? What can it be used for? Who do you think it belongs to? Where it is used? When it is used?

POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

To help reinforce the lessons your students have learned during their Museum program, you may want to consider some of these follow-up activities:

- Visit the [U'mista Cultural Centre Education Page](#) for lesson plans and information about the Kwakwaka'wakw people.
- Use the social study inquiry method to explore other objects of your choice.

RECOMMENDED PAIRINGS

Consider taking the school program *Baker, "knead" a hand?* . To learn more about the Grand Hall, register your class for the *Museum Overview Tour*.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

To support Ontario and Quebec curricula, this program has been tailored to enhance your classroom content.

ON KINDERGARTEN: EXPLORATION,
INVESTIGATION, COMMUNICATION, FOUR
FRAMES

GRADE 2: PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENTS:
GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

QC PRESCHOOL: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT,
LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT, COGNITIVE
DEVELOPMENT

EVALUATION

To ensure that our programs remain helpful and relevant to your curriculum and to your students, we encourage all teachers to send in a post-program evaluation. Evaluation

forms will be provided on site, and we hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to provide us with important feedback on your Museum experience.

RESERVATIONS

To make a reservation, please call 819-776-7014, email us at information@historymuseum.ca or use our [Online Planning Tool](#).

CANADIAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY

100 Laurier Street
Gatineau QC K1A 0M8
Canada
historymuseum.ca/education