

February 17, 2023

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Yukon First Nations

The power of storytelling

Storytelling is an essential part of Yukon First Nations culture and a very important way of transmitting knowledge to future generations. Storytelling is also a powerful tool to help develop literacy skills.

Storytelling is different from reading a book, as it offers more opportunity for interaction with the listener. It also offers more opportunity for creativity. In our current world, social media as a means of communication has taken a lot of space in the lives of our youth. Introducing all ages to storytelling opens the door to another way of communicating, an important connection to culture, history and creativity. Storytelling connects us to each other and to our ancestors when we tell stories that have been passed along from generation to generation. Stories are an important legacy that we can offer to our children, and develop important communication skills for the storyteller and the listener.

Include storytelling in your teaching, no matter what grade you teach.

Indigenous Storytelling Event

Whitehorse Aboriginal Women's Circle presents a wonderful event that offers everyone an opportunity to connect through storytelling. An evening of traditional storytelling from various local storytellers, for international Mother Language Day.

Everyone is welcome

When: February 21, 2023. 5 to 9 pm

Where: Baked Café and Bakery

Lesson Plan on storytelling

This lesson plan is available to you through the [National Centre for collaboration in Indigenous Education \(NCCIE\)](#). It focuses on recognizing and appreciating the role of story, narrative, and oral tradition in expressing First Peoples' perspectives, values, beliefs, and points of view. The lesson plan is geared at grades 3, 4 and 5. You will also find related resources.

You can download the lesson plan at www.nccie.ca/lessonplan/first-nation-stories/

More resources

Yukon University on [Revitalizing Yukon Indigenous Storytelling](#)

Government of Canada offers [The Learning Circle: Classroom Activities on First Nations in Canada - Ages 4 to 7](#)

First Nations Pedagogy Online on [storytelling](#) (this page contains many videos)

University of Texas on [Using Storytelling to Improve Literacy](#)

Association for Library Service to Children on [Why Storytelling Matters: Unveiling the Literacy Benefits of Storytelling](#)

If you would like help in including storytelling in your teaching, don't hesitate to contact First Nations Educational Consultants Tammy Stoneman at Tammy.Stoneman@Yukon.ca and Flora Asp at Flora.Asp@Yukon.ca.

Documentary exploring 50 years of Yukon land claims

Watch a documentary by CBC journalist Mike Rudyk on the Yukon Land Claims Agreements. This documentary can be a resource used in the classroom as part of any units related to the land claim negotiations. It's important that all Yukon youth learn about the tremendous work and journey that have brought the Yukon to where we are now.

www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/rudyk-yukon-land-claims-doc-1.6747207

Excellence in Education Award 2023 – Call for nominations

Nominate someone for an Excellence in Education Award

Each year we honour an individual or group for their outstanding and positive impact on public school education. The Excellence in Education award has been presented every year, starting in 1990.

Do you know someone or a group that has made an outstanding contribution to a classroom, school or school community? Recognize them with an Excellence in Education Award nomination! **We are accepting nominations until Monday, April 3rd, 2023.** Download the nomination package to learn more.

To learn more about the Excellence in Education Award, visit [Nominate someone for an Excellence in Education Award](#).

Participate in the 2023 Yukon-Stikine Regional STEM Expo

The 2023 Yukon-Stikine Regional STEM Expo (formerly the Yukon-Stikine Regional Science Fair) will take place at the Mt. Mac Rec Centre in Whitehorse on Thursday April 6th.

We would like to encourage your school or class to participate in science fair projects with the top projects from each school being eligible to attend the Regional STEM Expo (either in person or via videoconferencing if travel to Whitehorse is not possible). From there, the top 3 students from grades 7+ will be representing the Yukon at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Edmonton in May.

Science fair projects are great for meeting the competency-based approach of the curricula; the process of imagining, designing, creating, executing, and communicating a science fair project can be transformative for students.

Students have many options for projects; they can conduct experiments, create innovative solutions, or demonstrate traditional FN ancestral technologies.

If you have any questions, please contact yukonstikinnersfs@gmail.com

Professional Learning Opportunities

Focused Education Resources Webinar Series

Yukon educators have direct access to a range of digital resources that support teaching and learning including World Book, EBSCO, Gale, [IDÉLLO](#) and [Live it Earth](#). Join the Focused Education Resources **Professional Learning Team** to explore these tools, accessibility features, and rich visual medias for sessions in English and French, or that are bilingual.

[Register now](#) for sessions on the February 17th, or for afterschool sessions.

February 17th Webinars

- Old Timey Newspapers for the Digital Age
- Challenge-Based Learning and the BC Digital Classroom

Upcoming Afterschool Webinars

- Explorons IDÉLLO: des appuis multimédias pour tous les sujets
- BC Digital Classroom: Helping Create Information Literacy Through Information Access
- The Lagniappes of the BC Digital Classroom
- The World of WorldBook
- GALE “In Context” Series: Canada, Science and Global Issues
- Using IDÉLLO to Enrich Your French Classes
- Live It Earth

Access to Yukon Digital Resources

[Yukon Digital Resource Portal](#) or click on the Yukon Digital Resources tile in Rapid ID.

Yukon Digital Resources Flyers

[Yukon Digital Resources 2022-2023](#)

[Yukon Digital Resources 2022-2023 Login Credentials](#)

Resources for Educators

Meet author Sara Florence Davidson - Gr. 1 -3

Join Connected North and author Sara Florence Davidson for the following two very special book readings! Co-author Sara Florence Davidson will share a brief introduction to the book, written along with her father, David Robertson, including the real people who are in the story. She will then read the book aloud, followed by time for questions. Each teacher who registers will receive one copy of the book. Please register for each session separately if you would like to attend both and receive both books!

Returning to the Yakoun River April 19 11:00 - 11:45 am YT/PT Dancing with our Ancestors May 17 11:00 - 11:45 am YT/PT

Register at tigurl.org/yukonsignup or by emailing your Connected North School Lead

Community Booklets [can be downloaded here.](#)

Learning Resource [can be downloaded here.](#)

Quick Links

- Check [Teams](#) for the PD opportunities
- [School health and safety during COVID-19](#)
- [Mental health and wellness supports](#)
- [Can your child go to school, daycare or return to regular activities?](#)
- [Yukon Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education Recovery Plan](#)
- [Wellness Together Canada free resources and support](#)
- [Yukon information on COVID-19](#)
- [Practice the Safe 6](#)
- [Non-medical masks in the workplace](#)
- [Canada response and Health Canada information](#)
- [Council of Yukon First Nations COVID-19 info hub](#)
- [Yukon vaccination clinics and information about the vaccine](#)
- [Yukon First Nation School Board](#)