Tips for creating cultural curriculum: Sample Spring Themes

SPRING SEASON (Interior)

*Cultural Theme* = Frogs

*Activities:*
- canoeing on pond/collecting tadpoles
- watching tadpoles in aquarium
- hibernation/coming out of mud
- amphibians in marshes
- listening to frogs singing
- land creatures/water creatures
- legs/toes/fingers
- Clans/crests

*Conventional Theme* = Easter

*Activities:*
- Easter eggs
- time of awakening for nature
- celebrating transformations
- birthing/childrearing traditions
- growing/changes in our bodies

*Personal Development Theme* = Creativity, patience, sitting quietly, adaptability

*Resources*

*Books* – Frog Girl, In The Pond, Animal-Speak

*Field Trip* – to marsh/pond/streams, swimming pool

*Classroom visitor* – naming ceremony for children by Elders

*Games* – leapfrog, jumping games, hopscotch, spring dances

*Food* – different kinds of eggs, spring greens

*Art* – triangular and oval shapes, green colours, hand and foot printing
Tips for creating cultural curriculum: Sample Summer Themes

SUMMER SEASON (Cariboo)

*Cultural Theme* = Summer/ Dan (Chilcotin word for summer) is a time for feeding our bodies and our spirits

*Activities:*
- berry picking
- visiting fish camps
- picking sage
- Sweat Lodge
- exploring the forest for plants and medicines
- spending time with Elders

*Conventional Theme* = Nature

*Activities:*
- being outdoors and connecting with Nature
- swimming and canoeing
- games and playground fun
- campfires and picnics
- gardening

*Personal Development Theme* = having fun, working hard, respecting nature, honouring ourselves and our Elders

*Resources*

Books – Jamberry; This Land is my Land; A Visit to Kindergarten

Field Trip – Nature walks, picking berries and sage, picnic at lake or river

Classroom visitor – Elders talk about traditional food harvesting and sacred plants

Games – water slides with hose, wading pool, balls

Celebrations/Feasts – End-of-summer Elders tea

Food – Indian ice cream, fish, berries

Art – collect outside items to create art to show our adventures
Tips for creating cultural curriculum: Sample Fall Themes

FALL SEASON (West Coast)

*Cultural Theme* = Salmon

*Activities:*
- fishing, spearing and netting
- cleaning fish
- salmon eggs
- preparing fish for smoking, drying and canning
- barbecue and feast
- giveaway/feeding the Elders
- journey of the salmon

*Personal Development Theme* = Thankfulness, perseverence, sharing, giving

*Resources*

*Books* – salmon species, A Salmon For Simon, Seasons of the Circle, Salmon Summer, Life Cycle of a Salmon

*Field Trip* – to river/ fish ladders/ spearing fish/smokehouse/ hatchery

*Classroom visitor* – net mender, fisherman, storyteller

*Feast* – barbecue salmon, giveaway

*Food* – dried salmon, fish head soup, salmon roe

*Art* – fish prints, fall leaves, seeds, orange colours