

21st Century Learning | Links to Our Collection

THE COAST SALISH: CONNECTING ART, ENVIRONMENT AND TRADITIONS

Welcome to

21st Century Learning – Links to Our Collection.

This online module and supplemental education guide was developed to allow access to hundreds of digitized images and lesson plans from Glenbow Museum's collections.

Our hope is to extend our vision of

'More people, interacting with art, culture and ideas more often.'

Please visit and enjoy *21st Century Learning – The Coast Salish: Connecting Art, Environment and Traditions.*

EDUCATION MODULE



Basket, Coast Salish, mid 20th century, cedar bark, cherry bark, collection of Glenbow museum, R1216.1

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INTRODUCTION

The term *Coast Salish* groups together people from many different communities along the coast of the Salish Sea, near present-day southern British Columbia, Washington, and northern Oregon. Traditionally, people identified themselves according to their family relationships and the villages where they lived. Language varied from place to place, although all belonged to the Salish family of languages.

During winter, many families would come together in large villages where wooden plank houses were constructed. Some of these structures were small single family dwellings. Other, very large buildings, were the site of ceremonies and community feasts.

Each spring, people left the villages for summer camps and resource sites. Sometimes they took the planks from the winter houses, lashed them across two canoes, and transported them to their summer homes. Corner posts and rafters were permanently constructed at both winter and summer villages, enabling the easy reassembly of the house.

Fish, especially the varieties of salmon, were a mainstay of the people's diet. They also hunted deer, bear and other animals. Plants were vital, both for food and as the raw material for clothing, shelter, containers, watercraft and many tools.

During the late 19th and 20th centuries the government moved people onto reserves, often merging several villages into one community. Populations declined as epidemics devastated the people. Governments and religious organizations pressured people to abandon their traditional lifestyles and beliefs and to adopt the culture of the dominant society. At the same time, it was very difficult for First Nations people to find employment or earn a good living. Many traditional crafts, such as carving, weaving and basket making, became an important source of much-needed cash income.

MAPS



LISTING OF ARTIFACTS AND IMAGES

Basket

Coast Salish

mid 20th century

cedar bark, cherry bark

R1216.1

Curtis, Edward S

Salish canoes on Shoalwater bay, British Columbia

Photograph

Collection of Glenbow Museum NA-1700-163

Engraved by Edward Whymper

Salish graves, Chapman's Bar, British Columbia

Collection of Glenbow Museum NA-843-40

Maynard, R.

Salish people camped at Hell's Gate, Fraser River, British Columbia

Photograph

Collection of Glenbow Museum NA-860-12

Salish women, British Columbia

Photograph

Collection of Glenbow Museum NA-2069-5

Basket

Coast Salish

mid 20th century

cedar root, cherry bark

AA 448

Creasers

Coast Salish

mid 20th century

cedar wood, alder wood, paint

AA 980

Coat

Musqueam First Nation (Coast Salish)

1985

Made by Robyn Sparrow

sheep wool

AA 2134

Bailer

Coast Salish

early 20th century

cedar bark, cedar wood, fish cord

AA 1317

Capilano First Nation (Coast Salish)

2003

cedar wood, bronze, abalone shell fragments

Made by "Tyee" or Floyd Joseph from the Capilano First Nation

AA 2182

Coast Salish

early 20th century

wood, paint

AA 245

Coast Salish

mid 20th century

yellow cedar, paint

AA 1131

Paddle

Coast Salish

mid 20th century

yellow cedar, paint

AA 1131

Basket

Quinalt First Nation (Coast Salish)

mid 20th century

spruce root, cherry bark, leather, cord

AA 546

Hat

Coast Salish
late 19th century
cedar bark
AA 549

Post

Coast Salish
early 20th century
cedar, paint
AA 214

Wool Beater

Coast Salish
early 20th century
wood
AA 239

Needle

Coast Salish
mid-20th century
alder wood
AA 1215

Blanket

Coast Salish
early 20th century
mountain goat wool, burlap cord
AA 703

Mat

Coast Salish
late 19th or early 20th century
wool, worsted tape
AA 361

Basket

Coast Salish
mid 20th century
spruce root, cedar root, cedar withe
AA 1817

Basket

Coast Salish (Quinault)

mid 20th century

cherry bark, spruce root

AA 547

VOCABULARY

Artifact - An object produced or shaped by humans, especially a tool, weapon or ornament of archaeological or historical interest.

Aboriginal – In addition to the definition of Aboriginal Peoples, Aboriginal refers to the first inhabitants of a given area.

Aboriginal Peoples – The descendants of the original inhabitants of North America. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples have unique heritages, languages, cultural practices and spiritual beliefs.

Ceremony - The formal activities conducted on some solemn or important public or state occasion; a formal religious or sacred observance.

Chevron Weave - a pattern consisting of adjoining vertical rows of slanting lines, any two contiguous lines forming either a V or an inverted V, used in masonry, textiles, embroidery, etc.

Community – A group of people with commonalities that may include culture, language, values and beliefs, interests, practices and ways of life, history and /or geographically defined shared space.

Cultural Diversity – Differences in groups having a variety of languages, ethnicities, nationalities, with in a shared space.

Cultural Heritage – The beliefs, customs, knowledge, values and historical experiences shared by a given group.

Culture – The beliefs, values, socially transmitted behaviors and traditions, language, arts and other human endeavors considered together as being characteristics of a particular community, period or people.

First Nations – Refers to the various governments of the First Nations peoples of Canada. There are over 630 First Nations across Canada with 46 in Alberta.

Group - People who are together and connected by shared interests and characteristics.

Honour - honesty, fairness, or integrity in one's beliefs and actions: a source of credit or distinction: high respect, as for worth, merit, or rank.

Imbrications – An overlapping of materials to create a decorative pattern.

Interlocking Split Stitch - A stitch used in stem work to produce a fine line, much used in old church embroidery to work the hands and faces of figures.

Natural resources – Elements of the natural environment that are of use to humans. They include nonrenewable and renewable resources.

Open Lattice-work or Weave - An open, crisscross pattern or weave.

Potlatch - A ceremonial festival given by families to mark important events and achievements. These might include the naming of a child, the death of an elder, or the installation of a new family or village chief. Gifts and food are bestowed on the guests and sometimes property is destroyed as a way of indicating that material wealth was not as important as the achievements of the people.

Selvage - the term for the self-finished edges of the fabric. In woven fabric, selvages are the edges that run parallel and are created by the weft thread looping back at the end of each row.

Symbol - A letter, figure, or other character or mark or a combination of letters or the like used to designate something.

Traditions – Beliefs, principles or ways of acting which people in a particular society or group have continued to follow for a long time, or all of the beliefs, principles or ways of acting in a particular group or society.

Traditional – Of or pertaining to traditions or characteristics of past styles, ways of life. Today, people value their cultural traditions and struggle to keep alive the practices of the past in the face of a rapidly changing society.

Tumpline - A strap slung across the forehead or the chest to support a load carried on the back.

Twining - A strong string or cord made of two or more threads twisted together.

Two-ply - Double spun yarn used for the warp as well for the weft equals a “two ply” 2×2 fabric.

Warp - The threads that run lengthwise in a woven fabric, crossed at right angles to the weft.

Weaving - To form by interlacing threads, yarns, strands, or strips of some material.

Weft - the yarn woven across the width of the fabric through the lengthwise warp yarn.

Wickerwork - Work made of interlaced plant branches or twigs.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

ART

Reflection: responses to visual forms in nature, designed objects and artworks

Depiction: development of imagery based on observations of the visual world.

Expression: use of art materials as a vehicle or medium for saying something in a meaningful way.

LANGUAGE ARTS

1.1 Discover and Explore

1.2 Clarify and Extend

2.1 Use Strategies and Cues

3.1 Plan and Focus

3.2 Select and Process

3.3 Organize, Record and Evaluate

3.4 Share and Review

4.1 Enhance and Improve

4.2 Attend to Conventions

4.3 Present and Share

5.1 Respect Others and Strengthen Community

5.2 Work within a Group

SCIENCE

Grade 1 – Topic A: Creating Colour, Topic C: Building Things, Topic E: Needs of Animals and Plants

Grade 4 – Topic A: Waste and Our World

Grade 6 – Topic E: Trees and Forests

SOCIAL STUDIES

Grade 1 – Citizenship: Belonging and Connecting

1.3 Moving Forward with the Past; My Family, My History and My Community

Grade 2 – Communities in Canada

2.1 Canada's Dynamic Communities

2.2 A Community in the Past

Grade 5 – Canada: The Land Histories and Stories

5.2 Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada

5.3 Canada: Shaping an Identity

Grade 7 – Canada: Origins, Histories and Movement of Peoples

7.1 Toward Confederation