Exploring Aboriginal Culture
Websites for Teachers and Students (K-12)

http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/teacher%27s_kit/activity11.cfm
Students can examine data from the 2001 Census on the Aboriginal population. Topics include distribution of the Aboriginal population across the country, the three Aboriginal groups, age, and language.

http://www.bctf.ca/lessonaids/
The Watershed Works is a comprehensive resource of student activities and teaching strategies that promote an awareness of and an understanding about the social, economic and environmental ‘workings’ of the Fraser River Basin. One whole section is devoted to fishing, which lends itself well to Aboriginal involvement in the fishing industry.

http://www.moa.ubc.ca
The Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia is world-renowned for its collections, research, teaching, public programs, and community connections. It is also acclaimed for its spectacular architecture and unique setting on the cliffs of Point Grey.

http://www.gulfofgeorgiacannery.com
One of B.C.’s few historically intact canneries, the Gulf of Georgia Cannery commemorates the development of Canada’s West Coast fishing industry from the 1870’s to the present. Throughout its history, West Coast fishing has helped fuel the economy and enrich the social fabric of B.C. This vibrant heritage is justly celebrated in Steveston, which was, and remains, an important centre of the Westcoast fishing industry. The Gulf of Georgia Cannery is now a National Historical Site owned by Parks Canada and operated by the Gulf of Georgia Cannery Society. A thorough and content-rich site for teachers and students.

http://www.moa.ubc.ca/collections/index.asp
A First Nations territory map can be viewed and printed for teachers and students.

This is Volume 2 of the Canada Heirloom Series containing eight chapters, each giving a history of Native Groups within a region of Canada. Chapters cover the history of Aboriginal Life in Cape Breton, St. Lawrence Lowlands, Woodland, Plains, NWT/Yukon/BC, Arctic, Metis and Northwest Coast.

http://www.cier.ca
CIER, the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources, is a national Aboriginal-owned environmental organization. They offer research & consulting and education & training services to First Nation and non-First Nation communities, governments and private companies in four interrelated topic areas: forestry, climate change, water, and sustainability.

http://www.bloorstreet.com/300block/aborl.htm
Extensive categorized directory of Aboriginal sites created and maintained by an Ontario lawyer.

http://nlc-bnc.ca/8/26/index-e.html
The Library and Archives Canada welcomes you to its window on the rich heritage and living cultures of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada. Here we will gather to celebrate, promote and provide access to a full variety of Aboriginal resources within Canada, both through the Library’s collections and services and in partnership with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities, associations, language and cultural centres, universities and libraries.
http://www.academicinfo.net/canfn.html
An annotated directory of Internet resources on Canadian First Nations

http://www.cwis.org/fwdp.html
An online library of over 1000 texts on indigenous peoples throughout the world

http://www.nativeweb.org
Resources for indigenous cultures around the world

http://arcbc.tripod.com/
Historical and current affairs information dealing with Aboriginal issues in BC

http://www.aaf.gov.bc.ca/aaf/
BC Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs

http://www.inac.gc.ca/index_e.html
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

http://www.schoolnet.ca/aboriginal
First Nations website on Schoolnet from Industry Canada

http://www.afn.ca/
Assembly of First Nations Canada – news, cultural and historical articles, services and links

A collection of excerpts from journals during the European/Indian contact period on the NW Coast

http://www.cariboolinks.com/ctc/history.html
Timeline from 10,000 BC – 1995. An historical look at Canada and BC’s relationship with First Nations

http://www.cln.org/themes/masks.html
Theme page has a number of links on the First Nations’ use of masks. Teachers and students will find lesson plans for creating masks and many examples of mask artwork.

http://www.schoolnet.ca/aboriginal/nisga1/index-e.html
The Nisga’a People site from the Nisga’a Tribal Council. A comprehensive information site about the peoples’ profile, history, culture, myths, land claims, education, health and government.

http://www.ipl.org/ref/native
Native American authors

http://www.longhouse.ubc.ca
First Nations House of Learning

http://www.indigenous.bc.ca
Institute of Indigenous Government

http://www.hanksville.org/storytellers
Storytellers: Native American Authors Online

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http://www.kstrom.net/isk/art/art_can.html
First Nations Art (Canada)

http://www.rcbcm.gov.bc.ca/totems/totems1b.html
Royal British Columbia Museum – Totem Poles

http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/index.htm
British Columbia Archives

http://www.bloorstreet.com/200block/brintro.htm
A brief introduction to Aboriginal law in Canada; Royal Proclamation, Rights, Claims, Cases, Self-Government, Treaties

http://users.aol.com/Donh523/navapage/canada.htm
A site full of Canadian Native Peoples’ flags stretching from the Arctic to the Canada/US Border

http://collections.ic.gc.ca/musqueam
Digital collection of art and artists – Musqueam weavers

http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/exhibits/timemach/galler03/frames/index.htm
The BC Archives holds a collection of 10,000 paintings, drawings and prints. The earliest dates from 1782 and the latest is from the 1960s. These art works were created by artists who lived in or traveled through British Columbia and sketched or painted views of the landscape, peoples and activities.

http://www.civilization.ca/aborig/storytel/indexeng.html
The stories shared are from the Inuvialuit, the Algonquin, the Métis and Cree, the Nisga’a, the Abenaki and the Mi’kmaw. They are told through movement, song and dance, using symbols and imagination. They teach about the origin of sacred objects and ceremonies, and our relationship to the animals, plants, rocks and each other. This exhibit is a project of the interns in the Aboriginal Training Programme in Museum Practices of the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

http://siksik.learnnet.nt.ca/02%20k_12/02_15%20legends/contents.html
Short stories and legends with illustrations from the site of the Government of the Northwest Territories – Education, Culture and Employment

http://www.gov.nt.ca/RWED/kids/index.htm
Northwest Territories – Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development
Site includes pictures, games, activities, colouring pages, stories and teacher resources

http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/aboriginalplanet/
The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade site
Visit ‘The Resource Centre’ to find more detailed information on international Aboriginal issues. The Global Issues Primers section provides a series of "primers" on global issues, such as the environment or intellectual property, explaining how they impact Aboriginal peoples in Canada and around the world. In the Government of Canada Materials section you will find government speeches and international agreements.

http://www.bctreaty.net/
As 'the independent voice of treaty making in British Columbia', the Treaty Commission is uniquely positioned to analyze and demystify complex treaty issues.

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http://www.edu.yorku.ca:8080/caas/
The goal of CAAS is to create changes in classroom teaching and education policy so that ALL students in Canadian classrooms are exposed to Aboriginal-perspective content as an integrated theme throughout all curriculum and subject areas in their elementary and secondary education.

http://longhouse.ubc.ca/
The web site has information about the degree opportunities, courses and programs offered by the faculties, our many student services, student financial information, events at the Long House and more.

http://www.firstnations-schools.bc.ca/
The First Nations Schools Association (FNSA) is a non-partisan organization committed to promoting First Nations control of education, and to improving and supporting the development of quality and culturally appropriate education for First Nations students.

http://www.vcn.bc.ca/michif/
This site celebrates the three groups or kinds of Aboriginal People recognized by the Canadian Constitution: Metis, Status Indian and Inuit. The site is dedicated to preserving their culture and proud heritage.

http://www.library.ubc.ca/xwi7xwa/
Library resource order site from UBC

http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/exhibits/timemach/galler03/frames/index.htm
The BC Archives holds a collection of 10,000 paintings, drawings and prints. The earliest dates from 1782 and the latest are from the 1960s. These art works were created by artists who lived in or traveled through British Columbia and sketched or painted views of the landscape, peoples and activities.

http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/exhibits/timemach/galler07/frames/index.htm
This First Nations gallery includes aboriginal accounts as well as European ethnographic collections of stories in an attempt to describe certain historical aspects of British Columbia.

http://www.ayn.ca/band_home.asp
At this site youth can find information that they may find useful in their everyday lives. The main focus is on news, events, and getting youth to communicate with each other.

http://www.chill.org/csss/fns/index.html
The First Nations Studies course has been designed as a provincially prescribed elective course, suitable for all students in B.C. schools. The course is primarily B.C. focused, emphasizing the traditions and history of British Columbia's First Nations peoples. It is intended to provide a conceptual foundation for all learners to develop an appreciation and respect for the similarities among and differences between the diverse cultures of the world.

http://www.bctf.ca/social/AboriginalEd/TreatyProcess/
This handbook provides basic information about treaties. It outlines some of the reasons for the establishment of the treaty process, as well as some of the reasons why First Nations have and have not chosen to participate in the process.

http://www.gov.bc.ca/tno//rpts/glossary/default.htm
Glossary of Treaty-Related Terms As Used by the Province of British Columbia

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http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/links.htm#FIRST%20NATIONS
Union of BC Indian Chiefs information portal

http://www.statcan.ca/english/kits/abst.htm
Lessons, articles and data on Aboriginal studies from Statistics Canada

http://www.statcan.ca/english/kits/abst.htm

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/abed/
This site contains useful information for everyone interested or involved in Aboriginal education.

http://www.prov.gov.bc.ca/tno/
The Treaty Negotiations Office has primary responsibility for resolving land claim settlements in the Province of British Columbia.

http://www.naaf.ca/bluep.html
Blueprint For The Future (BFF) is a series of one-day career fairs held in two different Canadian cities each year. These career fairs are designed for Aboriginal youth from grades 10 to 12 to increase the awareness of employment opportunities and associated training requirements in diverse sectors of the Canadian workforce.

http://www.ammsa.com/classroom/CLASSEDDOS.html
Outline of teaching respect for Native Peoples

Aboriginal issues, information, First People’s, arts & crafts, youth, and more

http://www.aboriginalcanada.gc.ca
The Aboriginal Canada Portal is a single window to Canadian Aboriginal on-line resources, contacts, information, and government programs and services.

http://www.fpcf.ca/lang-firstvoices.html
The First Peoples’ cultural foundation – A language archive tool including Canada-wide Aboriginal alphabets, dictionaries and phrase books, definitions and translations, sounds, images, video and more. Choose the area you’d like to research anywhere in Canada.

http://www.atbc.bc.ca/
Aboriginal Tourism of British Columbia – Learn about the land, culture and adventures available throughout BC. Useful for teachers planning field trips.

http://www.aboriginalconnections.com
A comprehensive web directory presenting categorized information to Canadian Aboriginal, Native American Indian and International Indigenous sites on the World Wide Web.

http://www.beahr.com
- best practices associated with the recruitment and retention of Aboriginal people in the Building Environmental Aboriginal Human Resources (BEAHR) Employers Guide. Will introduce you to the many Aboriginal faces currently working in the environment sector. Learn who they are and what they do! Of course you can still get information on our existing programs and services.

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ABORIGINAL UNIT - FINE ARTS
PRIMARY

Suggestions for package inclusions

• Resource List/Contact names of organizations that offer class visits from a local ‘Elder Speaks’ program
• Website Directory sheet (K-12 & teachers)
• Aboriginal Author and Book Title list
• Copy of map “First Nations of British Columbia” from M.O.A. highlighting language boundaries in the province
• Copies of fishing/trapping colouring pages from KIDZONE
• Copies of activites/mazes from KIDZONE
• Copy of picture/write-a-story from KIDZONE
• Copy of “When Teaching about Aboriginal Peoples...” from AMMSA

Suggestion for package lessons

Develop a mini-unit of lesson plans based on 5 information sheets taken from INAC. After a study of each topic in this ‘fine art’ theme, a culminating activity lesson suggestion will be to host a classroom pow-wow / potlatch with students and invited guests.
• Chances Are it’s Aboriginal: A conversation about Aboriginal Foods
• First Nations Music in Canada
• Aboriginal Sports: Timeless Play
• Stories the Totems Tell: Brining Aboriginal Poles to Life
• My Summer on the Pow-wow Trail

The lessons will support the fine arts, literature and social studies curriculum through: art, music, dance, theatre, cooking, crafts, storytelling, creative writing, history, cultural awareness, celebrating diversity

**ABORIGINAL UNIT – FISHING & HISTORICAL STUDY OF CULTURE AND SUSTAINING THE LAND**

**INTERMEDIATE**

**Suggestions for package inclusions**

• Resource List/Contact names of organizations that offer class visits from a local ‘Elder Speaks’ program
• Website Directory sheet (K-12 & teachers)
• Aboriginal Author and Book Title list
• Copy of map “First Nations of British Columbia” from M.O.A. highlighting language boundaries in the province
• Copy of “Fishing” Canadian Story about First Nations from Parks Canada site
• Copy of “What Our Elders Say...” lesson and accompanying short story “The Legend of the Sky Sisters”- A traditional Iroquoian Legend taken from Volume 3 of *Canada’s Forests-All Things Big and Small* (links traditional ecological knowledge of Aboriginal peoples with the study of biodiversity, incorporating environmental learning through a traditional legend)
• Copy of pages 1-7 “Fishing” taken from *The Watershed Works* learning resource from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (reviews commercial, sport and Native fishing and includes maps and short activities)
• Copy of “When Teaching about Aboriginal Peoples...” from AMMSA
Suggestion for package lessons

Develop 2 lessons, a vocabulary sheet and activity sheet based on the Gulf of Georgia Canneries. Basic information will be taken from the Gulf of Georgia Cannery National Historic Site of Canada. A culminating activity would be to take students on a field trip of the historic site and learn about the past/present/future of this fishing industry. Focus would be from an historical perspective of the Aboriginal people who gave so much to this West Coast industry.

- Telling our Story
- Natural Wonders & Cultural Treasures

The lessons will support the literature and social studies curriculum through art, research, technology, creative writing, appreciation of history and cultural awareness

ABORIGINAL UNIT – HISTORY & TECHNOLOGY
SECONDARY

Suggestions for package inclusions

- Resource List/Contact names of organizations that offer class visits from a local ‘Elder Speaks’ program
- Website Directory sheet (K-12 & teachers)
- Aboriginal Author and Book Title list
- Copy of map “First Nations of British Columbia” from M.O.A. highlighting language boundaries in the province
- Copy of “When Teaching about Aboriginal Peoples...” from AMMSA
- Copy of BC Treaty site information
- Timeline from “Canada & BC’s Relationship with First Nations”
- ...
- ...
- ...

Suggestion for package lessons
Lessons will support the social studies, history, literature, technology curriculum
OUTLINE FOR SECONDARY ABORIGINAL WEB-BASED UNIT
LIST OF CONTACT PEOPLE & ORGANIZATIONS FOR ABORIGINAL PACKAGE

LIST OF BOOKS TO SUPPLEMENT ABORIGINAL PACKAGES

First Nations Children’s Authors

Michael Arvaariuk Kusugak       Hide and Seek

Maria Tallchief               Tallchief: America’s Prima Ballerina

George Littlechild           This Land is My Land

Richard Van Camp (Illustrated by George Littlechild)  A Man Called Raven

Thomas King                Coyote Columbus

Thompson Highway            Caribou Song

Thompson Highway            Dragonfly Kites

Chief Lelooska              Spirit of the Cedar People
Louise Erdrich  The Birchbark House

Sylvia Olsen, Rita Morris, Ann Sam  No Time to Say Good-bye

Diane Silvey  Little Bear's Vision Quest ISBN- 1-894114-00-0, 1995
Grades K-4
Little Bear's Vision Quest is a lavishly illustrated picture book that teaches respect for others. This story is a wonderful teaching tool because it uses the traditional storytelling method of teaching values to young children. Through this modern story written and illustrated by two Coast Salish Nation members, parents and teachers have an excellent resource that encourages discussion.

Grades 6-10

Grades 9+

Elaine MacLeod  Lessons from Mother Earth ISBN- 0-88899-312-9
Grades K-3  Environmental content

Grades K-12  Celebrates Cultural Diversity