



Ravenspeaks



## School Visitation Presentations & Programs

### Interactive, Inspiring and Informative

Each presentation reinforces the teachings of First Nations People by encouraging communication and sharing.

Please visit

[www.ravenspeaks.ca](http://www.ravenspeaks.ca)

## PRESENTATIONS

**PRESENTATIONS** are ideal for first time visitations as they serve as an introduction to First Nations culture, tradition and worldview. Based within the traditional teachings of The Medicine Wheel, presentations include interactive storytelling, language instruction (Ojibwe), traditional songs and drumming offer insight and inspiration to students of all ages. Presented in an assembly style format or grade level specific, each **75 min. presentation** has been created to meet the requirement of several curriculum learning expectations and subject areas.

### ASSEMBLY STYLE:

This presentation begins with an overview of the Medicine Wheel Teachings which includes a traditional Ojibwe creation story that is performed through storytelling singing and drumming and teaches the continuity and interconnectedness of life. Students learn the significance of the land we call Canada and what that actually means to Aboriginal people.

### GRADE SPECIFIC:

**K- Grade 2** - Based within the traditional teachings of The Medicine Wheel this presentation focuses on “Mother Earth.” Much like our own Mothers who provide for us, protect us and love us students draw a parallel to how the land does too. Storytelling (Creation Story) music, drum and song provide an interactive and inspiring experience that helps to answer the question of why protecting the earth is so important.

**Grades 3 – 5-** Based within the traditional teachings of The Medicine Wheel students engage, interact and identify the three groups of Aboriginal Peoples of Canada. Interactive Storytelling, song and drum celebrate “All of Our Relations” as we explore the interconnectivity of Land, Plants, 4 leggeds and 2 leggeds. Students also learn and celebrate the role First Nations Peoples played in the history of pioneers.

**Grades 6-8-** Based within the traditional teachings of The Medicine Wheel Students learn the Aboriginal concept of the Seventh-Generations stewardship as a framework for exploring responsibilities for the land, plants, animals and future generations. Sharing the wisdom of the Elders through storytelling provides a thought provoking experience that stresses empowerment, co-creation and cultural recognition.

**Secondary** – Based within the traditional teachings of The Medicine Wheel students will gain an increased awareness and understanding centered on the worldview of Aboriginal Peoples of Canada and their relationship with the land. Traditional values, spiritual health and unity of “All of Our Relations” are revealed through an interactive experience designed to provide direct insight into the historical and present philosophies of Aboriginal Peoples.

**PRESENTATION RATES:**

1 Presentation: \$450

2 Presentations: \$550\*

3 Presentations: \$650\*

(\* Presentations must be secured on the same day)



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## **PROGRAMS (Elementary)**

**PROGRAMS** serve as an extension to the teachings provided in a presentation (shown above). Program topics elaborate on specific areas of interest and provide experiential learning through hands-on activities, traditional crafts and ritual. Programs are grade level /subject specific and meet the requirement of several curriculum learning expectations. Programs are **90-150 min.** in length and can be secured as a morning or afternoon program.

**Program Rates:** One Program: \$550 (a.m. or p.m.) Two Programs: \$800 (same day)





### ***Celebrating Cedar***

One of the most popular program choices, this gathering begins with dynamic and interactive storytelling where *The Sacred Order of Creation* is presented. This traditional Ojibwe story reveals the continuity and interconnectedness of life allowing students an opportunity to reflect and relate to the land. Fresh Cedar is introduced as one of the four sacred medicine plants where students discover how this plant remains at the heart of the history in Canada between First Nations Peoples and pioneers. Tasting Cedar Tea and discovering Nature's toothbrush provides a hands-on experience that is both amusing and unforgettable. As an expression of gratitude to the Earth Mother we conclude with a "Hug and Feed" activity where bird seed ribbons are created and hung around trees.

*Maximum group size 50 - Grade level 3- 8*



### ***The Animals as our Teachers***

Students explore the animal world through the lens of First Nations people. Gently guided to the time of Creation where the '4 Leggeds' walked in unity and balance, we learn the importance of offering our respect and gratitude. An opportunity to make physical contact with each animal skin (touch table) reinforces the teachings of Respect & Responsibility for 'All of Our Relations'. Exploring the link with First Nations Clan systems, participants discover how their personal traits and characteristics align with specific clans offering insight into their own strengths, abilities and purpose. Celebration through drum, shakers and song conclude this inspirational experience.

*Maximum group size 80 - Grade level 3-8*



## ***Creation Stories & Traditional Legends***

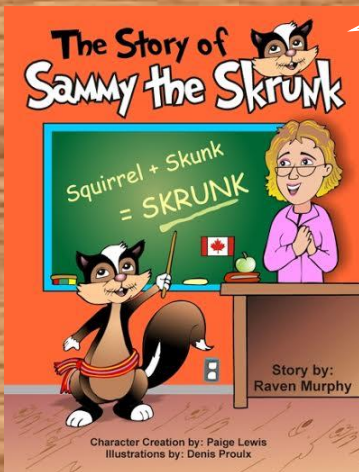


Creation stories are at the forefront of many Indigenous cultures from around the world. THE GREAT FLOOD is a traditional legend that has been passed on for generations and is at the heart of the Anishinaabe people.

Throughout this program, students learn how the legend ties into First Nations culture and worldview and how traditional land knowledge is vital to our environment. Participants are awed as they observe Nature's Calendar by identifying the 13 moons and 28 day cycles patterned on turtles back. Further discovery on their individual birth moon intrigues and informs them of their individual personality and unique characteristics. A fun clay art activity follows with a personal pledge to become proud stewards of the land.

*Maximum group size 50 – Grade level 3-8*

*Raven's  
New Book!*



## **Celebrating Métis Culture and Tradition**

New to the list of programs available this year, Celebrating Métis Culture and Tradition has been created to support and expand on the many valuable messages within *The Story of Sammy the Skrunk*. This interactive and entertaining program begins with a story performance where students are introduced to *Marcel the Métis* who is instrumental in teaching Sammy that being of mixed ancestry is something to be cherished and celebrated.

Following the story, we explore and celebrate the Métis culture by learning about how traditional crafts, art and music play an important role in the lifestyle of the people. Traditional fiddle music follows where students learn to dance the Métis Jig, Broom Dance and group dances that conclude this high energy celebration.

*Maximum group size 80 students - Grade level 3-8*





### ***The Power of Storytelling***

This interactive and entertaining program encourages imagination, creativity and expression. Traditional storytelling practices rooted in the Medicine Wheel are modeled for students who in turn take part in group and individual storytelling exercises. Students come away learning the importance of “Giving the Gift of Story” where experience, humour, compassion and friendship are cherished and shared. A crafting activity creating personal story telling bags concludes this energizing and educational experience.

*Maximum group size 35 – Grade level 5-8*



### ***Teachings from the Plant World***

Since the beginning, First Nations People have held a close relationship with the land. Recognizing that Indigenous plants have been used as Nature’s method of curing and preventing illness, we draw parallels from the store bought medicines and the original plant medicines that First Nations People gathered from the land. By exploring various plant extracts students are invited to identify various scents and learn how natural plant remedies have and continue to promote health and wellbeing. The four traditional Plant Medicines are introduced and the traditional ritual of Smudging is celebrated in a sharing circle. The program concludes with a crafting activity re-enforcing the teaching that when we walk in balance with Mother Earth there is much to receive and celebrate.

*Maximum group size 50 students - Grade level 6-8*



### ***Traditional Shaker Making (Music)***

For centuries shakers have been used to amplify the voice and synchronize the heartbeat of humans to the natural rhythms of the earth – a symbol of the Circle of Life and our interconnectedness with Nature. Presented as a two-part program, this hands-on workshop offers students an opportunity to explore and experience first -hand the cultural history and tradition of shaker making. Working with natural materials such as deer hide, sinew and cedar wood, students learn how to prepare the hide, sew, paint and assemble their own shaker from start to finish. A song circle completes our time together where traditional Ojibwe songs, languages and rhythms are infused in a special musical celebration.

*Maximum group size 40 – Grades 6-8*

*(Note: A two program rate applies because this program is delivered in two parts on two different days.)*

# (Secondary) PROGRAMS

## PROGRAMS (Secondary)

**PROGRAMS** serve as an extension to the teachings provided in a presentation (shown above). Program topics elaborate on specific areas of interest and provide experiential learning through hands-on activities, traditional crafts and ritual. Programs are grade level /subject specific and meet the requirement of several curriculum learning expectations. Programs are **90-150 min.** in length and can be secured as a morning or afternoon program. All elementary presentations and programs listed above are highly recommended and suitable for secondary students as they can be modified in an age appropriate way. The following programs are additional options.

**Program Rates:** One Program: \$550 (a.m. or p.m.) Two Programs: \$800 (same day)



### ***The Elements & You***

Nature has a powerful way of mirroring our individual personalities and can provide direct insight into who we are and why we do the things we do. This interactive and inspiring gathering begins with the wisdom of the Medicine Wheel where land based teachings reinforce how the four ways of being ( Spirit, Heart Mind Body) are supported by the wisdom of the four elements. Here students learn to identify their “Elemental Personality” which heightens an awareness of who they are and how they relate to others. A traditional Sharing Circle reinforces a sense of identity as students discover how they can create and sustain positive relationships with the land and with one another. *Maximum group size 50 students*

### ***Living in two worlds***

Through the media, such as film and television the perception of First Nations culture has often been portrayed in a one-sided fashion. Stereotypes and misconceptions continue to divide us when unity and collaboration in our world is most needed. *Living in two worlds* offers a broad picture of the differences, complexities and advantages of Aboriginal worldview in comparison with the western - contemporary worldview. Here students gain an awareness of the importance of identifying and challenging their perceptions of Aboriginal knowledge as they are guided to experience traditional knowledge as a source of inventiveness, and identify opportunities for synergy rather than dominance and by harnessing the wisdom of two systems.

*Maximum group size 50*





To secure a visitation please contact Raven at:

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[www.ravenspeaks.ca](http://www.ravenspeaks.ca)