

CIRCLES ALL AROUND

C5



Focus Morpheme

Root	<i>circ</i>
Pronunciation	The root <i>circ</i> is pronounced /sir-kə/. In a word, the second c is pronounced at the beginning of the next syllable, as in circle : /sir-kəl/.

Etymology of *circ*

Origin	Latin
Meaning	circle ; ring
Example: circular	Look at the word circular . The root <i>circ</i> comes from the Latin <i>circulus</i> , meaning “ circle ” or “ring.” By adding the suffix <i>-ular</i> , which means “relating to,” we create the word circular , meaning “relating to a circle or ring.”

Vocabulary

- circle
- circles
- circular
- semicircle
- semicircular
- circumference
- encircle
- circulate

Activating Prior Knowledge

- The photo above shows a First Nations hoop dancer. How do you think First Nations dancers use hoops in their hoop dances?
- Share what you know about any dances that are traditional in your culture.

CIRCLES ALL AROUND

Have you ever looked up at the sky on a clear night? You might have seen the **circle** of a full moon—or a **semicircle** when only half the moon is visible. The sun also appears as a **circle**. The moon and sun travel in a **semicircular** path across the sky. **Circles** in the natural world are reflected in the Nehiyaw (say *nay-he-yaaw*) way of life.

Did You Know?

The Nehiyaw are Indigenous people who are also known as Cree. The author of this text is Nehiyaw.

Home Is a Circle

The tipi is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw. The base of a tipi is **circular**. Sometimes, rocks are placed along the **circumference** of a tipi's base to keep the wall in place. Tipis are like the long ribbon skirts of our mothers and grandmothers, who nurture, protect, and **encircle** us with their love.

When a tipi is moved, the **circle** of rocks is left behind. This **circle** is called a tipi ring. Tipi rings that are thousands of years old can still be found.

Gathering in Circles

Round dances are gatherings that bring people together to celebrate, to honour loved ones, or in memory of those who have passed. These dances are also used for healing and to **encircle** each other with love. Participants hold hands in a large **circle**. Then, they **circulate** in a clockwise direction as hand drummers sing.

Gatherings called powwows also include dancers who move in a clockwise direction, to the sounds of drum songs. Powwows are held within a **circular** structure called an arbour. Drums **encircle** the powwow space.



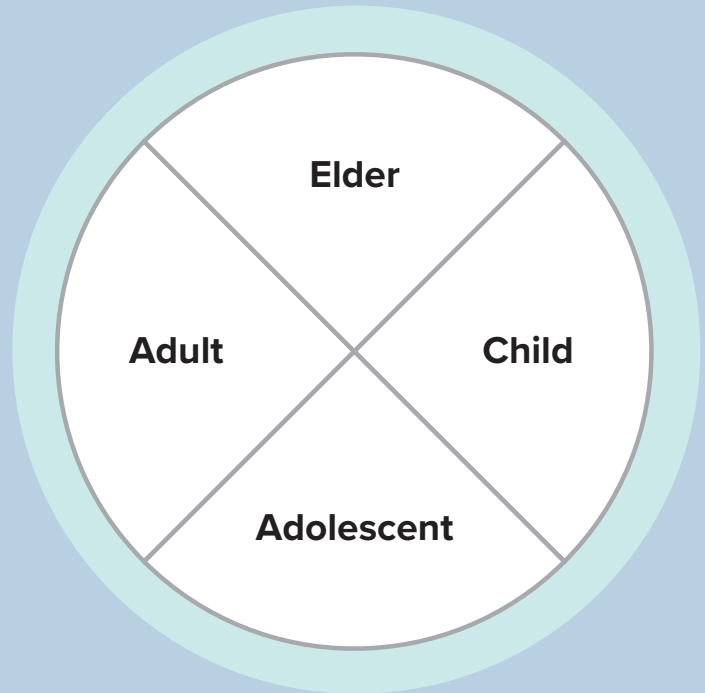
A Nehiyaw tipi

A round dance during National Day for Truth and Reconciliation





Four Directions



Circle of Wellness

Some Nehiyaw use a **circular** diagram called Four Directions. The **circle** is divided into four sections for the four stages of life. The four sections can also refer to aspects of a person that need to be in balance for wellness, such as the mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects.

Connecting in Circles

A sharing **circle** is used to connect, share experiences, and settle disagreements. People sit in a **circle** and take turns respectfully sharing, one at a time, in a clockwise direction. This allows everyone to be heard. Sharing **circles** reflect values that are important in Nehiyaw culture: mutual respect, a sense of belonging, and valuing all people equally.

Circles play a role in many aspects of life for Nehiyaw. **Circles** are used to show love and respect for each other and to honour the natural world.

Vocabulary

Connections

The prefix *semi-* means “half.” A **semicircle** is half of a **circle**. In this photo, half of the moon is visible, so it appears as a **semicircle**.



Time to Talk

Think of a time when you have gathered with others in a **circle**. Why might sitting or standing in this formation be meaningful or powerful?

Word Study

In your Word Study notebook, add today's morpheme.

New Morpheme	Type of Morpheme	Origin	Meaning
<i>circ</i>	root	Latin	circle ; ring

Count the Morphemes: In your Word Study notebook, write a word sum for each of the following words from the text.

healing drummers natural respectfully wellness structure

How many morphemes are in each word? Record the number.

Example: dances → dance + s (2)

Writing Connections

Reread the text on pages 2 and 3. Then, use one or more of the prompts below to write a response to the text. Use at least one word with the root *circ*.

- I learned...
- This reminds me of...
- I wonder...

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