

INQUIRING MINDS

Grade 4

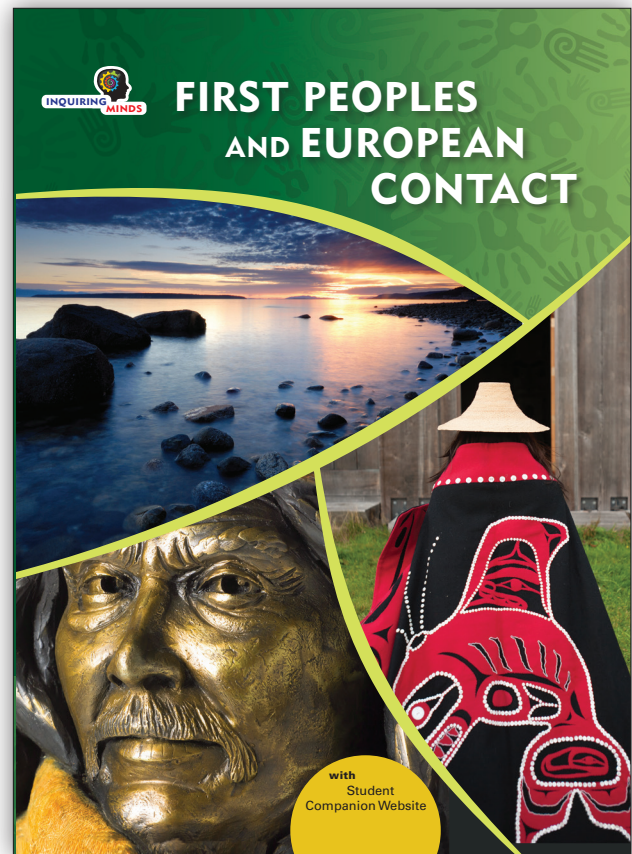
First Peoples and European Contact

Pearson Canada is proud to present learning resources that demonstrate our commitment to honouring the histories, cultures, worldviews, and knowledge of Canada's First People's communities.

Here are some samples of Indigenous content contained in the Inquiring Minds, custom social studies series for British Columbia.

Inquiring Minds: First Peoples and European Contact examines the impact of contact and colonization on First Peoples in Canada. Grade 4 students will explore land and identity, conflict and cooperation, changes to ways of life and the consequences of those changes, and the significance of people and events.

Historical thinking concepts—evidence, significance, cause and consequence, ethical judgement, continuity and change, and perspective—are used to explore content examples. (These historical thinking concepts provide a specific focus to the curricular competencies.) All topics explore Indigenous perspectives and examples from First Peoples throughout BC. Integration of First Peoples Principles of Learning allow students to make connections between these topics and their own experiences and knowledge.



FIRST PEOPLES AND EUROPEAN CONTACT



Five Places, Five Nations

The cultures of these five First Nations developed within the geographical features of the places where they live.

How do geographical features affect how people live?

Blue Valley
The Salish communities of the Fraser Valley live in the fertile valley of the Fraser River. The Salish people have always defined themselves by their proximity to water. For thousands of years, rivers and streams have been central to their lives.

Plateau
The Okanagan people live on the plateau of the Okanagan River valley. The Okanagan people have always defined themselves by their proximity to water. For thousands of years, rivers and streams have been central to their lives.

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Lakes
The Shuswap people live along the lakes of the Shuswap Valley. The Shuswap people have always defined themselves by their proximity to water. For thousands of years, rivers and streams have been central to their lives.

Coast
The Kwakwaka'wakw people live along the coast of the Pacific Northwest. The Kwakwaka'wakw people have always defined themselves by their proximity to water. For thousands of years, rivers and streams have been central to their lives.

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Explores how the diversity of the land affects how people live in BC. **Pages 8-9**

Investigates differences in perspectives during contact between First Peoples and European newcomers. **Pages 42-43**

Examines the consequences of change due to the gold rush on First Peoples in BC. **Pages 112-113**

How Did First Nations Cope with Change During the Gold Rush?

What was the result of the gold rush?
In 1858, thousands of gold miners eventually made their way from Victoria to the Fraser and Thompson Rivers. According to First Nations protocols, a person needs permission before entering a territory that is not their own. How would First Nations respond to the thousands of people entering their territories to mine for gold?

What are some oral histories of the Gold Rush?
For almost a hundred years, the only record of First Nations people near the Fraser River were for traders. The gold rush was different. Tens of thousands of strangers entered, most of whom were ill prepared. Oral histories of the gold rush have been passed on from generation to generation. Read the examples on this page. Remember that some historical sources are written from a "Western" point of view. Today, the terms First Nations and First Peoples are used instead.

What were the consequences of the gold rush?
The gold rush had a significant impact on the lives of First Nations people. Many were forced to leave their traditional lands, and many died from disease and lack of food. The gold rush also led to the loss of many traditional practices and languages.

What were the impacts on language and culture?
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What the Mowohatch Saw

The Mowohatch people were going about their daily lives in Yaquina, when they saw something in the ocean. Mowohatch Chief George said what happened next.

What the British Saw
The Mowohatch people were approaching when Cook's ships. He chose to sail into Nootka Sound because it was a deep natural harbor. Cook did not record his meeting with the Mowohatch. However, some of his crew wrote down what they saw.

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What Were the Impacts of the Fur Trade?

Sometimes change can be hard to see because it happens slowly. Imagine the changes experienced by one First Nations family. One year the family is making its seasonal rounds, supporting themselves by harvesting resources and hunting or fishing. The next year, the family begins trapping furs to trade for goods at a trading post.

What were the impacts on language and culture?
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Changes for First Nations

- New religions, different from their own.
- New communities formed in and around trading posts.
- New foods, such as flour and sugar.
- New metal tools, such as axes, traps, and knives.
- Carrying on their traditions.
- Learning about new technologies.
- Trading with other First Nations.
- Competing with other First Nations.

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Why Are Modern Treaties Being Negotiated?

Modern treaties are nation-to-nation agreements among First Nations, the federal government, and the provinces. The first modern treaty was the 1921 Prairie Provinces Agreement. By 2016, over half of BC First Nations were involved in treaty negotiations.

Why are modern treaties being negotiated?
Treaties do not have to be negotiated. First Nations do not have to prove Aboriginal rights and title. However, many First Nations are negotiating treaties because they want to resolve their land claims and secure their future.

What are modern treaties being negotiated for?
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Explores the impact of the fur trade on First Peoples in BC. **Pages 82-83**

Explores the significance of a major event, such as the Chilcotin War, for First Peoples in BC. **Pages 162-163**

The Rights of Indigenous Peoples

In 2007, the United Nations declared a set of rights that are held by all Indigenous peoples. These include the right to:

- maintain their traditional lands, territories, and resources
- be compensated if lands or resources were taken
- govern themselves
- pursue their own economic and cultural development
- conserve and protect their cultural heritage

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Examines issues surrounding land rights for First Peoples in BC. **Pages 180-181**