

Practical Tools to Consider a More Inclusive Approach to Makerspaces in Schools

Protocols



Land-based Learning



Digital Storytelling





ELDER PROTOCOL

Planning your learning journey

What is the protocol to follow when inviting an Elder, Knowledge Keeper or Cultural Advisor to participate in your meetings or events?



There are many ways in which an Elder, Knowledge Keeper or Cultural Advisor can participate in meetings, events or classroom learning, such as saying a prayer or offering a blessing, sharing their knowledge with students, engaging in consultation, or leading a ceremony or cultural

FIRST STEPS

An Elder, Knowledge Keeper or Cultural Advisor's perspective and presence can foster inclusion and promote understanding to support our shared journey of reconciliation. Inviting an Elder to participate in your meetings or events is an opportunity to share First Nations, Métis and Inuit knowledge, cultural beliefs and traditional practices with the education community.

WHO IS AN ELDER?

The term Elder refers to someone recognized by their community as having attained a high degree of inderstanding of First Nations, Métis or Inuit history, spirituality, traditional language, cultural teachings, ceremonies or healing practices. Elders have worked and studied over a period of time with other Elders to earn the right to pass on this specialized knowledge and give advice on personal and community issues. Elders are highly revered and respected role models and mentors for all people. They embody First Nations, Métis and Inuit culture through their words, actions and being.

Gender and age are not factors, nor are they criteria in determining who is recognized as an Elder. Some Elders may be female. Other Elders may be comparatively young in age but very well versed in ceremonial and cultural practices.





Building Community & Protocols



This makerspace is designed to have everyone sit in a circle. Students sit and gather on the Indigenous carpet (purchased from an Indigenous company) in circle. Here students smudge with our District Elder and learn about protocols and stories of the land.



An Elder came and spoke with a class about the importance of hunting, moccasins, and being connected to the land. These mini hide moccasins lead to many stories of traveling on the land.



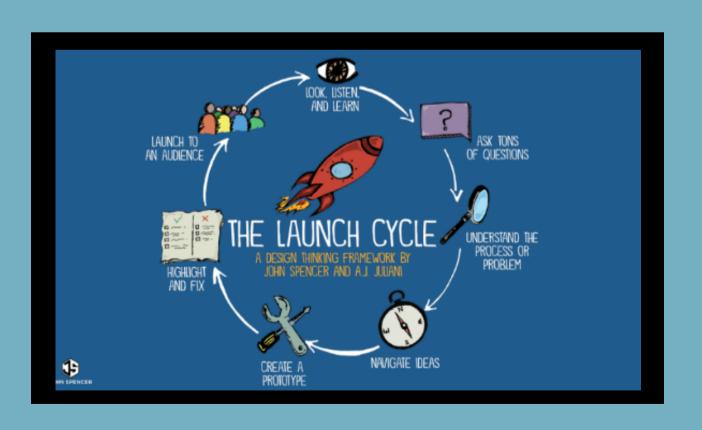
These tipis were built after students had teachings from a Knowledge Keeper about the important of the design, connection to community, and the placement of a tipi-



Students learned about the sacred medicines and built medicine pouches. These hide pouches students wore near and dear to their hearts.



Land-based Design Challenges



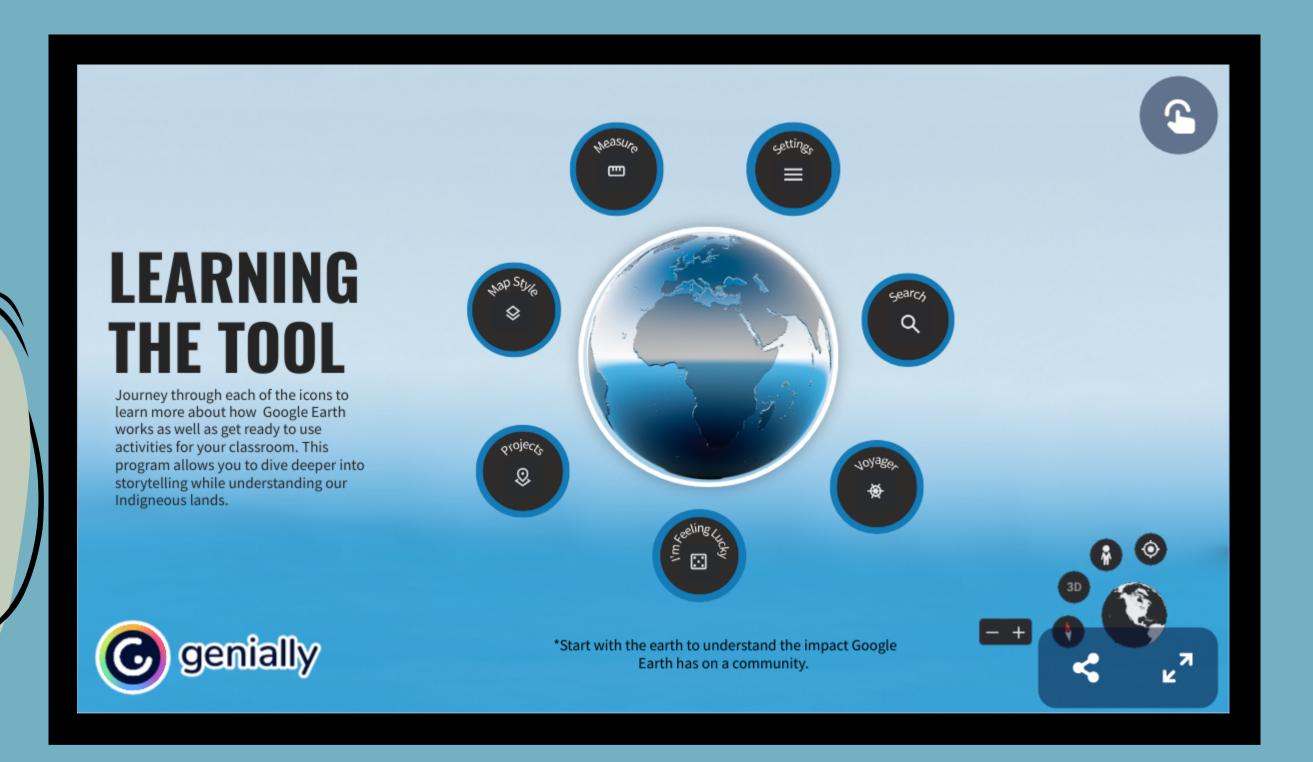








Storytelling with Google Earth





Indigeneity & Makerspaces Site



