

Author/Publisher/Website: <http://www.learnmichif.com/home>
Evaluation/Record Entry Date: Apr/2018
Submitting Suppliers: Not Available
Manufacturer/Publisher/Producer: Canadian Heritage

Recommended Grades: 5-12

Subjects/Courses: Science,
Social Studies, English Language Arts

ERAC Review

DESCRIPTION

This informational website, created by the BC Metis nation, includes text, images, and videos. Historical events are documented with images and text, and student ambassadors interviewed elders and the videos of their stories are included. There is also a Michif language learning section with short videos, practice dialogue, matching quizzes, and phrases. The website is simple to use, with many drop-down menus and tabs. Useful for grades 5-12, students could follow an elder's story, write journal entries, reflections, or newspaper articles, and educators could use the site to support inquiry projects about Metis history and language.

CURRICULUM FIT

Does the resource support BC curriculum? Extensively

This product supports the Core Competencies of the BC curriculum:

- Communication
- Creative Thinking
- Critical thinking
- Positive Personal and Cultural Identity
- Personal Awareness and Responsibility
- Social Responsibility

Comments:

This extensive Metis website is a resource that will support the study of the Metis in Canada, Batoche, Louis Riel, etc. The site also supports the Big Ideas related to the study of First Peoples. The website supports the Social Studies Big Ideas from grades 5-12 and BCFN 11 of connecting to local First Peoples. Students will recognize how Metis young people have used their communication competencies to interview and record elders telling stories.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Indigenous Peoples: Cruelty towards Metis is depicted. The word "Indian" is used in reference to two of the games.

Social Considerations Comments:

Do the social considerations support, rather than detract from, student learning? Extensively

This website documents the treatment of the Metis, however it also celebrates Metis language and culture. The word "Indian" is used to refer to games of Indian wrestling.

GENERAL CONTENT

Content:

Should this product be identified as Canadian? Yes

Is the resource an Authentic First Peoples Text? Yes

This resource supports the characteristics of Aboriginal worldviews and perspectives:

- Connectedness and Relationship
- Awareness of History
- Local Focus
- Engagement with the Land, Nature, the Outdoors
- Emphasis on Identity
- Processes and Protocols
- Traditional Teaching
- Language and Culture

Is the resource engaging? Moderately

Is the content current for the intended curriculum and grade? Moderately

Is the content accurate for the intended curriculum and grade? Moderately

Is the content timely and important for student broad understandings? Moderately

Audience:

Is the content appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students? Extensively

Does the resource provide opportunities for creative and critical thinking? Moderately

Is the level of detail appropriate? Extensively

Is the language use appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students? Extensively

Are the visuals appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students? Extensively

Comments:

The website is created by the BC Metis nation and includes text, images, and videos (linked to YouTube). Student ambassadors have interviewed elders, and videos of their stories are included in the website. Historically important events are documented with images and text.

TECHNICAL DESIGN

Does the resource make effective use of the medium?	Moderately
Is the navigation throughout the site intuitive?	Moderately
Are images clear?	Moderately
Is the sound quality clear?	Moderately
Is the interface uncluttered?	Moderately

Descriptors:

External links are operational
Displays in mobile devices

Comments:

This is a simple website, with multiple drop-down menus. While an uncomplicated format, the design lacks the professionalism and polish of most sites today. Games are simple.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

Is the instructional design effective and appropriate for the intended audience?	Moderately
Is the resource suitable for a wide range of learning and teaching styles?	Moderately
Are the instructional elements consistent with the purpose of the resource?	Moderately
Are the concepts clearly explained?	Moderately
Does the progression in learning go from the simple to the complex?	Moderately
Are the content chunking and sequencing appropriate?	Moderately
Does the resource provide multiple strategies to help learners construct meaning?	Moderately
Does the resource support a gradual release of responsibility i.e. explicit instruction, guided practice, independent learning?	Moderately
Does the resource provide varied opportunities to demonstrate learning and extend thinking?	Not at all or slightly
Does the resource provide appropriate tools for assessment?	Not at all or slightly
Does the resource support the transfer of learning to personal or applied contexts?	Moderately

Comments:

This is an informational website, however there is a Michif language learning component with short videos, practice dialogue, little matching quizzes, and specific phrases.

DIGITAL CLASSROOM REFERENCE

Does the reference cover topics with sufficient depth for the intended audience?	Extensively
Does the classroom reference use multimedia to support learning?	Extensively
Are the subject area list and/or subtopics extensive?	Moderately
Do the external links contribute to the learning experience	Extensively

Comments:

DIGITAL CLASSROOM REFERENCE

There is no search tool in this website. Students have to open each tab to find the content. It is, however, easy to navigate.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE VENDOR

Is Active Directory integration available for updating user data? No

PRIVACY AND SECURITY INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE VENDOR

Does your company store data? No

SUGGESTED CLASSROOM USAGE

Comments:

Each youth ambassador has a section in the website with their interviews with elders. Students could pick an ambassador and follow the elder's story. With their findings, they could write journal entries, reflections, or newspaper articles. Students could use this site as a place to find accurate content about the Metis language, and teachers could use this site to support structured inquiry projects about the Metis history and language.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Readability:

At intended grade level(s)

Comments:

This site was created through grants from Canadian Culture On-Line, the Metis Nation, and the BC Metis Nation. It is a good site to demonstrate how groups can work together to preserve language and culture.