



## Two-Eyed Seeing

### Organization:

**Title:** Two-Eyed Seeing

**Summary:** Students discuss what Indigenous land-based knowledge and Western science is with their teacher and generate an understanding of how to foster knowledge mutualism.

**Big Idea:** Big Idea D. Drawing on both Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being and Western Science will Help us to Address the World's Problems: *Indigenous science (Indigenous land-based knowledge) is both similar to and different from Western science and has legitimacy; For future generations, Indigenous land-based knowledge, in the face of environmental change, is crucial for human survival and well-being; Indigenous land-based knowledge and Western Science can be used together to seek shared solutions to global problems.*

**Inquiry Question:** Inquiry Question 4. How can drawing on both Indigenous knowledge and Western science help us to address complex global challenges such as climate change, invasive species, loss of biodiversity, and contaminants in the environment?

**Duration:** 30 min

**Learning Environment:** Classroom, outdoor

**Season:** All

**Materials:**

- Video- Two-Eyed Seeing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CY-iGduw5c>
- Multiple Ways of Knowing.pdf

### Meta Data:

**Content Type:** Activity, language learning

**Bundle:** Indigenous Knowledge

**Theme:** Indigenous Knowledge Systems

**Subject Area:** Biology, Environmental Education, Geography, History, Outdoor Education, Science, Social Studies

**Curriculum Focus:** 7-10

**Spotlight on Language:**

Words for Science

*Anishinaabemowin*- Aki gikendaasowin

*Kanyen'kéha*- Sha'oyé:ra

- Teacher asks students how they would define Indigenous science (Indigenous land-based knowledge) and Western Science. With the help of the teacher, the class develops a working definition of each.



# QUILLS

Queen's University Indigenous Land-Based Learning STEM  
Queen's University Biological Station

- The QUILLS definitions of each can be found in **Multiple Ways of Knowing.pdf**. Class definitions will of course be much shorter. This level of detail is included to generate a rich level of understanding in teachers facilitating the discussion.
- Teachers asks students to come up with a definition of two-eyed seeing. To help students the teacher may wish to show the video [Two-Eyed Seeing](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CY-iGduw5c) available on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= CY-iGduw5c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CY-iGduw5c). The video features Mi'kmaq Elders Albert and Murdena Marshall from Eskasoni First Nation and Cheryl Bartlett, professor emeritus from Cape Breton University, who popularized the phrase.

*Definition:*

**Two-Eyed Seeing:** "To see from one eye with the strengths of Indigenous people's ways of knowing, and to see from the other eye with the strengths of Western ways of knowing and to use both of these eyes together."

- Teacher asks students what they think this means and how it applies to the world and to solving the world's problems.