



Names of Water

Organizational Info:

Title: Names of Water

Summary: Students research the original Indigenous names for local waterways and create a map with those names.

Inquiry Question: Inquiry Question 2: What is the relationship between water and local Indigenous cultures and people?

Duration: 1 class

Learning Environment: Classroom, online

Season: Summer, Spring, Fall, Winter, All

Materials:

- Water Place Names.pdf
- Computers for research
- Poster board/paper
- Markers to make maps

Meta Data:

Content Type: Activity, language learning,

Bundle: Water

Theme: Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Contaminants in the Environment

Subject Area: Geography, History, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies

Curriculum Focus: 8

Curriculum Links:

Science and Technology: E1.2

Geography: A2.3

- Language emerges from the geography of a place. As a result, language revitalization can recreate Indigenous knowledge and instructions regarding how to care for the earth.
- In this activity students find and map the Indigenous names of the rivers/lakes they live near OR recreate the map of Ontario and label the major bodies of water with their original names.
- Use **Water Place Names.pdf** to facilitate this activity.
- The following source(s) can also be utilized to help facilitate this activity.
 - <https://greatlakes.guide/ideas/the-great-lakes-through-traditional-languages>
 - <https://www.historymuseum.ca/cmhc/exhibitions/aborig/fp/fpz2d06e.html>

Please note that the learning represented in this activity reflects Big Idea A. in the Indigenous Knowledge Learning Bundle: "Indigenous knowledge is contained in language and storytelling". To help your students learn more about this check out the Learning



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Queen's University Indigenous Land-Based Learning STEM
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Activities titled: *Ohèn:ton Karihwatéhkwen (The Words that Come Before All Else)*, *The Importance of Storytelling*, and *Creation Stories and Language* found in the *Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being with the Natural World* Learning Bundle (Grades 7-10). Learning also reflects Big Idea B. in the Indigenous Knowledge Learning Bundle: “Indigenous Knowledge is Place-Based”. To help your students learn more about this check out the Learning Activities titled: *Land-Based Meditation*, *Land Acknowledgement Workshop*, *Ceremony Ensures Right Relations with the Land*, *The Clan System*, and *The 13 Moons* found in the *Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being with the Natural World* Learning Bundle (Grades 7-10).