



Planning a Unit with the 4 Foundations

When infusing Cree ways of knowing and being into your planning, allow the **4 Foundations** to guide your thinking and planning: Traditional Practice; Subsistence; Oral Tradition; Arts. Doing so will strengthen your holistic planning and assessment.

Regardless of where you're located in the province, your most valuable resources are community Elders and Knowledge Keepers! Please learn as much as you can about local protocols. For example, if using tipi pole teaching, medicine wheel teachings, or the Seven Teachings from resources such as **Empowering the Spirit**. At some point, you and your students should engage a local Elder to learn from and deepen your understanding.

Theme-action planning is akin to unit planning. Instead of beginning with a particular subject area and curricular outcome, you will start with an activity, or grouping of videos that share an experience from beginning to end. An example is birch tree tapping - this activity includes four videos:

1. Story: Trickster and Thunderbird (7:43)
2. Tapping Birch Trees (19:13)
3. Gathering Birch Tree Water (6:21)
4. Making Birch Tree Syrup (13:14)

The content of these videos crosses multiple subject areas, grades, and curricular outcomes which lends itself to cross-curricular planning.

