



## 2013-2014 AESN Case Study

**School:** Ladner Elementary    **District:** SD37 Delta

**Area of focus:** Student Level

**Inquiry Team Members:** Faith Edworthy, Diane Jubinville, Jacqueline Loewen, Jeff McCallum

**Scanning:** The inquiry team members recognized a need to have students with Aboriginal ancestry see themselves reflected in the curriculum. We started by looking at what we already have in the school (Aboriginal Primary Kit), speaking with our Aboriginal Support worker about her program and resources, and we met to discuss ways to enhance or supplement existing resources.

### **Focus:**

- Through experiential, play based, imaginative, and inquiry-driven learning the Inquiry team hopes to improve literacy instruction and stimulate students' growth in all developmental domains.
- To improve the literacy instruction, we ordered reading posters and several Aboriginal books to implement strategies.
- We worked with our district vice principal of Aboriginal education to order Aboriginal books that link our gardening and environmental teaching with Aboriginal teachings.

### **Hunch:**

- It is our intention that by learning more about Aboriginal culture through stories, speakers, study groups, presentations, and experiential learning, all staff will become more comfortable with their knowledge base around Aboriginal culture, which in turn will be reflected in their teaching practices.
- Resources were presented to the staff at a meeting and some members were inquisitive.
- Our goal is to engage more of the teachers in this years continued activities.

### **New professional learning:**

- The team feels that the focus needs to be getting the teachers familiar with the resources and then implementing them into their classroom practices.
- We will utilize our Aboriginal worker's expertise to enhance our lessons for the whole school.
- We will also work alongside our Aboriginal Success Coordinator to provide direct classroom curriculum development and implementation.

### **Taking action:**

- Our original plans to meet in September could not be completed. Thus we are hoping to meet with the staff and Inquiry team in late October.
- We would like to plan a workshop for the teachers to learn how to incorporate Aboriginal themes into their teaching practices.
- We plan to invite Elders to come into the school to read with our students and share stories.

**Checking:**

- The Inquiry team would like to see more of the staff express an interest to learn about how to develop and use Aboriginal resources in classrooms effectively and respectfully.
- Ideally with more staff engagement in this inquiry, using literacy curriculum infused with Aboriginal culture, we will see an improvement in the success of our students with Aboriginal ancestry as they are viewed as a respected part of the learning community.