

BORROW

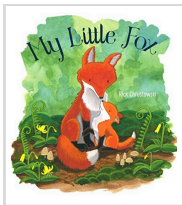


Return & Get Another



Feisty Fox

READ



My Little Fox

By Rick Chrustowski

Book Handling Skill

Point to the front and back cover.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Why does the little fox not want to go outside?
2. Where do you think they are running?
3. What are some more words that rhyme with "sun"?
4. What did you notice in the illustrations as the seasons changed?
5. When do you like to go outside to run and play? Snowy, Sunny, Rainy

Extension Activity

Build a pretend fox den out of chairs and cushions to enjoy another story together!



One Fox: A Counting Book Thriller

By Kate Read

Book Handling Skill

Talk about the job of an author.

Questions for Discussion:

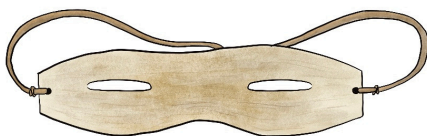
1. What is the fox thinking about?
2. Where can he find food?
3. How can the fox sneak up to the chicken coop?
4. What do you think the chickens will do to stay safe from the sly fox?
5. If you were a fox, how would you sneak up to your prey?

Extension Activity

Count other objects throughout the story, like the chicken legs, fox claws, eggs, or stars in the sky. What else can we count together?

INVESTIGATE

Snow goggles have narrow slits that are beneficial in regulating the amount of light that enters into the eyes. Experiment with light by using cardboard and string to make a pair for yourself.



Demonstrate what a pupil does to regulate light:



Find a room without windows. Provide a mirror or stare at each other, looking into the eyes.



Turn off the light for a minute and turn them on.

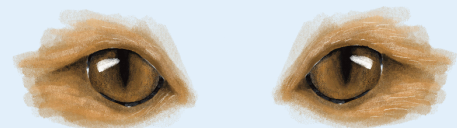


Notice how the pupil gets small when you turn on the light (letting less light into the eye).

Honoring Connections

Observing Animal Characteristics

Foxes have special eyesight that allows them to be active during the day or night. They have eyes that can easily regulate the amount of light entering the eye. Instead of round pupils like people, they have narrow slits like a cat making them excellent hunters.



To mimic these animal hunters, the Inuit and Yup'ik people of Alaska invented snow goggles thousands of years ago to protect their eyes during the bright spring days.

DESIGN ... a Tundra Person

Arctic foxes prefer a tundra habitat. A habitat is a natural home or environment for an animal or plant. Stories of sighting tundra people can be heard across many regions of Alaska!

3-Dimensional Art
Explore the tundra with your young artist and look for pieces to create a little tundra person.
*What would make good hair?
Eyes? Hands? Mouth?*

T is for Tundra
"We love making tundra people! Now when we go on walks we find more things that we can use to make tundra people."
Dena'ina Artists
Sawyer Hill, age 4
Lia Drake, age 4



paper towels



small bowl of water



clay

*Natural clay can often be found in the banks near a river or use air dry clay.



Step 1: Collect Tundra Plants

Collect plants found on the tundra. Here are a few ideas.



Step 2: Mold Body Parts

It helps to model with your child by playing and creating your own tundra person while your child is creating.



Step 3: Add Tundra Pieces

Using tundra, add pieces onto the clay body to create definition.

Talk about balance and how bodies are symmetrical when creating your tundra people.



Labrador "Tundra" Tea



Tundra Cotton



Roll out a round head, attach a body and legs to stand.

Use a small wet paper towel to merge body parts at the seams. This helps make the body more stable.



Yarrow buds



Grass

How can you use leftover plants to create 2D art? (glue on a piece of paper)

GROW • Ophthalmologists are doctors who fix eyes.



Dr. Johnson chose her job as an ophthalmologist because she enjoys fixing eyes through surgery and building relationships with patients that last for years and years.



She studied very hard in school to become an ophthalmologist. When challenges become difficult, she remembers to believe in herself, puts her heart into the problem, and never gives up!



Dr. Johnson was surprised at how much she enjoys the business side of her position. She leads by example and values every member of her team. She knows that when they all work together for a common goal, the whole team wins!



Dr. Kara Johnson - Fairbanks, AK
Ophthalmologist, Entrepreneur, CEO & Volunteer

Volunteering is a very important part of Dr. Johnson's life. "We all have something to give to this world, it's just a matter of figuring out how YOU can make a difference."
How can you make a difference in your community?

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore. through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native Language App



Can you find these words?

fox



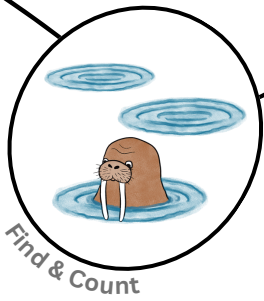
eyes



Developed through the Office of Indian Education
CHILD Grant & Alaska DEED Pre-Elementary Grant.
2023 - BBBS, CSD, LPSD

BORROW

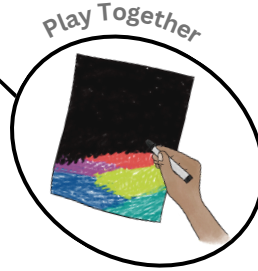
Wandering Walrus



Find & Count



Read Together



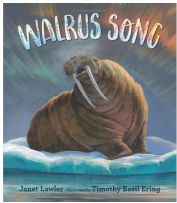
Play Together



Count to Clean Up

Return & Get Another

READ



Walrus Song
By Janet Lawler

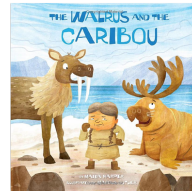
Book Handling Skill
Talk about the job of an illustrator.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you notice about the walrus?
2. Where do you think the walrus will go next?
3. How does the walrus get into the clam shells for food?
4. What are your favorite walrus sounds from the story?
5. What kinds of sounds would you make if you were a walrus?

Extension Activity

Check out the fun facts at the end of the story and search your favorites to see the walrus in action!



Walrus and the Caribou
By Maika Harper

Book Handling Skill
Trace the text from left to right while reading.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What animal do you think she will create first?
2. What happened with the walrus and the caribou creations?
3. Why were the hunters upset with the animals?
4. How can Guk fix the animal mix ups?
5. What animal would you create?

Extension Activity

Ask a local elder to share a traditional story about animals in your area.

INVESTIGATE

Mimic Ivory Scrimshaw



Step 1- Grab a small piece of paper and color the entire piece with crayons. Using multiple colors makes it more interesting!



Step 2- Cover the colorful paper with all black crayon, and black pastel works best!



Step 3- Use a toothpick to etch (or carve) away the black crayon and create a design onto your paper. Choose simple designs, like hearts or other shapes.

Now, you've experienced the art of scrimshaw by taking away part of the surface to create a design!

Honoring Connections Thoughtfully Harvesting & Creating

Walrus are harvested for their many qualities: meat, blubber, fur, flippers and tusks. Tusks are the two upper canines of walrus teeth. They are often used for carving or scrimshaw. Scrimshaw is when an artist uses a tool to create a design on an object. With ivory, artists etch a design and then fill that design with ink to make it more defined.



Search online for examples of Alaskan Native Scrimshaw work.

DESIGN ... a Drum

Walrus stomach and bladder are sometimes used to make the head of a drum. Explore the musical element of rhythm!

Rhythm

What regular beats, or patterns can you create with your drum?

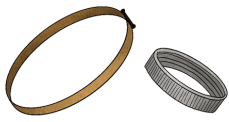
Can your child listen to and tap along with the rhythm of a familiar song?

D is for Drum



“I love singing with the drum. Bang, bang, bang, bang! You can make your own drum and songs too!”

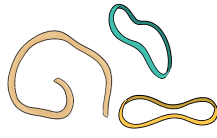
Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



circular item



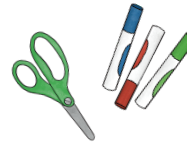
sticks



rubber band & string



ziplock bag



markers & scissors



Step 1: Trace

On the ziplock bag, trace around the lid with a black sharpie, leaving about a 1 inch space around the rim. Cut out with scissors.



Step 2: Frame

Cut 2 sticks just long enough to fit snugly in the widest part of the lid. Cross them to form a 't' in the middle of the lid. Tie sticks together tightly with dental floss or strong string.



Step 3: Handle

Use longer stick for the handle of the drum. Secure it tightly to the 't' with dental floss.



Step 4: Face

Use a rubber band or elastic hair band to secure the plastic circle cut from the Ziplock onto the widest side of the rim of the lid.



Math Tip

Show your child how to estimate an inch by using the top of your thumb to about the knuckle.



Step 5: Drum Stick

Make a drumming stick by peeling off the bark. Sand smooth with a rock or sandpaper.

What other materials could you use to create different drum sticks and sounds?

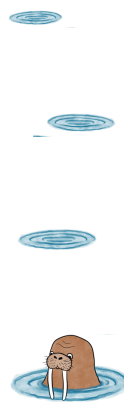
GROW • Composers create new music to share.

Matthew Burtner is a composer, which means he listens musically to the whole world of sound, imagines music that doesn't exist already, and then Introduces that music into the world.

Like the wind, music is a powerful, but invisible force. It can help form connections to our environment and to each other. It can tell stories and stir emotion, even when people do not speak the same language.

Matthew must have great hearing so he can listen to, and interpret the music in nature. He is careful to protect his ears from loud sounds so that his hearing won't be damaged.

Listen to some of Matthew's music from his website. How does it make you feel? Try composing your own music to match your mood!



Matthew Burtner - Naknek, AK - Composer

Matthew is inspired by the Alaskan environment.

“Did you know that unlike most animals, walrus can vocalize in the air and underwater. On land they sound like barks and growls, but underwater they can sound like beautiful bells.”



EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

drum

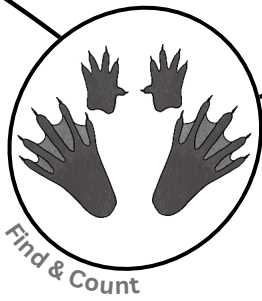


ocean

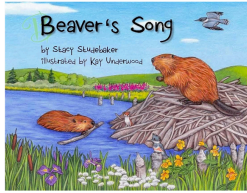


BORROW

Beavers Build



READ



Beaver's Song
By Stacy Studebaker

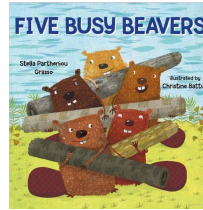
Book Handling Skill
Trace the words from left to right while reading the story.

Tips for Reading Nonfiction:

1. Read the Pictures
2. Pause on Pages of Interest
3. Play "I Spy" with the Illustrations
4. Read with an Enthusiastic Tone
5. Ask Engaging Questions: Why do you think the other animals are curious about the beaver lodge?

More Engaging Questions

How do the beavers prepare the wood they will use for building? What did you find interesting about the beavers?



Five Busy Beavers
By Stella Partheniou Grasso

Book Handling Skill
Count the words on the page together.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Emphasize the rhyming words throughout the story!
2. Who comes along to play with the beavers?
3. What do you think comes next?
4. How are they building a dam?
5. Why did the friends surprise the last little beaver?
6. Tell me about a project you had to work really hard to complete.

Extension Activity

Gather natural materials, like twigs, pebbles, and mud. Try to build your own dam in a very shallow stream or build a playful scene inside of a cooking dish.



INVESTIGATE

Create a Mini Beaver Dam



Step 1- Find a nearby stream.



Step 2- Experiment by laying sticks to create your barrier.



Step 3- Watch the flow of the water and make adjustments in placement and size of sticks being used.

- Which direction does the water flow?
- How can we make our dam stronger?



Honoring Connections Observing Animal Behaviors

Beavers do not simply pile up wood randomly. When you observe a beaver in action, you will see how careful they are in creating a house or dam. They thoughtfully select and lay the right stick in the right direction and perfect place.



Describe a task you do that requires precision and thoughtful selection.



DESIGN... a Box Creature

Different cultures in Alaska create different types of containers, such as a bentwood box, which is typically built of wood, takes a lot of time and skill to make, and has beautiful designs on their boxes.

How can you use boxes to build or create?

Balance
What colors, sizes and shapes in your piece look balanced?
Do you notice symmetry in your creation?

X is in Box
"I liked building my robot with my puppy. She was curious about what I made. I liked adding hair. You can change or make whatever you want with boxes!"
Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



empty boxes



tape



glue



markers, crayons, etc.



Step 1: Gather Boxes

Gather empty boxes from around the house of various sizes.

Step 2: Plan

Brainstorm with your child about what they want to create.



Step 3: Open Up

Show your child how to take a box apart. Identify where the seam of the box is. Gently pull away at the ends of the seam. Lay flat.



Step 4: Rebuild

Fold inside out to rebuild the boxes so they are "clean", with the inside of the box as the exterior.

Tape seams.



Step 5: Construct

Ask your child where they want each box placed. Try different placement ideas. Use tape to secure together.



Step 6: Display

Display or interact with your creation.



What else can you create with boxes?
City buildings, families, vehicles, animals, habitats, jewelry, a treasure box...

GROW

- Construction workers build houses and other structures.

C.J. started his career in construction by helping family members build their cabins, then attended an apprenticeship program. There is a lot of people can learn about construction just by watching videos online.

His eye for detail and perseverance helped him to build his reputation and become a successful business owner. There is a high demand for beginners and skilled construction workers in Alaska. He likes to hire locally whenever possible.

C.J. Works all over Alaska! He must be prepared to work in harsh conditions and find creative solutions to setbacks.



C.J. Ayers - Fairbanks & Wainwright, AK
Majority Owner, Alaska Rural Construction Services

Safety is a high priority when working in construction. C.J. wears protective equipment when using power tools.

What protective equipment do you wear?

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native Language App



Can you find these words?

river

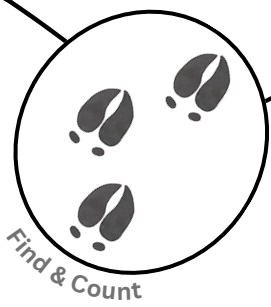


learn by doing



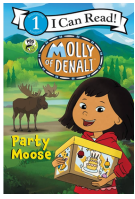
BORROW

Moose Musings



Return & Get Another

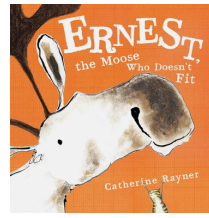
READ



Molly of Denali- Party Moose
By WGBH Kids

Book Handling Skill

Turn the pages correctly from right to the left while reading.



Ernest: The Moose Who Doesn't Fit
By Catherine Rayner

Book Handling Skill

Point to the title page of the book.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think a Nature Journalist does?
2. What might Molly and her Mother see on their plane ride to visit Nina?
3. How do you think they'll get the moose to leave?
4. What should we remember when approaching a moose in the area?
5. Why does Molly want to surprise her friend, Nina?
6. What items would you put into your Party Box?

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you notice about Ernest?
2. How do you shimmy and shuffle?
3. How is his chipmunk friend being helpful?
4. What can they do with the tape and paper?
5. How did they work together to solve the problem?
6. What could you do to help Ernest?

Extension Activity

Visit PBS to watch episodes of other Molly of Denali adventures!

Extension Activity

Get crafty! See what you could create or design with tape and colorful strips of paper.

INVESTIGATE

Create Your Own Moose Calls

Make a funnel call to show how sound can be carried or made louder.



Step 1- Take a thin sheet of cardboard and roll it from one corner to the next making a funnel.



Step 2- Use tape to hold it together.



Step 3- Practice making moose sounds with and without the funnel.

How does the funnel help to carry the sounds?

Honoring Connections Observing Animal Communication

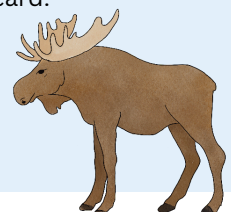
Moose communicate through different ways of calling to each other.

Their calls have specific meanings:

- warning predators to stay away
- calling other moose in
- communicating with their calves

They can bellow, roar, grunt and croak!

**Visit with a local hunter and ask them to describe moose calls they have heard.



DESIGN ... a Moose Mask

In many cultures across Alaska, masks are made to commemorate people and stories. They can also be used in celebrations and special dances.

Exploring Colors

Begin by making a color wheel palette with just the primary colors: red, yellow, blue. Experiment with color mixing before you paint!

M is for Moose & Mask

"I was thinking about how we can recycle to make artwork like this moose mask. I liked learning about mixing colors to make a colorful moose!"

Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



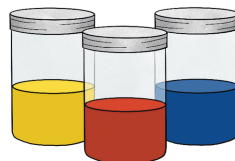
empty boxes



scissors or knife



tape



paint



Step 1: Gather Boxes

Choose a box to use as the moose's head. If it is too small to wear, it can be made into a mask for display.

If your box has color, turn it inside out. You will need more boxes for the nose & ears.



Step 2: Nose

Decide on the nose's placement. Trace its outline on the mask's head. Cut the marking out with a knife, ensuring a tight fit to keep the nose in place.



Step 3: Ears

Moose ears are proportional to their noses. Draw an outline of an ear on a separate box, cut out, then flip to make a template for the other ear.



Step 4: Place Ears

To place the ears, make cuts into the top of the moose head with a knife. Start off small and adjust as needed to make a tight fit.



Step 5: Paint

Place dots of primary paint colors in a triangle, with space between each color. To mix colors, start with the lightest color and gradually add in the darker color. Paint the moose to your liking.

Shades & Color

How can your child experiment with color by mixing primary colors, red, blue, and yellow to create a range of other colors?

GROW • Tour Guides help people learn about Alaska.

Kelsey loves traveling around Alaska helping tourists. She communicates with people from all over the world and learns new things every day. She sees animals like bears, eagles, ravens and moose. Some days they see as many as three moose! She teaches people to keep a safe distance from, and not to pet or feed the moose and other wild animals.

Being positive is important for tour guides. Kelsey likes to notice all the awesome things and people around her to stay upbeat.

At the end of the tourist season, Kelsey gets to travel to other places, She has been to South America and Antarctica with her company.

Kelsey Robertson - From Nome, AK & Living in Fairbanks, AK
Guest Service Supervisor for Princess

Kelsey learned a lot about Alaskan cultures, history, geology, plants, animals and waters when she was younger. Now she enjoys teaching tourists about Alaska and helping them learn about her Inupiat heritage.

What can you teach people about the area you are from?

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore. through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

moose

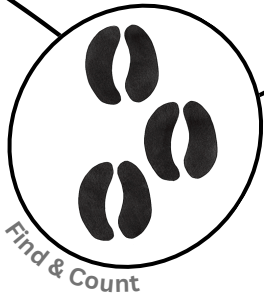


airplane



BORROW

Mighty Muskox



Find & Count



Read Together



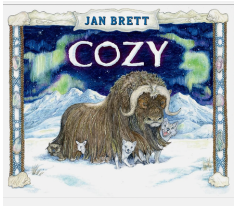
Play Together



Count to Clean Up

Return & Get Another

READ



Cozy
By Jan Brett

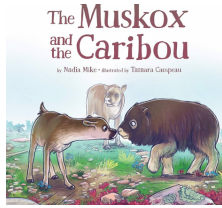
Book Handling Skill
Trace the words from left to right while reading along.

Questions for Discussion:

1. How does Cozy feel after losing his herd in the storm?
2. Why did the mother lemming hide in Cozy's fur?
3. Who do you think will join the animals in the fur next?
4. How does Cozy remind the animals to be kind to each other?
5. What happened to all of the animals and Cozy's fur?
6. Which Alaskan animals would you let into your home during a cold winter storm?

Extension Activity

Play a guessing game by using Cozy's "house rules" to match each rule to an animal. For example: Which animal makes a thumping sound?



The Muskox & The Caribou
By Nadia Mike

Book Handling Skill
Trace the spine of the book.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think this story will be about?
2. Why did the mother caribou ask the muskox to join them?
3. What do you notice about the caribou and muskox?
4. How does the baby muskox feel when playing with others?
5. What might happen when muskox meets the other herd?
6. What do you know about your family, or herd?

Extension Activity

Talk about ways to be kind to others. Describe how muskox felt when the others were teasing him for being different.



INVESTIGATE

Play a Game to Protect the Little Muskox

- Gather family members or friends to pretend to be a muskox herd.
- Designate one predator or imagine one that is lurking nearby.
- Pretend to eat grass and shout out 'wolf!' or 'bear!'
- Quickly form a circle, facing out, and place the youngest ones inside the circle to protect them from the predator.

Can the predator reach the youngest ones?



Honoring Connections

Understanding Animal Behaviors

Muskox are herd animals. They use their hooves to dig through snow. Their horns and skulls are similar to a massive helmet protecting their heads. The muskox horns are 4 inches thick and connect to their 3 inch thick skull. To defend themselves from predators (like wolves or bears) they form a circle with the most powerful, biggest muskox in the outer circle and the baby calves go into the center of the circle.



Discuss ways you protect your little one just like the muskox herd.



DESIGN ... a Paintbrush

From long ago to now, animal fur and hair have several creative uses, like making paint brushes! Experiment by using materials, such as caribou fur, muskox hair (or any type of fur) to create brushes. Different materials will create varied angles and types of lines.



caribou fur



sticks



tape



scissors

Creating Lines

What types of lines can you make with your paintbrush?

- Round & Thick
- Small & Thick
- Flat or Fanned

If you don't have all of the supplies, what else could you use?

C is for Caribou Paintbrush

"If you want to make one with two sides, tape the hair. I wish other kids could make it. You just have to try!"

Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



Step 1: Trim Stick
How long do you want your paintbrush handle to be? Trim your stick.



Step 2: Layout
Lay a small piece of tape down (sticky side up). Place a stick and a section of caribou hair at opposite ends of the tape. It is okay if they overlap.



Step 3: Roll Tape
Roll tape around the stick, holding the hair and stick tightly together.

Reinforce with extra tape.



Step 4: Trim Hair
Cut hair in the shape of the brush you want.

A **flat** brush will be a straight cut across.

A **round** brush will be tapered at the top.



Step 5: Experiment
Use watercolors (or make an ink out of blueberries) to test brushes out!

Try testing different materials out to see what brush strokes they can create.

What other types of materials can you use to create a new brush?

GROW • Members of the Oomingmak Co-Op make warm clothing with Musk Ox fur.

Musk Ox have an underwool called qiviut (Kiv-ee-ute), that sheds naturally, and is used to make downy soft, knit items. This fur is collected, spun into yarn, and knit into beautiful, lightweight items of clothing.

For centuries, Alaskan native peoples have passed down traditional skills and knowledge about using fur to keep warm. While knitting is not indigenous to Alaska, it has become a new and treasured tradition passed down from generation to generation. Many Alaskan villages have adopted their own patterns and styles based on historical designs.

What traditions have you learned from your parents or grandparents?



Oomingmak - Anchorage, AK Musk Ox Producers' Co-Op

Co-Op members can work from home, making items from qiviut that they sell to help pay for the important things they need like fuel, or a boat.

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore, through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

my mom

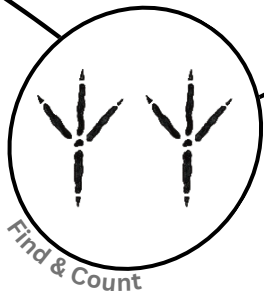


caribou



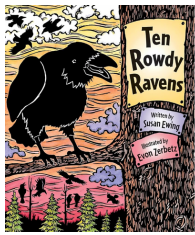
BORROW

Resourceful Ravens



Return & Get Another

READ



Ten Rowdy Ravens
By Susan Ewig

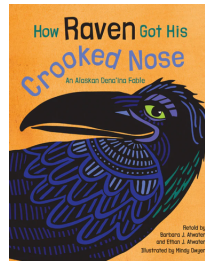
Book Handling Skill
Trace the words while reading the story.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Where do you think the ravens will go on their adventure?
2. What kinds of trinkets did the 8 ravens collect?
3. How are the ravens using their beaks?
4. Why are the ravens causing so much trouble?
5. What would you do if you had a beak like a raven?

Extension Activity

When out for a walk, count how many ravens you see along your journey.



How Raven Got His Crooked Nose: An Alaskan Dena'ina Fable
By Barbra J. Atwater

Book Handling Skill
Holds book correctly upright.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think happened to the Raven's nose?
2. How do you think the Chida will use Raven's beak?
3. How did the trickster Raven get his nose back?
4. Why did the grandmother share this story with her granddaughter?
5. Tell me about an activity your family does together that requires you to take your time.

Extension Activity

Pretend to be the Raven and play hide and seek with a special object of yours.



INVESTIGATE

Thinking Creatively

Pretend you are a raven and need to get food into a large bowl or box. But, like a raven without arms or hands, you'll have to get creative to meet the challenge. You can only use your head, mouth, feet, and whatever else is around that could be helpful.

- How will you reach it?
- What 'tools' would be helpful to use?



Honoring Connections

Observing Animal Behaviors

Ravens are incredibly smart animals. With their beaks, they can use tools to help them get food and special trinkets. In traditional folklore, they are also known for being pranksters by tricking others in order to get what they want. Ravens are very creative thinkers!



Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories about ravens.

DESIGN ... an Art Tool

Ravens are very clever and often use items found in nature as tools. Just like ravens, artists sometimes use found objects, instead of a paintbrush or pencil, to create different types of textures or lines in their art.

Lines & Textures

What do you think will happen when you paint with yarrow sticks as paintbrushes?

***Dried yarrow can be found in sandy areas and alongside roads or trails from late fall through early spring.*

Y is for Yarrow

"I thought it was really pretty and cool to use Yarrow to paint. And you can also make stems with the real stems and the flower with the real flower."

Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



yarrow



paint



paper



optional

plant material like moss, leaves or grass



Step 1: Explore

Go for a nature walk with your child. Identify yarrow and snap off a few dried stems.

Collect a variety of plants that your child could use as painting tools.



Step 2: Prepare

Create a work space. Collect supplies and alternative materials for experimentation.



Step 3: Experiment

Allow your child to experiment with the yarrow stick and a variety of paints to make different lines and textures.

What else can you do to affect the lines being made?

Paint Consistency (thicker or thinner)

Natural Materials (dried moss, cotton grass, pebbles)

Application of Paint (dipping, dragging, pushing, smearing, stamping)

GROW • Fine Artists create art for people to enjoy.

Colleen went to college to become an artist. She uses materials related to traditional Gwich'in sewing practices such as sinew, beads, feathers, porcupine quills and fur.

She likes to find or gather materials, but some things are gifted to her by family and friends. She hopes the traditional materials in her art help encourage the viewer to make a connection to the art and her culture.

College helped prepare Colleen for the business side of art. She works as a team with other artists, photographers, website designers, gallery owners and museums to show her work to the public.



Colleen Thomas - Fairbanks & Fort Yukon, AK - Fine Artist

Colleen received lots of encouragement from her parents when she was younger. She practiced her art and experimented with lots of different tools and materials to become a skilled artist.

What have you become better at with practice?



EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

raven

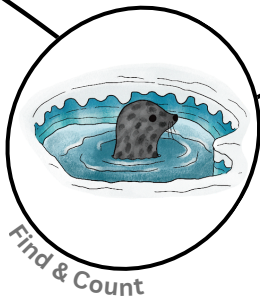


story



BORROW

Arctic Antics



Find & Count



Read Together



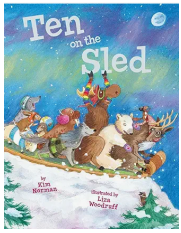
Play Together



Count to Clean Up

Return & Get Another

READ



Ten on the Sled
By Kim Norman

Book Handling Skill
Turns the pages from right to left while reading.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think will happen on their sled ride?
2. How many animals can they fit onto the sled?
3. Which animal do you think will leave the sled next?
4. How did the Caribou feel after all his friends left the sled?
5. Who would you bring along for a sled ride in the snow?



It's Time for Bed
By Ceporah Mearns

Book Handling Skill
Holds the book correctly and adjusts if upside down.

Questions for Discussion:

1. How does she know it's time for bed?
2. How does this animal like to move?
3. What animal do you think will visit Siasi next?
4. What do you do when getting ready for bed?
5. Which animal might keep you from going to bed on time?

Extension Activity

Try reading the story while using the tune of "Ten in the Bed"!

Extension Activity

Play an animal guessing game by giving clues for your little one to make a match with an animal from the story.

INVESTIGATE

Color Exploration

White is the absence of color, which cannot simply be made. Investigate color with your child by showing 'tricks' to achieve white in their drawings. Choose one way to incorporate white:



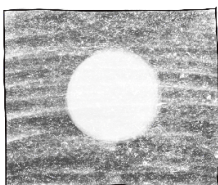
Technique 1: Coloring Around

1. Take white paper and draw or trace an outline.
2. Demonstrate coloring around a white object's background to bring that white object forward.



Technique 2: Removing Pigment

1. Lightly color in the background of a small section of paper with the side of your pencil. Smear it in with your finger or a Q-tip.
2. Using an eraser, erase an egg or a circle shape to demonstrate how to take away color to 'make' the color white.



Can you draw an arctic animal using these techniques?

Honoring Connections Amazing Animal Abilities

Most mammals and birds in the arctic have white fur or feathers or the color can change to white, called camouflage, during the winter months. This camouflage coat helps animals hide (arctic hare, ptarmigan) or become more effective predators (polar bear, arctic fox). White fur also helps to insulate or keep these animals warm because white fur holds in more air which is a natural insulator.

Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories about watching certain animals camouflage into their environments.



DESIGN ... an Oil Lamp

Seal oil lamps were an important source of light and heat for families in Alaska. They come in all shapes and sizes. Lamps were made from rock that was hollowed out into a bowl shape, then filled with seal or whale oil. Wicks were made of tundra cotton or moss that was tightly woven.



short mason jar



oil: seal or vegetable



moss or tundra cotton (not lichen)

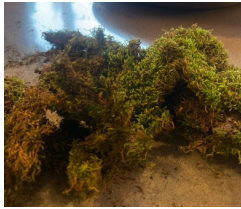
Storytelling

How can you incorporate different intonation, expressions and actions to enhance the imagination while listening?

O is for Oil Lamp

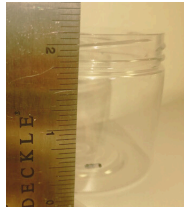
"You can warm your hands by the lamp, but you have to be careful not to burn them."

Alaskan Artists
Aero Qapqan, age 3



Step 1: Collect

Gather green moss and allow to dry. (This may take days or weeks until completely dry.)



Step 2: Measure

Measure and mark the jar, one half inch from the bottom.



Step 3: Pour

Help your child pour the oil up to the one half inch mark on the jar.



Step 4: Roll Moss

Bunch up dried moss into a tight bundle.



Step 7: Story time

Tell stories by lamplight. Start with some familiar stories, then take turns making up stories.



Step 5: Safety!

Set oil lamp on a fireproof surface and make sure to have a source of water nearby.



Step 6: Observe

Make observations of the lamp. Does the flame flicker with the wind? Why do you need a wick? Does the lamp give off heat?



What will your story be about?

If you want to add a little creativity and fun, look up "Popcorn storytelling game." Try one of the many variations with your family.

GROW • Community Leaders help guide communities.

Percy was a young man working up north, when elders from his village asked him to work with them. Out of respect for his elders, he started work the next day. After a few years of hands on experience, Percy felt he could help his community if he became more involved. He won a council seat, and was later elected president of the Native Village of Buckland.

To be a good leader, Percy volunteers his time with youth and elders, participates in community activities and gatherings, listens to his community and communicates clearly, sharing his knowledge.

A lot has changed since Percy became a community leader. He works to make his community healthy and prosperous. He believes family activities, humor, humility, friendships and hard work can help communities grow.

How do you help your community?

Percy Ballot, adopted son of Sam & Belulah Ballot from Irene & Eddie Gallahorn of Sesolik, married to June Ballot and father to 7 children and many more grandchildren & great-grandchildren. Served his community for 30+ years as *President of the Native Village of Buckland & Board Member for Maniilaq Association.*

"We are who we come from & the values from elders are important."

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

seal

respect for our elders



Developed through the Office of Indian Education CHILD Grant & Alaska DEED Pre-Elementary Grant. 2023 - BBBSD, CSD, LPSD

BORROW

Hare-O-ing Tales



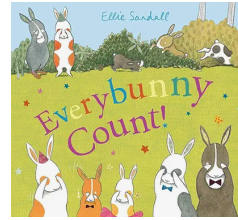
Return & Get Another

READ



The Owl & Two Rabbits
By Nadia Sammutok

Book Handling Skill
Holds book correctly upright.



Everybunny Counts
By Ellie Sandall

Book Handling Skill
Count the words on a page while reading together.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think might happen to the little rabbits?
2. Why did the owl let them go?
3. Do you think they will be able to move the boulder?
4. What lesson did the rabbits learn from this experience?
5. What are some ways you can be safe when playing outside?

Questions for Discussion:

1. Where can the bunnies hide?
2. What animal do you think they will count next?
3. Where can we find the fox on this page?
4. What will they find inside the den?
5. What games do you like to play with your friends?

Extension Activity

Play a game of tag together. Take turns being the hare or an owl. Try to escape the owl!

Extension Activity

Play a game of hide-n-seek around the house. Where will be the best hiding spot?



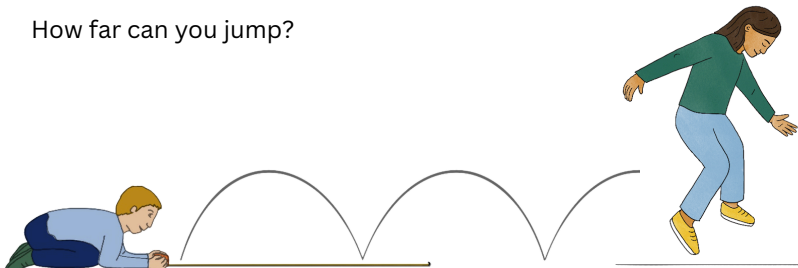
INVESTIGATE

Arctic Hare Leap

1. Set masking tape on the floor to mark a place to start. If outdoors, draw a line in the dirt.
2. Use your arms and legs to lift yourself while leaping off of two feet.
3. Mark the back of your heel as you land with tape or a line drawn.
4. Use a measuring tape to show how far you were able to jump.

Arctic hares can leap a distance of almost 10 feet!

How far can you jump?

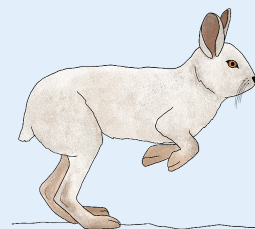


Honoring Connections

Amazing Animal Characteristics

The amazing shape of the hare's feet allow them to stay on top of deep, soft snow in the winter. They are also super fast and can run up to 37 miles an hour.

That's as fast as a 4-wheeler can drive. This animal characteristic contributed to the helpful design of snowshoes, so we too could walk easily across the pillowy soft snow.



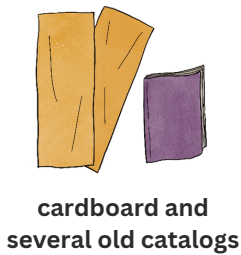
Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories about knowledge they've gained from watching arctic hares.

DESIGN ... Eagle Wings

Eagles are natural predators of the Hare. Often in nature, shapes have a very specific purpose such as the shape of a wing. The shape of an eagle's wings are formed to be aerodynamic, to provide lift and enable birds the ability to fly.

Lines & Shapes
When lines are connected, a shape is formed. Shapes can be organic, free flowing with uneven lengths and sides, or can be geometric like circles, squares and triangles.

E is for Eagle
"We recycled old magazines and cardboard to make these Eagle wings. Recycling old things to make art is fun to do."
Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



Step 1: Foundation
Measure your child's 'wingspan' from the tips of the fingers of one hand to the next. Outline a wing shape and cut out. Mark each wrist, and use duct tape to hold scrunchies in place for your little one to attach their wrist to the wings.



Step 2: Feathers
Trace a large feather diagonally across the center of a magazine, or make your own template.



Cut through all the layers of the magazine so you can make many feathers at once. Take out center staple after cutting.



Step 3: Wings
Cover a large area of the wings with the glue stick and have your child place feathers all over the wings. With left over 'feathers' cut off just the tips to make smaller feathers to layer over the top half of the wings.

Step 4: Secure
For a more secure fit, Use string or elastic to make shoulder straps.



Step 5: Play
Use your imagination to become an eagle searching for a hare.



What else could you use to make feathers?

GROW • PE Teachers help students learn about fitness.

Todd started coaching when he was still in high school and continued through college. He enjoyed those experiences so much, he decided to become a PE teacher. Creating a good rapport and relating to students on a personal level has helped him to become a great teacher.

Equipment set up and take down can be very hard work and it requires a lot of planning. Because we live in Alaska, harsh weather can make outside sports more difficult, but with proper winter clothing, Todd can teach cold weather sports like snowshoeing!

Todd learned how to break down a skill to teach others. He uses key words to help describe each step.

Practice being a coach. Explain how to leap to a friend or family member.



**Todd Wimer - Tanana Middle School - Fairbanks, AK
PE Teacher & Coach**

"Learning about physical and mental wellbeing is important to live a healthy lifestyle. When a student has a positive experience doing physical activities, they are more likely to continue those activities when they are grown up and they can enjoy a healthy life!"



EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

measure

hare



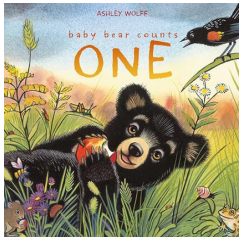
BORROW

Baby Bears



Return & Get Another

READ



Baby Bear Counts One
By Ashley Wolff

Book Handling Skill

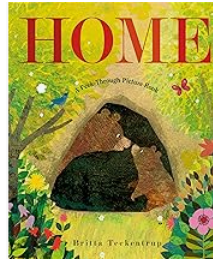
Count the words on a page while reading together.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think this story will be about?
2. What number comes next for the baby bear to count?
3. Why are the animals gathering things before winter comes?
4. Can we count the snowflakes together?
5. What are some things your family does to prepare for winter?

Extension Activity

Take a walk and see what animals you can count together!



Home: A Peek Through Picture Book
By Britta Teckentrup

Book Handling Skill

Trace from left to right while reading together.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What might the little bear see on his adventure?
2. What are some differences between a beaver's home and a bird's home?
3. What else can we rhyme with light and bright?
4. What do you notice underground?
5. What do you love about your home?

Extension Activity

On your next outing, look for signs of animal homes. How many can you find?



INVESTIGATE

Finding Each Other

Create a special call for you and your child to find each other in the event you were to become separated. A short whistle or yelp can be helpful ways to know that you are looking for one another. Practice this strategy by getting just beyond view; and use your call to guide your child back to you.



Can your child distinguish your special call from other sounds?

Honoring Connections Observing Animal Behaviors

Bear cubs are similar to young children in that they often need to burn off energy. Wrestling and tumbling on the tundra is a great way to play. While they are playing, they also keep an eye on their mamma so they don't get separated. They still depend on her for food. When a mamma bear, or sow, gets separated from her cub she has a special call to let her cubs know they need to find her.



Ask an elder or long-time local to share knowledge about bears in your community.

DESIGN ... a Rattle

Alaskan rattles were often made with bear hide. Teeth and claws were sometimes used inside the rattle to make sound. Rattles were used during traditional celebrations and dances.

Practicing Rhythm
 Explore the musical element of 'Rhythm', the steady pulse or repetitive beat heard throughout a composition.
Can your child sing or play a song while keeping a steady beat?

R is for Rattle
 "A rattle is a thing you shake to make sound. Some rattles are for babies and some rattles are for making music. I liked the long straight balloons to make a rattle."
Dena'ina Artist
 Sawyer Hill, age 4



balloon



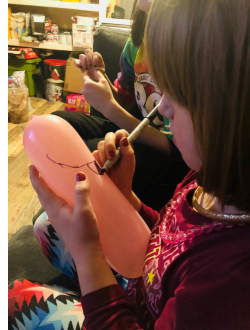
stick



sharpie & scissors



beads & string



Step 1: Gather Materials

Push several beads or small objects into the balloon opening, then blow it up to the size you prefer and tie off.

Step 2: Fasten

Tie the balloon tightly to the end of a stick. Shake to listen to the sound your rattle makes.

Step 3: Improve

Tie 2-3 loose strings around the end of the balloon. Have your child string beads on the loose strings and tie tightly. Shake your rattle to hear the clicking of the beads as they brush up against each other.

Step 4: Add Detail

Give your child a marker to draw or decorate their rattle. Use a permanent marker to stick to the rubbery surface of the balloon.

What do you notice about the different sounds inside the balloon?

GROW • Preschool teachers help young students learn.



Anna began working as a preschool teacher to fill a need in her community. She was able to learn on the job with the help of her coworkers, and attends classes and trainings. Preschool teachers are always learning new things to help them teach. Anna knows that it is important to ask for help sometimes, even when you are a teacher!

Anna enjoys watching her students grow and learn. Her favorite part of the day is story time and snack. "Being a preschool teacher has shown me that everyone needs kindness and patience."

How do you practice kindness and patience with those around you?



Anna Gregorieff - Tatilik, AK
Preschool Teacher

Anna works hard to be patient and communicate well with her students. She has a special call to bring her students in from recess, just like a mama bear.

EXPLORE

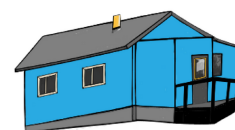
We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore. through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

house

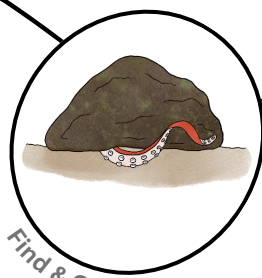


love for children



BORROW

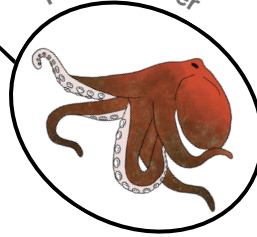
Tentacle Tales



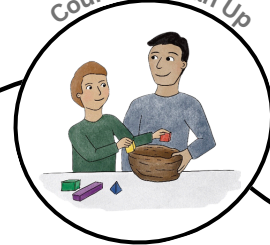
Find & Count



Read Together



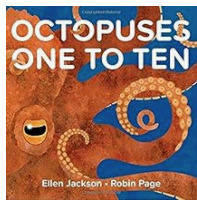
Play Together



Count to Clean Up

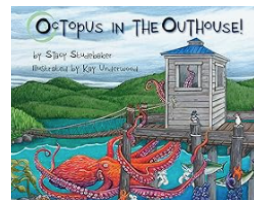
Return & Get Another

READ



Octopuses 1-10
By Ellen Jackson

Book Handling Skill
Points to the front and back cover of the book.



Octopus in the Outhouse
By Stacey Studebaker

Book Handling Skill
Talk about the job of an author.

Tips for Reading Nonfiction:

1. Read the Pictures
2. Pause on Pages of Interest
3. Play "I Spy" with the Illustrations
4. Read with an Enthusiastic Tone
5. Ask Engaging Questions: What interesting facts about the body parts of an octopus did we learn about? What was an interesting fact about an octopus that you heard today? What could you do with eight arms, or tentacles like an octopus?

Extension Activity

Take a look in the back of the book to find some extra fun octopus activities to do together!

Questions for Discussion:

1. What animal do you think she will find in the next outhouse?
2. What do you notice in their fish camp?
3. Let's count the bears in this outhouse?
4. Let's name all the animals we saw in the story.
5. What would you do if there was an octopus in your bathroom?

Extension Activity

Clap the syllables of the animals from the story!
Oc--to--pus Por--cu--pine

INVESTIGATE

Octopus Camouflage

Pick a place to 'blend in' like an octopus. Although we don't have the ability to change our skin, we do have other resources around us to help us look like our environment.

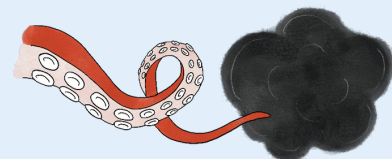
- Choose a location where your child wants to blend in (the beach, behind some trees, lying on the tundra, etc...).
- Take a *before* photo of your child not "blended" in, then, work with them to think of ideas for how they could change to camouflage themselves.
- Try adding natural materials to their clothing or darkening spots of their clothing!



Honoring Connections Amazing Animal Characteristics

An octopus has eight tentacles. They are extremely smart, flexible, and have super defense techniques!

- If a tentacle is grabbed and they think they are in danger, they will shed a whole tentacle which will then grow back!
- They will throw an ink cloud, similar to the size and shape of themselves, blocking off scent and sight to confuse their predators as they run away.
- They also have an amazing ability to change colors to blend in with their environment.



Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories about their favorite ways to eat or prepare octopus.



DESIGN ... a Jellyfish Lamp

Do you like spending time by the sea? A deeply held Alaskan value is honoring and respecting animals, the sea, and the land. It is important to practice safety and be thankful for what the sea and land provide for us.

Like an octopus, jellyfish have many tentacles!

How many tentacles will your jellyfish lamp have?

J is for Jellyfish

I like to take my jellyfish into my dark bedroom and hang it up at night. Next time I'll make another color, I'll make a whole rainbow of jellyfish to hang in my bedroom.

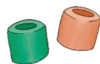
Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



balloon & string



tissue paper



2 beads



small light

Paste Recipe:

- 1/4 cup glue
- 1/4 c. + lukewarm water
- 1/4 cup flour
- 2 tsp salt

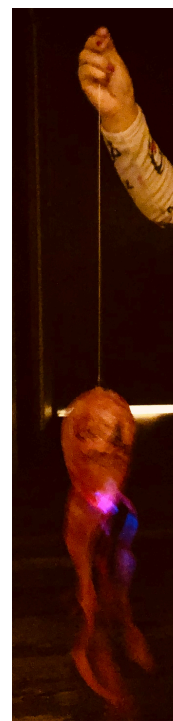
Step 2: Paste

Use paste to cover the balloon with small pieces of tissue. Try brushing paste onto the balloon with a paint brush, then place tissue pieces onto the paste. Allow to dry.



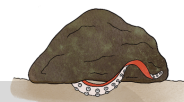
Step 4: Pop Balloon

Pop the balloon to leave the hollow shape of a jellyfish and an opening for you to place a small light.



Step 6: Hang

To hang your jellyfish, thread a string and bead through the body of the jellyfish to the top of the jellyfish. Secure with another bead on the top and make a loop.



Shape

Talk about shape while creating this 3-dimensional (3D) art.

The balloon body shape is called an ovoid or a 3D oval. Can you find other ovals and ovoids in your home or nature?

Step 1: Prepare

Gather materials and prepare your work space. Mix ingredients to make the paste.

Step 3: Paste Again

Apply a second layer of tissue paper and set aside to dry.

Step 5: Tentacles

Glue on long strips of tissue paper for the jellyfish tentacles.

GROW • Financial administrators calculate payments.

Nikita works with numbers all day! She needs to be very good at math to be sure people are paid the correct amount, on time.

Nikita enjoys working with numbers because she knows there is always a right answer, and if she works hard, she can find it. She knows that it is important to go back to correct mistakes as soon as she learns about them, because one wrong number will make all of her calculations incorrect.

Nikita works as a team to accomplish a group goal. She must communicate with her coworkers to gather the information she needs, so that drivers are paid at the correct rate, for the number of miles driven.

Nikita Bereskin - from Akutanax, AK - Driver Pay Admin

When Nikita was young, she thought math was difficult until she tried learning in a new way. Once she knew her learning style, math became fun! Do you learn best when you see how something works, hear something explained, or when you use a hands on learning experience?

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

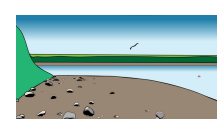
CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

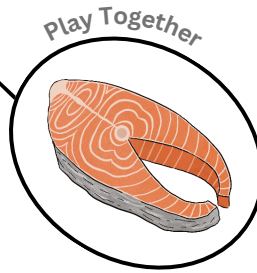
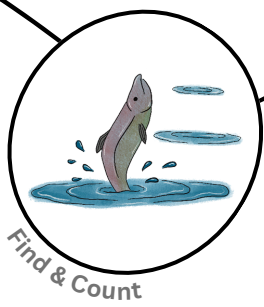
ocean

beach



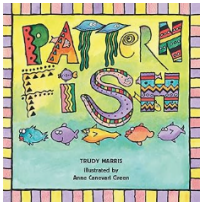
BORROW

Fishing Adventures



Return & Get Another

READ



Pattern Fish
By Trudy Harris

Book Handling Skill
Trace the spine of the book.



Ukaliq & Kalla Go Fishing
By Nadia Mike

Book Handling Skill
Talk about the job of an illustrator

Questions for Discussion:

1. Create an engaging read aloud experience:
 - o Let's point to and repeat the pattern together: A,B,A,B!
 - o Act like the seahorse: chomp, chomp, munch, munch!
 - o Did you hear those rhyming words? Nook, Look
2. What do you notice in the border on this page?
3. What do you think the shark might do?
4. Which pattern fish did you like the best?

Extension Activity

Create your own fish pattern by drawing a simple fish outline for your and work together to create pattern designs. For an added challenge, create action patterns: Swim, Jump, Swim, Jump!

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think Kalla should pack to go ice fishing?
2. What might happen to Ukaliq & Kalla while out fishing?
3. Why did the char swim away?
4. What could he do to catch more fish?
5. What other activities might require us to be patient?

Extension Activity

Pretend to go fishing by placing a handful of small toys into the bathtub and use a small net to fish them out.

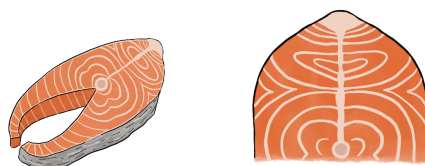
INVESTIGATE

How Old is a Salmon?

It is said, fish are aware of how each person treats and cares for them. If not treated properly, then the fish will not return to that location. (Fish have an incredible memory!)

Salmon that return have been away for at least 2 years in the ocean. Talk with your child about how to properly treat fish once caught and discuss the importance of not wasting the resource. You can discover how old a salmon is by looking at the scales. Look at the rings around the salmon closely. Each ring counts for how many years the salmon has been alive.

- How many rings would your child have if they were a salmon?



Honoring Connections Subsistence Activities

Each year, communities around Alaska work hard in preparation for the summer salmon harvest.

- Make sure things are cleaned properly and put away neatly.
- Return fish waste back into the water rather than leaving it to rot.
- Share the workload and work together to prepare and process this important resource.



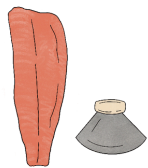
Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories of their salmon season preparations.

DESIGN ... Salmon Skin Clothing

Texture is a word often used in discussing fashion and design. During this process, salmon skin changes both in texture and form during the various stages of the drying process. Adding oil during the last stages of the fish tanning process gives the skin a smooth and soft texture. When the salmon dries completely it becomes a smooth, yet hard texture. In this lesson, your child will create clothing for any plastic toy figurine.



jar of tea or dye & salt



salmon filet & knife or ulu



dish soap & coconut oil



plastic figure

Step 1: Remove skin.

Use a knife or uluaq to remove the skin from a partially thawed salmon skin. Wash with cold water and dawn dish soap.



Step 2: Scrape off Scales

Gently scrape off the scales to make the skin a smooth texture. Your child can help with this step! Show them the scales and how they are all facing one direction.

Step 4: Make Brine

Place 3TBS of salt and 6 black tea bags into a large glass jar. Use warm water to make a dark tea and stir to dissolve salt. Let liquid cool completely, then place fish skin in jar. Keep refrigerated.

Step 5: Soak Skin & Shake



Days 1 & 2

Shake or stir the liquid in the jar vigorously 2-3 times daily.

On day 3, or when liquid becomes murky - change liquid for cooled black tea slightly stronger than before, and without salt.

Step 6: Dye Skin

On day 5, check salmon skin by cutting a small section.

If the inside of the skin appears white, repeat step 5. If the color appears the same as the color of the tea solution, we are ready to move on to the next step.

Step 7: Stretch Salmon Skin

- Rinse skin with cool water.
- With child, squeeze out moisture.
- Pull on skin to stretch it, as it dries.

The skin should be much more pliable and durable than when you initially put it into the jar.



Rub coconut oil into the salmon skin.

Step 3: Wash Fish Skin

Wash thoroughly with cool water and Dawn soap. Do not use warm/hot water. This will shrink your skin! Soak in cool clean water while making brine.

Step 8: Wrap Skin

While slightly wet, wrap the skin around your figure/doll.

Allow salmon to dry completely on figure.



Extensions:

Try a new look... Re-wet, wrap into a new clothing shape, and dry.

Texture

What textures do you notice by rubbing the scales in different directions?

Is it smooth or rough?

S is for Salmon

"Did you know you can make clothes from Salmon skin? I liked making all the different colors of salmon skin. My Barbie dress is beautiful!"

Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4

GROW • Charter Boat Deck Hands help people catch fish!

Fiona was introduced to fishing at an early age by her dad and his deck hand, Jimmy. After years of hard work and practice, Fiona now enjoys working as a deck hand alongside her father every summer. She works very fast! One of her favorite aspects of the job is helping young children fish.

For Fiona, preserving a healthy fish population means treating all fish with respect. She handles fish gently when releasing, and keeps fish that have been injured and would not survive release.

Communication and teamwork are important on the boat. To ensure everyone's safety, Fiona communicates what she is doing, what needs to be done and where she is working on the boat. In an emergency, all crew must stay calm, act quickly and work together.

Fiona Linegar - 17 years old - Homer, AK Charter Deck Hand with Alaska Ocean Pros

Fiona finished her second season as a paid deck hand. She saves 70% of her earnings for college, and uses the rest to pay for essential things like gas, and fun things like clothes and eating out.



EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

ice fishing

sockeye salmon



BORROW

Grizzly Bear



Find & Count



Read Together



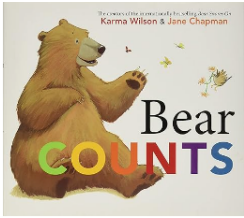
Play Together



Count to Clean Up

Return & Get Another

READ

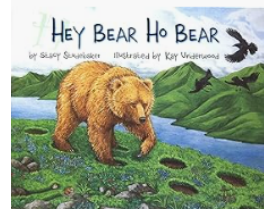


Bear Counts

By Karma Wilson

Book Handling Skill

Trace the words from left to right while reading together.



Hey Bear, Ho Bear

By Stacey Studebaker

Book Handling Skill

Talk about the job of an illustrator.

Questions for Discussion:

1. How far can you count?
2. What number will he count next?
3. What do you think Bear will see as he counts to 5?
4. Where did Bear go while counting?
5. What can you count in the room?

Extension Activity

Create a counting collection to go along with the story. Gather 15 pieces of cheerios or a small snack item. Count along with bear to repeat his counting sequences throughout the story.

Questions for Discussion:

1. How did they prepare their campsite to stay safe and mindful of bears in the area?
2. How can you be safe while out fishing?
3. What do bears eat that you also enjoy?
4. What's happening in this picture?
5. What are some things you and your family do to stay mindful of bears in your community?

Extension Activity

Create your own tune to sing with your little one on your next walking adventure.



INVESTIGATE

Bears in the Area

Often, you can tell when a bear has recently visited a particular spot. You can also notice what they have been eating by examining their scat, or poop. Teach your child what this looks like by comparing it to other scat (dog, fox, rabbit, wolf..etc).

Use a stick or simply observe what is in a pile of grizzly or brown bear scat.

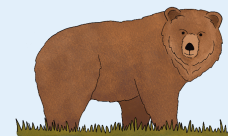
- If the scat is very soft or looks warm, that is a dangerous sign that a bear is close.
- If the scat has a firm layer around it and harder to break apart then the scat is older.

What other signs let us know that a bear has been in an area recently?



Honoring Connections Being Mindful of Animal Behaviors

According to a traditional Dena'ina story, there is a common belief that inland bears are more aggressive than coastal bears. Coastal bears, or bears that live along the water, are often called 'brown bears' while inland bears are called 'grizzly bears'. Because grizzly bears live inland and not near an abundance of sea life, they forage on a lot more plants to survive than a brown bear.



Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories or beliefs about other animals around your community.

DESIGN ... a Goat Hat

Did you know that bears are natural predators to mountain goats? These goats prefer spending their time on rocky cliffs, where it's challenging for bears and other predators to reach them.

Geometric Shapes

Let's learn about cubes and cones!

Can you find straight lines, angles, or points? What shape does it make?

G is for Goat

"Did you know goats live way up in the mountains and can balance on sharp rocks way up high? I like to pretend to be a goat with my goat horns where I can jump and balance on top of things."

Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



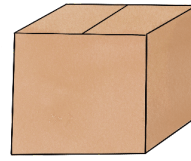
tape & knife



newspaper



brown & white paint



box



Step 1: Prepare Box

Find a box, roughly the size of your child's head. Use the sealed bottom side, as the top of the mountain goat head. Check sizing to make sure the goat head fits. Cut two holes for the antlers.

Step 2: Make Horns

Roll newspaper or thin cardboard into a cone, starting from one corner and rolling to the corner perpendicular to the starting point. Make 2 similar cones.



Step 3: Age your Goat

Discuss with your child how the age of mountain goats can be determined by the rings that are around the antlers. Use tape to make rings. How old is your goat?



Step 4: Place Horns

Push cones up into the antler holes. This may require some adjustments of the holes.



Step 5: Paint

Paint the goat head and antlers with your child.



What other animals could you create that have antlers or horns?

GROW • Archeologists dig for artifacts to learn about our past.



Danielle went to college to become an archeologist. She learned how stories from the past can help us understand the present.

In Kodiak, Danielle excavates Alutiiq/Sugpiaq sites. It is an honor to research the artifacts, materials, and structures left behind to learn how these cultures survived and thrived in this specific climate.

Danielle works with a crew of archeologists and students to excavate, discuss artifacts and to return the site to its natural state. She also shares camp responsibilities like cooking, hauling water and collecting firewood while they work on site.

How do you work as a team in your family?

Danielle Ringer - Kodiak, AK Archeologist from Homer, AK

Danielle needs to be bear aware in the field! She uses the buddy system and carries radios and bear spray when venturing away from camp. They keep their food in bear safe containers.



EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

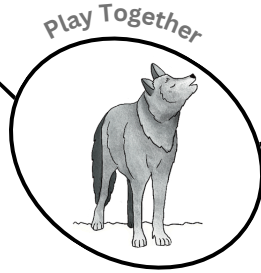
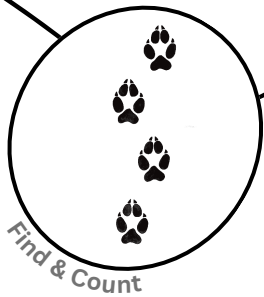
1-one

2-two

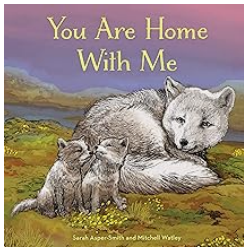


BORROW

What About Wolves?



READ



You are Home with Me
By Sarah Asper Smith

Book Handling Skill
Holds the book correctly upright and adjusts appropriately.

Questions for Discussion:

1. How do mother animals care for their little ones?
2. How do the animals sleeping in snowy habitats stay warm?
3. What do you notice about the bird habitats?
4. What type of house do you sleep in each night?
5. Which animal home would you like to visit?

Extension Activity

Find a fun space in your house, and try to recreate one of the animal homes: a bear den, a fox tunnel, or a lynx shelter.



Have We Met?
By Gina Edwards

Book Handling Skill
Trace the spine of the book.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Who will the bird meet on his journey?
2. Let's count how many friends he met on his adventure.
3. What do you notice about this animal?
4. What kind of adventures have you gone on recently?
5. How do you like to greet people you meet?

Extension Activity

While reading the story again, pretend you are Huey on an adventure. Play "I Spy" with colors in the book and around the room. Ex. "I spy something red."

INVESTIGATE

Wolf Communication

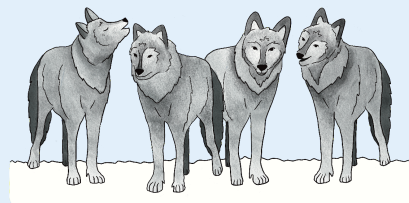
Think of a task you would like to do with your child. See how much you can communicate without saying a word.

- Let's pretend to act as wolves.
- Watch each other closely to know what you are teaching them.
- Get down on your hands and knees, use your head to direct your little wolf cub to help you pick up toys or complete a simple task.



Honoring Connections Observing Animal Behaviors

Wolves are very intelligent animals that work in groups or 'packs.' Similar to other animals and humans, wolves communicate with each other often without making any sounds through their eyes, ears, head and tail.



Ask an elder or long-time local to share stories about traditional ways of communicating.



DESIGN ... a Dance Fan

Traditional Native Alaskan dance fans were made with animal furs and often 5 evenly spaced feathers. They were used in dance ceremonies and for storytelling.

Proportion
What will you do to balance your fan?

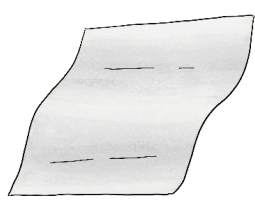
F is for Fan
"I love watching Molly of Denali and can do the seal dance just like her. When you're dancing you can pretend to hunt, pick berries, look around the tundra, its like telling a story!"
Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



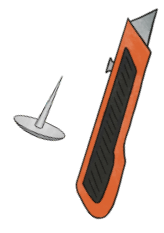
sharpie & scissors



plastic lid & feathers



aluminum foil



knife & thumb tack

Step 1: Measure

Measure your child's width of their hand and draw a circle around their fist for the handle of the dance fan. Poke a hole into center of outline and cut out with a pair of scissors.



Step 2: Wrap

Wrap aluminum foil around the entire lid and have your child poke a hole where the handle has been cut.

Step 3: Choose Form

Poke a tack into the rim of the lid where the feathers will be placed at the top of the dance fan. Carefully, widen the hole with a knife. Have your child place feathers into holes.



To create proper balance in the dance fan, feathers need to be equally spaced apart. This helps make it proportional. Sawyer chose to use 3 for each fan. How many will you use?

What familiar songs or a newly created song can you dance to with your fans?

GROW • Public Information Officers relay important information.

Lara helps emergency response teams and residents make safe choices. It is her job to tell others where an incident is located, if travel is safe, and what resources are needed. Public information officers are valuable members of the emergency response team!

Emergency responders and college students can take classes to become public information officers. They must learn to communicate clearly and accurately using phones, radios, email and press conferences.

This job can be fast paced and stressful, but Lara loves knowing that she is helping protect people and their property.

How can you help people by communicating clearly and accurately?



**Lara Suscha - From Fairbanks & Works all over Alaska
Public Information Officer & Wildland Firefighter**

Public information officers regularly travel away from home. They often stay in hotels, schools, tents or buildings close to the incident.

EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore. through learning language.

**CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App**



Can you find these words?

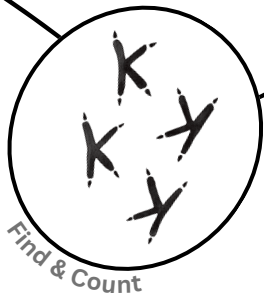
hello

dance



BORROW

Boreal Bedtime



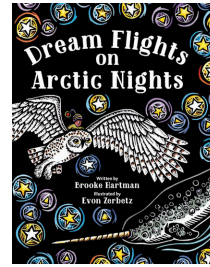
Return & Get Another

READ



Sweetest Kulu
By: Celina Kalluk

Book Handling Skill
Trace the spine of the book.



**Dream Flights
On Arctic Nights**
By: Brooke Hartman

Book Handling Skill
Turn pages correctly from right to left while reading together.

Questions for Discussion:

1. Who do you think will come to meet baby Kulu?
2. What do you enjoy in this beautiful illustration?
3. What do you think the word patience means?
4. Why must we remember to treat animals with respect?
5. Which animals can you find in your community?

Questions for Discussion:

1. Who do you think they will see on their flying adventure?
2. What other words can we rhyme with snow and go?
3. What do you think the whale song sounds like?
4. What do you notice about the child's quilt in the end?
5. Which animal would you like to join on an adventure?

Extension Activity

Share a story from when your little one was born. Describe feelings surrounding their arrival or special gifts they may have received from loved ones.

Extension Activity

Pretend you are on a nighttime journey. Turn out the lights and "fly" around the house.

INVESTIGATE

Building a Bedtime Story

Children often like to hear stories of animals personified as humans. Bedtime is a wonderful opportunity to begin a story with your child. Practice re-telling or adding onto your story each following night. Work together to add details while you tell it.

- Choose an animal as your character.
- Brainstorm a problem for your character.
- Create a solution to the problem.
- Practice re-telling your story the following night at bedtime, and add details onto the story.



Honoring Connections Traditional Storytelling

Telling stories before bedtime has been a past tradition since time immemorial. Stories can be legends, past experiences, lessons, or simply created from the imagination.



Ask an elder or long-time local to share a favorite bedtime story they remember.

DESIGN ... a Bedtime Lamp

In this activity, little artists learn how to create the shadow of an object, by cutting out the form itself.

Building Bedtime Routines

Use this lamp to light the room at bedtime while you share bedtime stories with your child. Encourage your child to tell you a bedtime story!

L is for Lamp

"It's kind of hard to cut really good to make the shape but it's okay to get help. I love my moose lamp. Isn't it so beautiful?"

Dena'ina Artist
Sawyer Hill, age 4



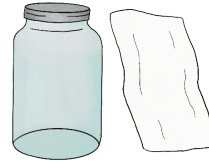
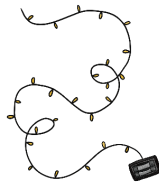
old greeting card



scissors & glue stick



light



jar & butcher paper



Step 1: Choose a Form.

Gather cards and explain to your child that you are going to cut out the form of an object. Look at the cards and discuss which main form they would like to choose for their lamp.

Step 2: Cut.

Ask your child to cut around the object. Be careful not to cut off any important parts!

Extension Activity

Have your child create their own form using card stock or thicker paper. Cut out and create a new lamp.



Step 3: Review.

Shine a light behind the form to demonstrate how the shadow of the image is defined. Does it need more detail?



Step 4: Revise.

Show your child how to cut small sections away and how they can rotate the paper to make cutting easier.



Step 5: Paste.

Use a glue stick to paste your form onto a strip of butcher paper. Place butcher paper into the jar.

Step 6: Light.

Place tea lights or Christmas lights inside the jar and watch the magic happen.



Form

What other forms, or shapes, can you create with your child?

What do you notice about the silhouette you created?

GROW • Authors write stories to share with others.

Brooke Hartman has a love for storytelling and poetry! She has been writing stories since elementary school, and enjoys making stories rhyme!

To become a great author, Brooke read a lot, she read everything she could find. Then, she started to write and share her stories with others.

It can be a little scary to introduce a new story to people, but Brooke appreciates the feedback from those around her because she knows they care about her, and they help her to become a better author. Sometimes Brooke rewrites a story a dozen times before it is just the way she wants it.

Brooke is always learning about new ways to improve her writing skills.

Is there a skill you want to get better at? How can you achieve your goal?

Brooke Hartman - Chugiak, AK - Children's Author

"No matter what time of day you spend reading as a family, and no matter what you choose to read (picture books, graphic novels, chapter books) this time together sharing stories is so important for family life and for learning and growing together."



EXPLORE

We hope you have enjoyed this kit! Here are some ways you can continue to explore, through learning language.

CHILD:
Alaska Native
Language App



Can you find these words?

evening



story



Developed through the Office of Indian Education CHILD Grant & Alaska DEED Pre-Elementary Grant. 2023 - BBBSD, CSD, LPSD