

Native Aurora Vocabulary

Overview:

Students study and learn vocabulary related to the aurora in the local Native language. To infuse more Native language, consider teaching “Traditional Introductions” prior to this lesson.

Objectives:

The student will:

- say, write, and read the vocabulary in the Native language;
- illustrate concepts related to the aurora; and
- complete a task by following written multi-step directions.

Materials:

- Colored pencils and/or markers
- Large sheets of construction paper (2 per student)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- TEACHER INFORMATION SHEET: “Native Languages: Aurora Vocabulary”
- STUDENT WORKSHEET: “Aurora Vocabulary Tab Board”

Activity Preparation:

1. Review TEACHER INFORMATION SHEET: “Native Languages: Aurora Vocabulary.” This list includes some vocabulary related to the aurora and the sky, and it is meant to be a starting point. It may be necessary to eliminate some words or add more related vocabulary depending on the needs of the learners. If necessary, make changes to the vocabulary to more accurately reflect the local language, and seek out Native language speakers to model pronunciation. If your language is not listed, record it in the blank space provided on the sheet.
2. Write the local Native language vocabulary on the board.
3. Create an example of a tab board using the directions from the STUDENT WORKSHEET.

Activity Procedure:

1. Distribute STUDENT WORKSHEET: “Aurora Vocabulary Tab Board.” Seek out a Native speaker to model the correct pronunciation of each word and allow students time to practice. If possible, invite an Elder or someone who is knowledgeable about this particular topic to discuss cultural connections of the language. For example, in Yup’ik, “agyam anaa” is the word for meteor and puffball. Literally, this word means “star’s feces.” Traditionally, it is said that meteors turn into puffballs when they reach the ground.
2. Ask students to explain the connection between some vocabulary, such as “magnet” and “camera,” to the aurora.
3. Present the teacher-made tab board as a model for students.

Answers to Student Worksheet:

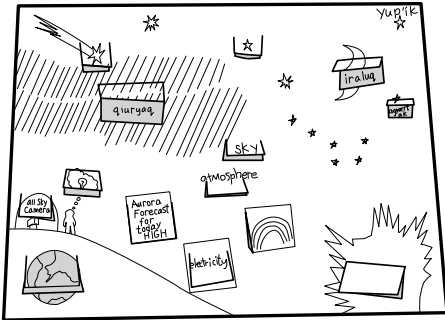
Use TEACHER INFORMATION SHEET to check for correct word in tab.

Native Languages: Aurora Vocabulary

Gwich'in	English Definition	Denaakk'e	English Definition	Inupiaq	English Definition
Nan	Earth	Nenkkokk'e	Earth	Nuna	Earth, land
yahkaih	aurora	yoyekkoyh	aurora	kiiguyat, kiuguyat	aurora
drin oozhrii	sun	so	sun	siqiniq	sun
sa'	star	tloon'	star	uvlu'giaq	star
too oozhrii	moon	dot'ol	moon	tatqiq	moon, month
too	night	tledaa', tledaahe	night	unnuaq	night, last night
zhee	sky/atmosphere	dehoot'aa ts'en'	atmosphere	qilak	sky, heaven, roof
sa' dantha'	shooting star	tloon'e tson'e	shooting star, meteor	uvlu'giam anaja	shooting star, meteorite (lit. star's feces)
shreevyaa	rainbow	yot'e k'edegheet'onh	moon has eclipsed	nigatchiaq, kinnaum nigaja, nigaq	rainbow
sa'kwaii	stars	k'enodele	three stars of Orion	qiqyaliqsuq	northern lights are shining
Sa'choh	North Star	yo kkokk'e ak'eyege etzooyee	All-sky camera	nipiruq	(sun, moon) sets
zhee kat	heaven	nodeggu yoyeet	space	tuvaurat, uuyurat	three stars of sword in constellation Orion (N lit. little hunters K lit. linked ones)
too gwanlii	It's night.	edets'e hanaalk'edee	magnet	naaguqtuq	(moon) is full
shree gwit'in'aii	total eclipse of the moon	Deggets'e Nen' Loyet Yeggets'e Nen' Loyet Yo Yekkoyh Dena	North Pole South Pole Northern Lights Man	tatqiqjksuq pularuq	moon shines is eclipsed (lit. slipped into the brush)

Yup'ik	English Definition	St. Lawrence Island Yupik	English Definition	Your Language	English Definition
Nuna	Earth	Nuna	Earth		
kiuryaq, qiuryaq	aurora	kiighwyaq	aurora		
akerta	sun	siqineq	sun		
agyaq	star	ighaleqetaaq	star		
iraluq	moon	tanqiq	moon		
unuk	night	unuk	night		
qilak	sky	qilaga	sky		
cella, ella	atmosphere	akiighqun	meteorite		
agya anaa	meteor	aaghlu	meteor		
agluryaq	rainbow	agluk	rainbow		
minguk	color	iqeghtaq	color		
kalluk	electricity	nighulghii	light (brightness)		
pillerkiryaraq	prediction	akiqaghun	light source		
Agyarllak	North Star	aayguk	stars seen at dawn (a particular constellation)		
tarenrairissuun, yuugissuun	camera	aliisigalnguq	invisible		
kangingyaraq	discovery by understanding	aghtughyaghqang- hilleq	power		
akertem ayarua	sun column	Atuuyaap	Venus		

Aurora Vocabulary Tab Board



Aurora and Sky Vocabulary

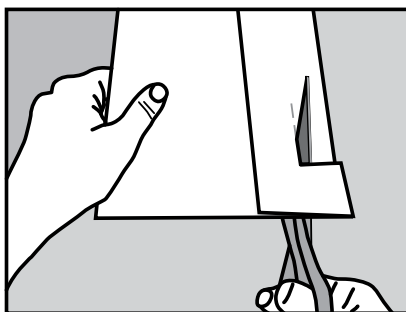
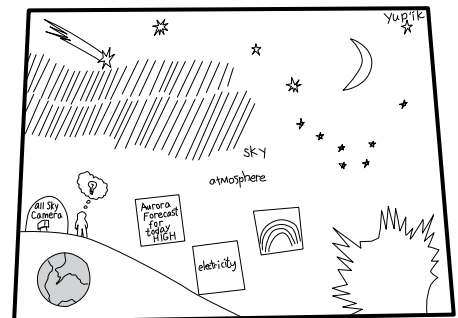
Native ancestors looked to the sky for navigation, weather, and the aurora. What are some words from the local language that could be used to talk about the aurora and the night sky?

Record the vocabulary in the box to the right and listen carefully to the pronunciation of the words. Practice saying them and think about how each word is connected to what you have learned about the aurora.

Creating a tab board is both informative and fun. To make one, follow the directions below.

Procedure:

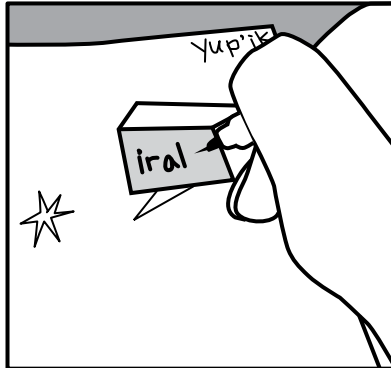
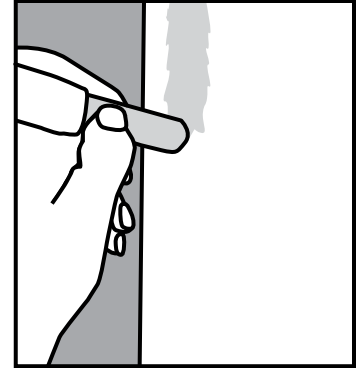
1. On one piece of construction paper, draw one large illustration or several small illustrations that depict at least eight aurora vocabulary words.



2. To cut the tabs, fold the paper in half horizontally over the area intended for the tab, then make an L-shaped cut.

Aurora Vocabulary Tab Board

3. Place this tabbed sheet of paper upside down so that the illustration is facing the table. Apply glue or tape to areas where there are no tabs.
4. Place another sheet of paper of the same size over the glue or tape.



5. Lift up each tab and print the correct word that corresponds to the drawing on each tab.
6. Write your name on the tab board.
7. Use this tab board for quizzing yourself. Switch with classmates and quiz each other.