

ELDERS SPEAK ABOUT THE AURORA

Lesson Summary:

Students invite Native Elders to their classroom to share legends, personal experiences, artwork, dance, poems and/or music related to the aurora.

Objectives:

The student will:

- identify Elders within the community and establish a rapport with them;
- invite an Elder to participate in a classroom lesson or other community event;
- listen patiently and respectfully to community Elders, value what they have to say/share and acknowledge this information as an important part of their learning about this topic;
- recognize and respect alternative explanations for the aurora spoken by members of the community; and
- apply knowledge from Elders to written descriptions of aurora legends.

GLEs Addressed:

Science

[5] SF1.1-SF3.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the dynamic relationships among scientific, cultural, social, and personal perspectives by telling a local or traditional story that explains a natural event (e.g., animal adaptation, weather, rapid changes to Earth's surface) and relating it to a scientific explanation.

[7] SF1.1-SF3.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the dynamic relationships among scientific, cultural, social, and personal perspectives by investigating the basis of local knowledge (e.g., describing and predicting weather) and sharing that information.

Writing

[5,6] 2.2.2 The student writes for a variety of purposes and audiences by writing in a variety of nonfiction forms using appropriate information and structure (i.e., step-by-step directions, descriptions, observations, or report writing).

Search Terms:

- Elder
- aurora
- Northern Lights
- legends
- Alaska
- Alaska Native