

INDIGENOUS TECHNOLOGIES



Bark	Wood	Anishnabemowin
Baskets		Wiigwaas Muckuck/ Kookibinaaganan
Baby Cradle	Baby Cradle board parts	Tikanagan
Scrolls		Wiigwaasi Zhibiiganan
Fire starter		Maajiikinechigan
Dwellings		Wiigwaas Gamik
Canoes		Ciiman / Jiimaan
	Snowshoes	Aagamak
	Spoons	Emikwaan
	Sleds	Zhooshjiwaaganan
	Shovels	mbagaabikoon
	Paddles	Apwi/ zhebwaaganan

Indigenous Knowledge and Science
Technologies from Birch Tree



Teacher Notes

- Cut the handouts into puzzle pieces depending on the number of students in class and group sizes
- Use the introductory section to help guide you through the questioning.
- Change questions to look at the direct innovation of these technologies and that for many of them, the design has not changed, only the materials.
- Review slideshow before viewing to identify a few of key ideas that came out of the questions.

INDIGENOUS TECHNOLOGIES FROM THE BIRCH

Introduction

Numerous technologies come from the Birch tree (Wiigwaas Aatik) as seen from the introduction to this section. In this lesson, students will look at the various Indigenous technologies provided below and discuss how these technologies assist them in their everyday living practice.

Activity

Handout puzzle pieces to the student groups and have them assemble them.

Teacher questions

What is the name of the technology you see in the puzzle?

What is the purpose of that technology?

Is it made from the bark or the wood of the birch tree?

What changes if any have been made to that technology over the years?

Extensions

If you have access to any of these technologies, hands –on items could be passed around such as snowshoes, paddles etc. Some of these might not be made from birch but their function remains the same.

Show slide show of various technologies (Traditional technology slide show). Link some of the attributes of the tree and its biology to the technology.

Show video of harvesting the bark in June and how it pops off the tree.

[Birch Bark](#)

[Birch Bark Harvesting](#)

There is a distinct relationship between the tree and it's many uses.



