



Educational Studies Symposium 2018

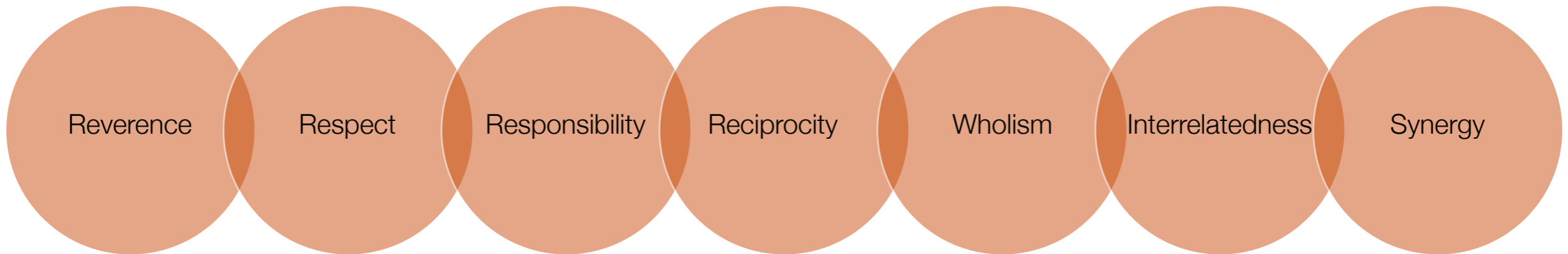
Principles of Storywork in Children's Literature:

**Bringing Storywork into the
Classroom**



On May 10th, 2018, school administrators, students, researchers, and faculty members gathered on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the Musqueam people for conversations around Dr. Jo-ann Archibald's Indigenous storywork. In preparation for the symposium, an annotated bibliography titled, *The Weaving of Storywork through Methodology and Pedagogy*, was created to explore the influences of Jo-ann Archibald's storywork, literature on storywork as methodology and pedagogy, and digital storytelling as research. Following the lively symposium, this resource was created to facilitate bringing the seven principles of storywork into the classroom.

- ▶ The author and/or illustrator is Indigenous
- ▶ The author identifies the original storyteller if they received it from someone else
- ▶ The author identifies who granted permission to retell the story if they are sharing a story from a community that is not their own
- ▶ The story or book illustrates one or more principles of Indigenous storywork



The following list of resources is meant to be a starting point; a place for teachers to identify the principles of storywork in children's books to use as a reflection of Indigenous pedagogy. They are ordered by grade level, ranging from Kindergarten to Grade 5-8.

To extend the list for personal use, it is suggested to refer to Jo-ann's book, *Indigenous Storywork Educating the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit* (2008) to learn about storywork, and the Evaluation Form in the appendix of the *Authentic First Peoples Resources* document to evaluate resources for authenticity. For more information about the symposium, see the summary document *Educational Studies Symposium 2018 Conversations with Jo-ann Archibald about Indigenous Storywork as Pedagogy and Methodology*. It includes key ideas around beginning to engage with storywork, as illustrated in the diagram below.

Embrace
Uncertainty
Patience
Risks
Listening
Flexible
Humility
Courage
Challenge
Openness





The Salmon Run

Author	Clayton Gauthier, Cree (Dakelh)
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Illustrator	Clayton Gauthier, Cree (Dakelh)
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Publisher	Theytus Books (2016)
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Reading Level	Kindergarten
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Synopsis	This story follows a salmon on his journey.
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Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because it includes Dakelh and English translations
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Wild Berries

Author	Julie Flett, Cree-Métis
Illustrator	Julie Flett, Cree-Métis
Publisher	Simply Read Books (2013)
Reading Level	K-2
Synopsis	A young boy grows up gathering berries with his grandmother.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because it includes Swampy Cree language For nature because Clarence shows respect for insects and animals
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A Day with Yayah

Author	Nicola I. Campbell, Interior Salish, Métis
Illustrator	Julie Flett, Cree-Métis
Publisher	Interlink Publishing Group (2017)
Reading Level	K-2
Synopsis	While a family gathers edible plants and mushrooms, the grandmother, Yayah, shares her knowledge of the natural world.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because it includes Nl̓eʔkepmxcin language For nature because Yayah teaches about plants and how to harvest them
<i>Responsibility</i>	As a learner because the children receive teachings from their Yayah

Only in My Hometown

Author Angnakuluk Friesen, Inuit

Illustrator Ippiksaut Friesen, Inuit

Publisher Groundwood Books (2017)

Reading Level K-2

Synopsis This is a story about growing up in an Inuit community.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect For cultural knowledge because it includes Inuktitut and English translations and is also written in syllabics, and knowings about the Northern Lights are shared





Lesson for Wolf

Author

Rachel Qitsualik-Tinsley, Inuit
Sean Qitsualik-Tinsley, Mohawk

Illustrator

Alan Cook

Publisher

Inhabit Media Inc. (2015)

Reading Level

K-2

Synopsis

A young wolf learns about identity when he tries to take on characteristics of other animals.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect

For cultural knowledge because the story includes transformation

For nature because arctic animals are admired, and the wolf sings to the land

Fox on the Ice

Author Tomson Highway, Cree

Illustrator Brian Deines

Publisher HarperCollins Publishers Inc. (2003)

Reading Level K-3

Synopsis Based on Tomson's memories, two brothers and their parents have an unexpected adventure when they go fishing.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect For cultural knowledge because it includes Cree and English translations and shares information about ice fishing





SkySisters

Author	Jan Bordeau Waboose, Nishnawbe Ojibway
Illustrator	Brian Deines
Publisher	Kids Can Press (2000)
Reading Level	K-3
Synopsis	Two sisters learn an important teaching as they venture out together to witness the SkySpirits.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because their mother shares teachings from the children’s grandmother
<i>Responsibility</i>	As listeners because the children learn from their grandmother’s words

Sharing Our World: Animals of the Native Northwest World

Author	Native Northwest, Various
Illustrator	Native Northwest, Various
Publisher	Native Northwest (2010)
Reading Level	K-3
Synopsis	Multiple First Nations authors and artists share their cultural knowledge as they describe their relationships with the natural world.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect	For cultural knowledge because the books share knowledge from the Ancestors of several communities For nature because animal gifts are described
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Little Bear's Vision Quest

Author	Diane Silvey, Sechelt
Illustrator	Joe Silvey, Sechelt with Butch Dych, Songhees (back cover)
Publisher	Greater Victoria School District (1995)
Reading Level	K-5
Synopsis	Little Bear learns about himself by returning to the traditions of his ancestors.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For others as one lesson is about respecting others For cultural knowledge and protocol as Little Bear practices daily cedar brushing with ocean water and reflects on teachings from his mother and grandfather
<i>Reverence</i>	For spiritual knowledge as Little Bear's grandfather teaches about a helping Power Spirit and the importance of looking inward For one's spiritual being because Little Bear lives in isolation to learn with patience, how to develop his spiritual self

Dipnetting with Dad

Author	Willie Sellars, Secwepemc
Illustrator	Kevin Easthope
Publisher	Caitlin Press (2014)
Reading Level	Grade 1-3
Synopsis	This story shares information about Secwepemc traditions that continue in a contemporary setting.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect	For the land because the grandfather teaches directly about respect for the land For cultural knowledge because they use a trail the family has used for many generations, the whole family contributes to preparing food, and the grandmother shows how to cut and dry fish
Reverence	They do ceremony before fishing and offer tobacco to Creator





The Orphan and the Bear

Author	Retold by Sakiasi, Qalinaq, Inuit
Illustrator	Eva Widermann
Publisher	Inhabit Media Inc. (2011)
Reading Level	Grade 1-3
Synopsis	An orphaned human learns lessons about survival and his place in the world from a polar bear Elder.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because the story shares information about traditional hunting and transformation
<i>Reciprocity</i>	This Inuit story is shared to continue the cycle of knowledge
<i>Responsibility</i>	As a listener because the human learns from the polar bear Elder

Nanabosho, Soaring Eagle and the Great Sturgeon

Author	Jospeh McClellan, Métis
Illustrator	Rhian Brynjolson
Publisher	Pemmican Publications Inc. (2006)
Reading Level	Grade 1-3
Synopsis	A grandfather shares a story about Soaring Eagle, who receives an important teaching from Trout.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because the story teaches that we must use our fisheries in a sustainable manner
<i>Reciprocity</i>	The grandfather shares a story, which continues the cycle of knowledge





Not My Girl

Author

Christy Jordan-Fenton, Inuit
Margeret Pokiak-Fenton, Inuit

Illustrator

Gabrielle Grimard

Publisher

Annick Press (2014)

Reading Level

Grade 1-4

Synopsis

This is a retelling of 'A Stranger at Home' which was written for older readers. Margaret returns to her community after two years at residential school and must relearn her family's way of life to fit in again.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect

For cultural knowledge because the story shares information about Inuit food, dress, and dog sledding

The Little Hummingbird

Author Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Haida

Illustrator Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Haida

Publisher Greystone Books (2010)

Reading Level Grade 2-3

Synopsis This book is based on a South American Indigenous story about a hummingbird who defies expectations in her attempt to save a forest.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect The hummingbird shows respect for nature because she tries to save the forest

Responsibility The hummingbird shows responsibility to the community because she is doing all she can to help





The Canoe He Called Loo Tass

Author Amanda Reid-Stevens, Haida

Illustrator Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Haida

Publisher McKellar & Martin Publishing (2010)

Reading Level Grade 2-3

Synopsis This is the story of the canoe Loo Tass as seen through the eyes of Bill Reid's daughter.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect For cultural knowledge as information about the designs on the canoe and Haida culture are shared

Reciprocity This Haida story is shared to continue the cycle of knowledge

Shi-shi-etko

Author	Nicola I. Campbell, Interior Salish, Métis
Illustrator	Kim LeFave
Publisher	Groundwood Books (2005)
Reading Level	Grade 2-3
Synopsis	Shi-shi-etko tries to remember everything she can about the land where her home is and her way of life prior to attending residential school.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect

For nature as Shi-shi-etko and her family focus on the land and the features of that place to remember their identity
For traditional knowledge because Yayah shares knowledge of which plants are food and which are medicine





Shin-chi's Canoe

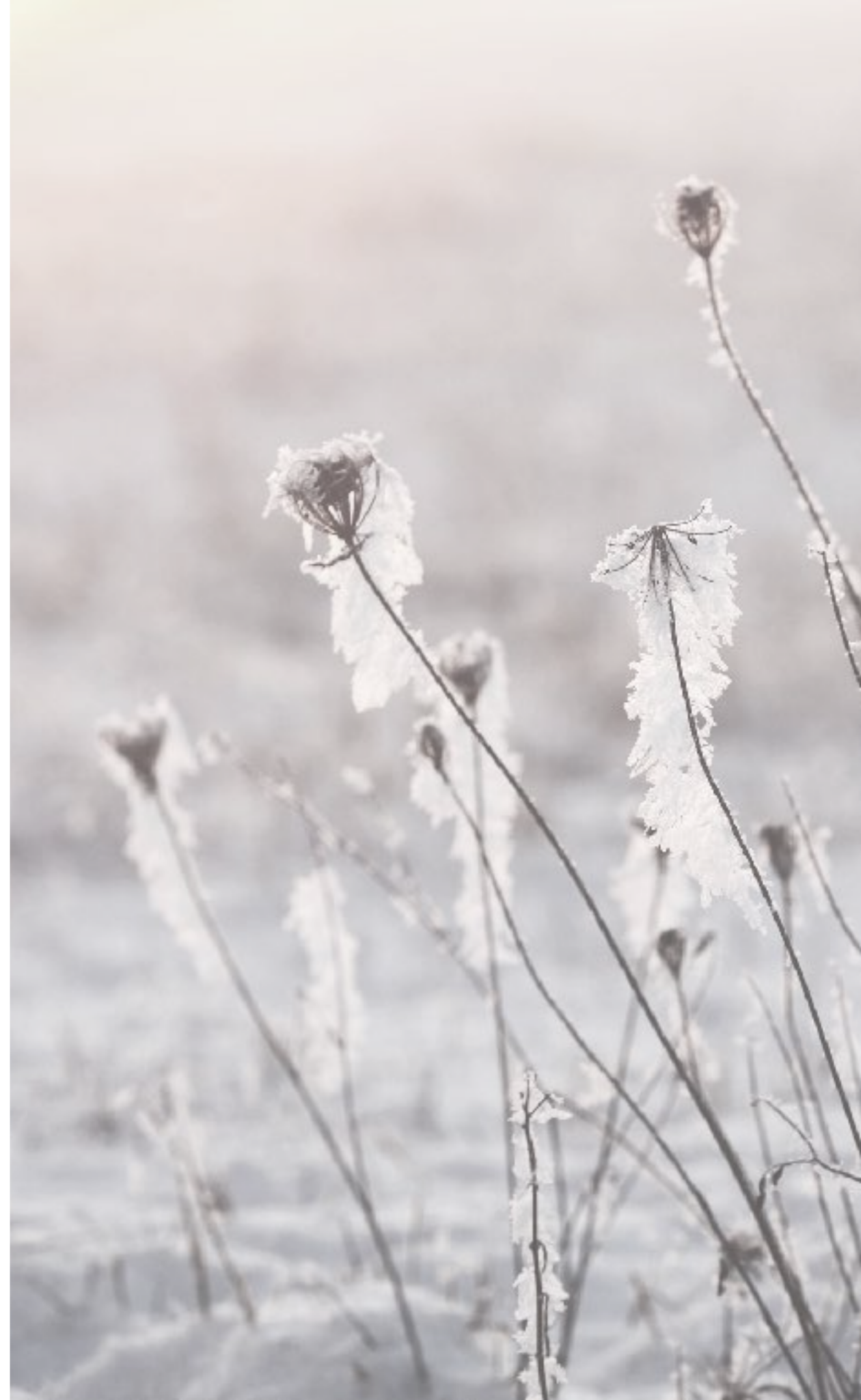
Author	Nicola I. Campbell, Interior Salish, Métis
Illustrator	Kim Le Fave
Publisher	Groundwood Books (2008)
Reading Level	Grade 2-3
Synopsis	This sequel to Shi-shi-etko tells the story of Shin-chi, who is Shi-shi-etko's younger brother and his experience with residential school.
Principles of Indigenous Storywork	
<i>Respect</i>	For nature because the children and family focus on the land and all of the features of that place to remember their identity

Secret of the Dance

Author	Andrea Spalding and Alfred Scow, Kwakwaka'wakw
Illustrator	Darlene Gait, Coast Salish
Publisher	Orca Book Publisher (2006)
Reading Level	Grade 2-4
Synopsis	This book teaches the importance of traditional practices, as Alfred's family travels to an isolated location to attend a forbidden potlatch during the time when ceremony was banned.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect	For protocol because they hold ceremony in the Big House
Reverence	Towards spiritual knowledge because Watl'kina interacts with the spirits during ceremony





The Song Within My Heart

Author	David Bouchard, Métis
Illustrator	Allen Sapp, Cree
Publisher	Raincoast Books (2002)
Reading Level	Grade 2-5
Synopsis	A young boy learns about his culture from his Nokum, and learns that each person has their own story.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For protocol because the teaching is shared that you cannot use the story of someone else without permission For cultural knowledge because each individual hears a story of their own
<i>Responsibility</i>	As a listener because the boy receives teachings from his Nokum

Hiawatha and the Peacemaker

Author Robbie Robertson, Mohawk, Cayuga

Illustrator David Shannon

Publisher Abram Books for Young Readers (2015)

Reading Level Grade 2-5

Synopsis Robertson retells this story, which was passed on to him as a child from an Elder in his community.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect For cultural knowledge as the Peacemaker brings the message of the Great Law and performs ceremony to bring healing

Reciprocity This Mohawk story is shared to continue the cycle of knowledge





Neekna and Chemai

Author Jeanette C. Armstrong, Okanagan

Illustrator Barbara Marchand, Okanagan

Publisher Theytus Books (2008)

Reading Level Grade 3-4

Synopsis This story is about two girls growing up in the Okanagan prior to contact, and the community's seasonal life patterns.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

<i>Respect</i>	For nature because they give thanks to their plant and animal relatives
	For cultural knowledge because the great-grandmother shares teachings about seasonal activities
<i>Responsibility</i>	As listeners because the children learn from their great-grandmother's words
<i>Reciprocity</i>	As the great-grandmother asks the children to share her teachings with their great-grandchildren
<i>Reverence</i>	Toward spiritual knowledge because the great-grandmother teaches about prayer and the Great Spirit

Salmon Boy: A Legend of the Sechelt People

Author Donna Joe, Sechelt

Illustrator Charlie Craigan, Sechelt

Publisher Harbour Publishing (1999)

Reading Level Grade 3-4

Synopsis This story teaches about respect for the environment through a description of the lifecycle of the salmon.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect For nature because the lesson is to respect the salmon
For cultural knowledge because humans learn sustainability from the salmon people

Reciprocity This Sechelt story is shared to continue the cycle of knowledge

Responsibility As a listener because the boy watches and learns about the salmon people for a year





Wilt Dagoydiksdit Txamsm Goy’pa Da Ha’lidzoox: Txamsm Bring Light to the World

Author	Narrative told by J. Bradley is retold by Mildred Wilson, Tsimshian
Illustrator	Bill Helin
Publisher	Tsimshian Nation and School District No. 52 (Prince Rupert) (1996)
Reading Level	Grade 3-5
Synopsis	In his transformer mode, Txamsm brings light to the people of the world.

Principles of Indigenous Storywork

Respect	For cultural knowledge because the story includes Sm’algyax and English translations
Reciprocity	This narrative is shared to continue the cycle of knowledge

A Stranger at Home

Author	Christy Jordan-Fenton, Inuit Margeret Pokiak-Fenton, Inuit
Illustrator	Liz Amini-Holmes
Publisher	Annick Press (2011)
Reading Level	Grade 5-8
Synopsis	10-year-old Margaret returns to her community in the arctic following two years at residential school and realizes she must relearn her family's way of living.
Principles of Indigenous Storywork	
<i>Respect</i>	For cultural knowledge because the family shares information about Inuit food, dress, tools, language, fishing, and hunting





Thank You

We raise our hands to Dr. Jo-ann Archibald, the panelists and all of the participants for attending and continuing the conversation, as well as to the Planning Committee, Department of Educational Studies, and the First Nations House of Learning for hosting this event.

More resources on storywork can be found on the Department of Educational Studies' website: <http://edst.educ.ubc.ca>

Indigenous Storywork: Educating the Heart, Mind, Body, and Spirit can also be purchased from UBC Press:

<https://www.ubcpres.ca/indigenous-storywork>

Authors: Melanie Nelson & Sam Tsuruda