Mobile Museum

HOME ACTIVITY RESOURCE KIT (GRADES K - 5)

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Museums and Heritage Services

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Acknowledgement

We would like to start by acknowledging that the land where we learn, live, and play on is the traditional and unceded territory of the Halq’eméylem speaking Coast Salish peoples.

This refers to a language group that more widely encompasses the Indigenous people who used and continue to use this land, and includes nations such as the Qayqayt, qʷa:n̓axʷən̓ (Kwantlen), Katzie, kwik̓w̓el̓w̓em (Kwikwetlem), x̱wməθkw̓əy̓əm (Musqueam), Stó:lō, sc̓əwaθn məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen), and Tsleil-Waututh.

The material heritage in this resource is interconnected with these groups and territories. The items reflect a sample of historical settlement patterns and ongoing processes of colonization in this community.
Notes on Indigenous program content

This program covers a very small sample of Coast Salish history and tradition.

- Anything shared is a part of living tradition. In other words, these objects and practices are important parts of Coast Salish culture that are passed along generations into present day.

- This program connects items to residents of different backgrounds, including local Indigenous people and settlers of varied heritage. Therefore, the small number of Indigenous items in this program cannot possibly represent or capture all nations with attachment to New Westminster.

- For a program covering more local Indigenous content, please see: NWMA 2020 First Peoples of the Northwest Coast Online Kit
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| Mobile Kitchen, Daily Life, and Toy Trunk    | • Explore our mobile Kitchen, Home, and Toy Trunk  
  - Examine, think, and learn about artefacts from the museum’s teaching collection, and compare them to personal items and experiences.  
  - Watch videos and try optional activities and games                                   |
| Start Your Own Mobile Museum                 | • Learn how to start your own class or family collection                                                                              |
What is Heritage?
In this program, we have been exploring artefacts. Artefacts are material heritage, or items with special memories or feelings attached to them.

- Heritage can be a thing, like a photo, house, art, or a place - but, it can also be something that is not physical, like practices, traditions, music, and beliefs of a specific community or society.
  - A tradition is a way of doing something that has been passed down over time.
- These forms of heritage come from the past, but are passed down over time and continue to be important today. Heritage can therefore change over time.
- In museums, this is why many objects tell an important story and help us understand who we are.
- Heritage can also be connected your personal background and family history (genealogy), which is the story of you and your family, often back to where your ancestors originally come from.
BC Curriculum Connections
Curricular Connections & Big Ideas

- The choice of technology and tools depends on the task.
- Our communities are diverse and made of individuals who have a lot in common.
- Technologies are tools that extend human capabilities.
- Explore strategies for making healthy eating choices.
- Develop and demonstrate respectful behaviour in activities with others.
- Explain the significance of personal or local events, objects, people, or places.
Shopping List
(For Optional Activities)

• Mason Jar Butter
  • Mason jar with lid, salt, heavy whipping cream

• Tea Service
  • Napkins, tea, juice, and snacks of your choosing

• Basic Weaving
  • Piece of cardboard
  • Scissors
  • Tape
  • 2 colours of thick string or yarn

• Air and Fire Experiment
  • Drinking glass, candle, matches

• Cup-and-Ball Toy
  • Yogurt cups, bamboo skewer, large round wood beads and a few small beads, yarn, scissors, hot glue, colorful tape

• Victorian Games
  • Slipper or soft object, music
Kitchen
Butter Churn

- Butter churns are used to make butter by mixing cream.
- To use this churn, pour cream and turn the handle for about 30 minutes!
- Butter and buttermilk are the two end products. The buttermilk can be poured or strained out of the lid (if you look closely, you can see drain holes).
- Children and women often churned butter in the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

Where do you get your butter from? How do you think it is made?

Pictured: A milkmaid and her cow. NWPL 2292 ca 1902.
Butter Paddles

- These are used to press and shape fresh butter.
- The action of patting and shaping helps to squeeze the remaining buttermilk from the butter.
- The paddles also help to press or roll into a desire shape, like sticks, cubes or balls.

See how butter was made with a churn and paddles during Victorian times:
  - Click to watch
Try it! Mason Jar Butter

- Make your own butter using a mason jar, heavy cream, and salt!
  1. Fill mason jar ¾ full with heavy whipping cream.
  2. Close jar with lid and wrap in tea towel to prevent leaks.
  3. Shake for approximately 10-15 minutes until the butter is a consistent size. The fat will stick together in the form of butter.
  4. Separate the buttermilk out.
  5. Add ½ teaspoon salt to butter for every 6 cups of heavy whipping cream (for preservation).
  6. Spread on bread or crackers!

Pictured: Making mason jar butter at Irving House
Wire Toaster

- Made of wire and used to toast bread over a fire.
- Similar items have been used for many years to cook meat and fish over a fire.
  - You may still use something like this today, especially when camping!

How do you make toast at home? How is it different from this method?

Pictured: A child eating toast and making a funny face. IHP11268-001.
Bamboo Steamer

- Bamboo steamers have been around for thousands of years.
- The steamer is placed on a pan or pot with simmering water. The steam (water in gas form) from the hot water rises through each layer of bamboo slats and lightly cooks the food inside.
- Vegetables, fish, dumplings, and many other foods can be cooked in a bamboo steamer.
- Have you ever had dim sum in New Westminster? Dim sum originates from southern China, which is where many of the first settlers to Canada and New Westminster are from.

Do you know of any other foods that are cooked by steam? Have you seen steam used in other ways (not just for cooking)?
This device chops nuts into smaller bits. The “meat” is the flesh of the nut.

Walnuts were a popular choice to eat at parties.

To use it, drop the nuts into the top and turn the handle to chop!

This chopper is made of glass and metal.

If you help with cooking, how do you chop or cut things into smaller bits?
Hand Mixer

- This item blends food like cake batter without electricity.
- Turn the handle to make the circular disc spin and mix your food.

How do you mix food and liquids at home? Can you think of a tool that is similar to this mixer?

Hint: How do you mix batter for a cake?
Chopsticks were invented in China thousands of years ago. However, chopsticks are used by many Asian cultures. People from Hong Kong and mainland China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and Thailand use chopsticks that best match their food, customs, and manners. Each culture uses chopsticks made of specific materials.

- For example, Korean chopsticks are often flat and made of metal, while Vietnamese chopsticks are often made of bamboo.
- In Chinese culture, serving and sharing food with chopsticks is a friendly activity, while in Thai culture, chopsticks can be used to assemble different ingredients on to a spoon for one delicious bite!

Do you use chopsticks at each meal? If not, have you ever used chopsticks before? Where did you use them and what did they look like?
During tea service, loose-leaf tea (not in a tea bag) is made with hot water.

The tea is then poured over the tea strainer from a teapot to make sure no leaves fall into each guest’s cup.

This strainer is very simple, but strainers can have beautiful shapes and designs.

Learn how to make a cup of Victorian Tea, English style:

Click to watch
Try It! Edwardian Tea Etiquette

What is “etiquette”? Etiquette means there is an expected way of doing something, and good of manners are a part of it.

During Victorian and Edwardian times, proper etiquette during tea service (including snacks) was very important.

The example activity on the next page comes from British tradition and would be seen at a place like Irving House because Captain Irving was Scottish and Elizabeth Irving was from the United States – however, many cultures have their own teas and etiquette, both in New Westminster and around the world.

In fact, tea drinking dates back to ancient China almost 5,000 years ago!

Pictured: Tea Merchant, possibly of Tai Soong & Co., a very important trading company that operated in BC starting in the mid-1800s.
Try It! Tea Service

See if you can follow all of the rules of tea service at home:

1. If you are the host, make tea (or juice). Prepare cookies, sandwiches, or other snacks.
2. Once you are at the table, lay a napkin on your knees.
3. Wait for your mother or the hostess to eat before you begin eating.
4. Sit up straight, no elbows on the table!
5. Taste new things to remain polite, but there is no need to eat it all. Simply say, “No. Thank you.” Do not smell or examine new food before you eat it.
6. Slowly stir tea from the bottom of the cup to the top, two or three times, and only from 6 to 12 o’clock.
7. Do not use hand gestures while holding any utensils.
8. Chew quietly with your mouth closed.
9. Eat and drink slowly and never fill your mouth too full.
10. Do not leave the leave before the tea is finished, then asked to please be excused.

Pictured: Three women having tea outside in New Westminster. IHP14335-113. ca 1910.
Trying Tea Etiquette at Irving House
Here is another way to drink tea!

- This type of cup and straw are used to drink yerba mate (herbal tea) in Argentina, Paraguay, and other countries in South America.
- The tea comes from the leaves and twigs of the *Ilex paraguariensis* plant.
- The dried yerba mate leaves are steeped in hot water and the bombilla is used both as a straw and a sieve (a filter to keep out the tea leaves) to drink.
- New Westminster has a rich Latin American community. Our museum volunteers have found records of settlers and workers back to the 1850s gold rush!

Have you had tea before? What kind of tea was it? Was it hot or cold?
Hint: This also serves another kind of hot liquid. Adults often drink this liquid in the morning.
This type of coffee pot is used not only in Turkey, but all over Eastern Europe as well.

It is traditionally made of brass or copper, and used to make the drink with finely ground coffee.

There have been people from southeastern Europe in New Westminster since the early 1900s.

One example of this is the Greek community. The museum has record of a Greek stores, including a store called the “Palace of Sweets” on Columbia Street from a 1912 newspaper. The owners were named John Skouras and Chas Spilos.

Are there any drinks (hot or cold) that are special to your family?

Tiffin Boxes

- Tiffin boxes are a type of lunch box from India and other parts of Asia.
- The different tiers (layers) have different foods.
- The Indian city of Mumbai has a world-famous tiffin-delivery service that has been studied by the Harvard Business School for its efficiency. Tiffin boxes with homemade lunches are collected from homes at around 10 am, delivered to the office by bike, train and on foot, then the empty boxes are taken back home via the same delivery system.
- The Mumbai Tiffinmen’s Association says there is a mistake only once every six million deliveries!
- Settlers from India have been a part of the New Westminster community for over a century. The Gurdwara Sahib Sukh Sagar (Sikh temple) in New Westminster had its 100-year anniversary in 2019, as has over 5,000 members today!

How do you eat lunch at school, who makes it for you?
Popcorn Pan

- This pan uses the heat of the stove or over a fire.
- Kernels are poured into the pot and the crank (handle) is turned to stir up kernels to prevent burning and ensure even cooking.

Have you ever made popcorn at home? How do you make it?
Idli Pan

- Idli are a type of rice cake from southern India and Sri Lanka.
- The batter, made from rice and black lentils, is poured into the molds and steamed.
- Idli are served with sambar (a type of stew), chutneys, or curries.
  *Note: Our pan broke while on display and is missing its column.
- This pan was purchased on Sixth Street in New Westminster.

Do you eat rice or lentils at home? How are they prepared?
This can opener is made of metal and works without a turning handle or electricity.
The opener works by stabbing the top rim of the can, then rocking and pushing the sharp blade through the tin:

Do you have a can opener at home? Does it work differently from this one?

Photo source: wikihow.life
Lofrega or Fufu Stick

- Fufu is a staple from West African countries like Ghana, the Ivory Coast and Nigeria. A similar staple from Sudan is called asida.
- Fufu can be made by pounding different ingredients together: cassava, plantains, yams, cornmeal or even rice. The lofrega or fufu stick is used to stir and knead the ingredients together.
- This item comes from Ezawa’s Africa Market on Twelfth Street, which has many Sudanese foods for sale.
- Watch fufu made in Ghana:
  - [Click to watch](#)
Bamboo Sushi Rolling Mat

- Flexible mat used to roll food, especially rice to make sushi, which is a type of food from Japan.
- Skinny bamboo cylinders are held together with string.
  *Note: Two of our strings broke while on display.*
- Did you know, the first Japanese person to come to Canada came to New Westminster first? This man’s name was Manzo Nagano and he arrived in New Westminster in 1877.

Have you ever tried sushi, or tried making it? What is your favourite type of sushi? What other kinds of food come in a roll form?

Pictured: Manzo Nagano (middle). 
http://najc.ca/japanese-canadian-history/
Home & Daily Life
Cedar basket & bracelet

- These two items are made by local Haida Weaver, Giihlgiiigaa (Haida name), Todd DeVries.
  - Learn more about Giihlgiiigaa and watch videos of him weaving cedar at https://ithkilga.blogspot.com/
- Cedar bark (and root) can be used to create baskets and clothing such as capes, hats, skirts and even diapers. When the bark is properly processed, it can be very soft to touch.
- Baskets have many different forms and uses, such as berry picking. They are also important in ceremonies and trade. There are many different designs used to decorate baskets, some simple decorations, others special designs that only certain families can use.
- Baskets are woven by women, and girls can start learning how to weave when they are as young as ten years old.

Have you seen cedar weaving at school?
Do you have any baskets at home? How do you use them?
Hint: This item is a small version of something bigger, and is also woven.
Woven Blankets – Sample Weaving

- Woven blankets can show a person’s wealth and are often given away at potlatches or naming ceremonies.
- The beautiful patterns woven into blankets are used to tell stories or hold spiritual powers.
- At one time, blankets were so important that they were often used as currency (instead of money) when people were trading.
- Weaving has been an important practice for Coast Salish people historically, and they are believed to be the first people in North America to weave using a loom.

Do you have any blankets at home? What do you use them for? Are any of them special to you?
Try it! Weaving

- Watch this video of Debra Sparrow (Musqueam) weaving using a loom with the traditional Salish Method:
  - Click to watch

- To try basic weaving yourself, follow the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh instructional video (grade 4+).

Musqueam Band member Jordan Wilson graduated from the University of British Columbia in 2016. To honour his accomplishment, Debra Sparrow created this blanket.
Bellows

- Air (oxygen) is needed to create and maintain fire. Bellows are used to direct air into fire, usually in a fireplace or wooden stove.
- Bellows can be used by hand or as a foot pump.
- When the handles are pushed together and released, air is pulled into the bellows (like lungs when we breathe in). When the handles are pushed back together again, the air inside the bellows is pushed out of the metal nozzle and directed at the fire.

Have you ever seen an adult start a fire to stay warm or cook something? How did they do this?
Want to experiment to see if fire really needs air to burn? Try this quick experiment with an adult.

- **Click to watch**

For an extra challenge, try this out with 2 glasses and 2 candles, one bigger glass and one smaller glass.

What happened when you put the cup over the candle? If you did the extra challenge, which candle will go out first? Why?
Camera with Flash

This camera is called a Kodak Brownie Hawkeye (flash model).

This camera was very popular in the 1950s. It is one of the most popular cameras ever made and purchased due to its low price and because it was mass produced.

Mass production means the same item was made in the same way over and over again, by people or machines.

How does your family take photos today? What do you use the most? Can this item also do other things?

Sad Iron

- Made from cast iron, heated on stove and then used to iron clothing.
- Sad is an old Saxon word, meaning heavy. Sad irons weigh up to 10 pounds!
- This sad iron, including the handle, would get very hot, so a thick glove or cloth would be used to pick it up.
  - Over time, the handles were made to be detachable, or made of wood so the handle would not heat up at all.

How do you get the wrinkles out of your clothes? If you use an iron, how is it different from this one?
Rotary Telephone

- Rotary telephones were kept in a family or shared area, like in a hallway or the kitchen.
- These phones have no screen and their only use is to talk with another person.
- Some of the first phones only worked with an operator, a person whose job was to connect people over the telephone.

How do you communicate with your friends and family when they are not in the same place as you?

Pictured: David Friesen [at the New West police station] wearing a pink sleeper on the phone to mom. IHP9266-1062. 1950.
Let’s play a game called **Secret Whispers**, which is what kids nowadays call Telephone.

- Sit in a circle.
- One person comes up with a message and shares it with their neighbour.
- Each person tells their neighbour what they just heard until the message is relayed and said out loud by the initial message deliverer.
- See how the end message compares to the initial message!
Projectile Points (sometimes called arrowheads)

- Projectile points are stone tools that are used for hunting and fishing by local Indigenous people.
- Follow the link to hear a story about nighttime fishing with points, read by Stó:lō elder Elizabeth Herrling, from the Stó:lō Library and Archives. This story is a part of the Stó:lō Shxweli Halq’eméylem Language Program:
  - Halkeywa: A torch lighting story by Ts’ats’elexwot
Washboard

- This washboard was used to wash clothing and other fabrics.
- Washboards were used with water, soap, and a metal tub.
- Friction, or the rubbing motion, is a very important part of the washing process.

How do you think washing machines create friction to wash your clothes today?

Photo from The National Park Service (US).
Using a washboard and wringer at Irving House
Sock Stretchers

- Wool socks shrunk while washing, so they were hung on stretchers, which were then hung on clothes line to dry.
- Stretchers could be made of wire or wood.

Pictured: Using sock stretchers after washing and wringing socks out at Irving House.

How do you dry your clothes at home?
Evening Gloves

- Often worn by women to evening out, the opera, or a fancy dinner.
- In the past, gloves were also used to keep skin out of the sun.
- Made out of kid (baby goat leather).

Can you think of any ways people protect themselves from the sun today? Why do people do this?

Hint: What happened when socks got wet? How was that problem fixed?
Glove Stretcher

- Gloves would shrink when wet, so the stretcher was placed inside each finger of glove to stretch them back out.
- These glove stretchers are carved from wood, and open and close like a clothespin.

Do you ever wear gloves? Why do you wear them?
Toy Trunk
Cork Pop Gun

- This toy gun is made of wood, cork, and rubber.
  - Cork is made from a type of oak bark
- See and hear the pop sound!
  - Click to watch

Have you ever seen anything made with cork before? Can you find any cork items in your house?
The yo-yo is one of the oldest and most popular toys.

This yo-yo is made of wood and box string.

According to the National Yo-Yo Museum, evidence of the yo-yo dates back to 500 BC! Today, the yo-yo is still a popular toy, and it is also a competitive skill.

Have you ever used a yo-yo? Were the look or materials any different than this one?

https://nationalyoyo.org/national-yo-yo-day/
Wooden Ratchet Noisemaker

- This toy noisemaker is works by holding the green handle and spinning the upper red and yellow section in circles. When it spins, wood hits the spikey disc and makes a loud snapping noise.
- You can still buy this toy today!
- See it in action:
  - Click to watch

Have you ever used a noisemaker?
Can you think of special celebrations when people use noisemakers?
Teddy Bear

- This brown bear has sadly lost its ears as it is very old.
- The "Teddy Bear" toy name comes from a story about US President Theodore Roosevelt.
- According to American story, while the President was hunting in Mississippi in 1902, he refused to shoot an old bear in an unfair way. Political cartoons were drawn about the incident and put into the newspapers. A shop owner in New York named Morris Michtom saw the cartoons and named the stuffed bears he sold as “Teddy’s Bears”.

Do you have a teddy bear at home? What about other stuffed animals?

https://americanhistory.si.edu/press/fact-sheets/teddy-bear

Pictured: Child with teddy bear and doll, NWPL 3257. ca 1930.
Kaleidoscope

- This toy works to reflect light and multiply colourful items like beads, paper or glass.
  - If you look closely, you can see a triangle inside of the tube. Each side of the triangle is a mirror.
- In this design, one looks into the kaleidoscope from one end, and spins the attachment holding the paper items at the other end.

- See how a kaleidoscope is made from the show “How It’s Made”!
  - Click to watch
Cup-and-Ball Toy

- This toy is made of wood and has been available for hundreds of years in many places across the world.
- The game involves tossing the ball and catching it in the cup. It takes sharp hand-eye coordination and is harder than it looks!

Can you think of any other games you have played that involve catching a ball in something, or aiming a ball in one spot?
Want to make your own and try it out? “PBS KIDS for Parents” has a DIY video:

- Click to watch

Written craft instructions with photos:

Spinning tops are an ancient object, dating back to some of the earliest human civilizations. Some look similar to this one, but others look a little bit different.

This spinning top is carved from wood.

Do you have a favourite toy or game with something that spins?
Toy shopping in New Westminster


Pictured: Royal Canadian Navy sailor looking at a toy truck, possibly at Eaton’s. IHP9268-0246. 1949-1954.
Let’s finish up the toy trunk with a game. This one is called **Pass The Slipper**.

- Sit in a circle with one person in the middle of the circle.
- The person in the middle closes their eyes.
- While the person in the middle closes their eyes, the others around that person pass a slipper (or any object) around their backs to their neighbour.
- The group may play music, or the person in the middle may count to a certain number before stopping. Once the music/counting has stopped, the person in the middle guesses who has the slipper/object.
- A different person goes in the middle and the game continues!
Start Your Own Mobile Museum
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Try It! Start Your Own Mobile Museum

- Ask yourself and your family members:
  - What are your family beliefs? Do you have any traditions?
  - Which part of the world is your family originally from? Where have they been since then?
  - Can you think of any special days that are important to your family? How do you celebrate them?
  - Is there an item that has been passed down from person to person over time? Why is this item important? Is there a story you can tell about it?
  - Can you think of any objects, photos, records, or activities that have special memories attached to them?
    - Try looking around your home with your family to find some!

- Collect your items or stories
  - Take a photo of one family item and bring it to school to start a class heritage collage or binder. At home, you could start a family heritage box with as many items as you would like.
  - Record stories (written or spoken) for classmates or family members in the future.
  - Organize a show-and-tell day with the photo or real object to share with the class!