



Implementing Oceti Sakowin in the Classroom

BY: JANELL COMBELICK

Development Of OSEU Oceti Sakowin Essential Understandings & Standards

1: LANDS & ENVIRONMENT-TELLING OF LAND BASE BEFORE AND AFTER EUROPEAN CONTACT.

2: IDENTITY & RESILIENCY-LAKOTA LIFE BEFORE AND TRANSITION TO RESERVATION LIFE

3: CULTURE & LANGUAGE-SHOWING HOW INTEGRATED THE 2 ARE

4: KINSHIP & HARMONY-HOW FAMILY AND WORKING TOGETHER MEANT SURVIVAL

5: ORAL TRADITION & STORY-THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR ORAL HISTORY

6: SOVEREIGNTY & TREATIES-HOW THESE AFFECT THE STUDENTS LIVES NOW.

7: WAY OF LIFE & DEVELOPMENT-GOING FROM A NOMADIC LIFE TO NOW.

Using OSEU in your lesson plans

- ▶ When doing lessons plans you can adjust them to the grades you are teaching.
- ▶ Ex. Wichahpi Wo'oyake – Star Knowledge for 2nd & 3rd grade
- ▶ Objectives: Actively Listen
 - ▶ Understand and follow a simple command in Lakota
- ▶ Standards: Identify SINGLE WORD or simple PHRASE.
- ▶ Resources: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, From Earl Bullheads CD 1
 - ▶ Lakota Children's Songs
- ▶ Activities: Teaching the Lakota word for Star, showing a star and saying
- ▶ Le Wichahpi kin-This is a star, having children repeat after you.
- ▶ Having children draw, color, and cut out a star

Adjusting Lesson plans;

You can adjust your lessons plans to any grade, using the OSEU standards, on any topic.

“Le Wichapi Kin” can be made more in-depth according to your students knowledge of the Lakota language.

Games or drawing can be applied using the Lakota language

Ex. K-1, pin the Sinte (tail) on the Wichapa (star).

2-3, singing Twinkle Little Star in Lakota

4-6, Working on the Star Boy story, having students recognize Lakota words. Could have children do a skit.

7-8 coloring a star quilt pattern, making a Star Quilt wall hanging.

9-12, Making a Star pattern to fit throw pillow coverings.

Resources Incorporated

- ▶ [Wayawa Cik'ala.com](http://WayawaCik'ala.com) Is a website I use often. It has short videos all in Lakota. After watching a video we then go through which words they recognize, and practice the words.
- ▶ Lakotabears.com I will show them a episode and we will go through the words as they recognize them starting and stopping the video as we go along, words such as, Han, Kola, Maske, Ina, Ate, Unci, Lala, adding more words the higher the grade
- ▶ Aktalakota.stjo.org 13 moons in Lakota & the 12 month calender
- ▶ Lakota Language Consortium
- ▶ Lakota Language: Lakhotiyapi Kin - Shapes, Colors, Numbers..etc

Lowan-Sing

- ▶ You can look up any type of Lakota song on Youtube.
- ▶ I have found that singing works well especially for the younger grades, they like to sing together and act out their songs.
- ▶ I have found that if you have them sing the number song and hold up their fingers and count along they remember the numbers better, as not just memorizing the song.
- ▶ We have the students sing the Flag song in the mornings when we have in school classes. As we are Zooming I will have them now and then. We are going to work on Silent Night in Lakota on Zoom as Christmas is coming up.
- ▶ I also play hand game songs, so they will remember them for when we can get together and Hand Games again. I also play the Wacipi Songs and show them Grand Entry of different Wacipis.



