



Wetlands

The Indigenous and Western Worldviews

Learning Outcomes

- *Recognize and describe one or more examples of wetland ecosystems found in the local area*
- *Understand that a wetland ecosystem involves interactions between living and nonliving things, both in and around the water*
- *Identify human actions that can threaten the abundance or survival of living things in wetland ecosystems*
- *Recognize that changes in part of an environment have effects on the whole environment*



01

Activity 1

Sharing Circle/ Think-
Pair-Share

02

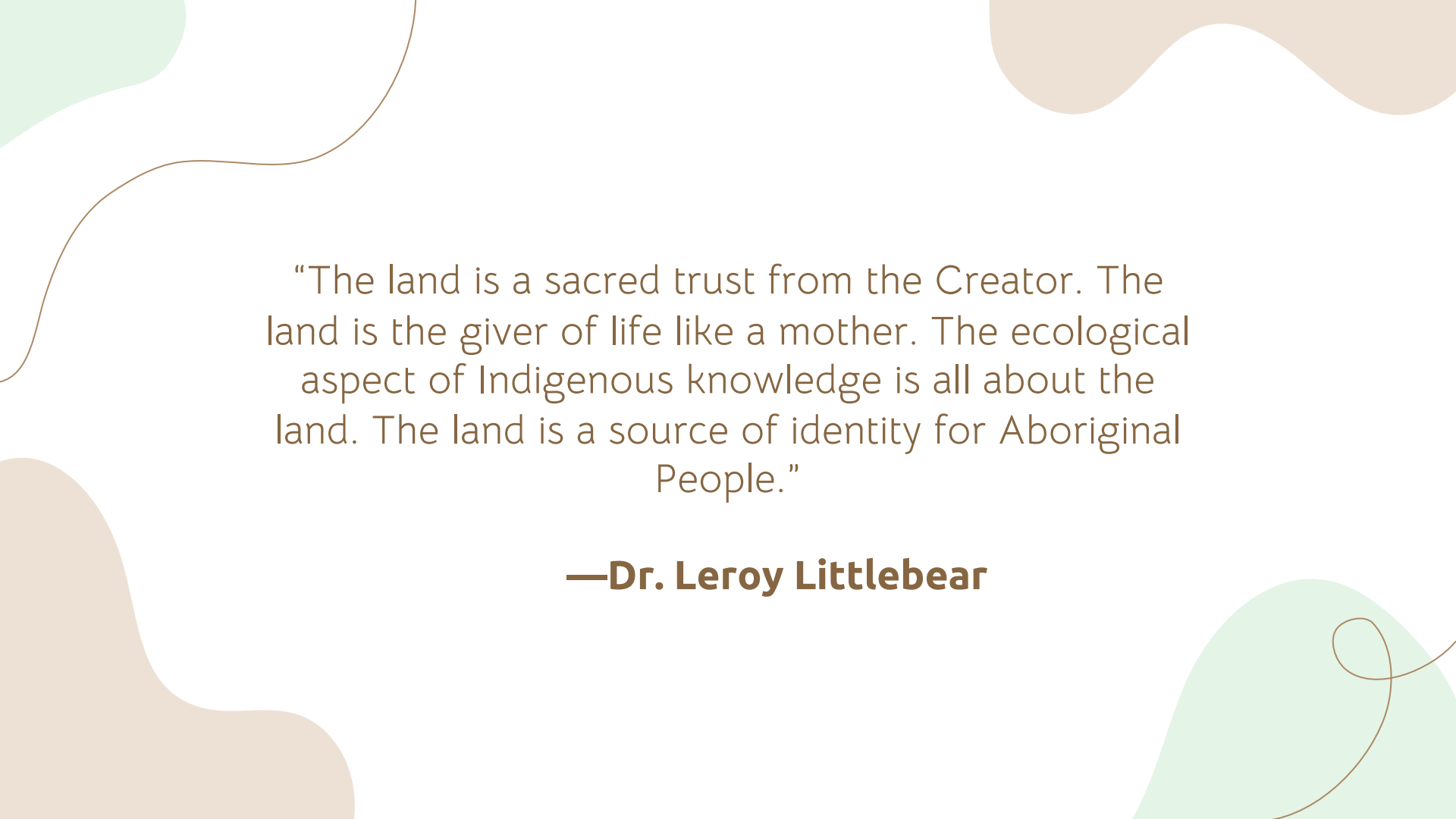
Wetlands

From Indigenous
Worldviews

03

My Rubber Boots/Tea of Life

Fill out your worksheets!



“The land is a sacred trust from the Creator. The land is the giver of life like a mother. The ecological aspect of Indigenous knowledge is all about the land. The land is a source of identity for Aboriginal People.”

—Dr. Leroy Littlebear

01

Sharing Circle



Sharing Circle

"In the circle, we are all equal.

There is no one in front of you and there's nobody behind you.

No one is above you, no one is below you.

The circle is sacred because it's designed to create unity."

– Lakota wisdom



02

**Wetlands/
Wetland
Ecosystems**



What is a Wetland?

- Wetlands are areas of land that are covered by water for a period of time
 - They support aquatic plants and wildlife

Examples of Wetland Ecosystems



Pond



Slough



Marsh



Bog



Fen

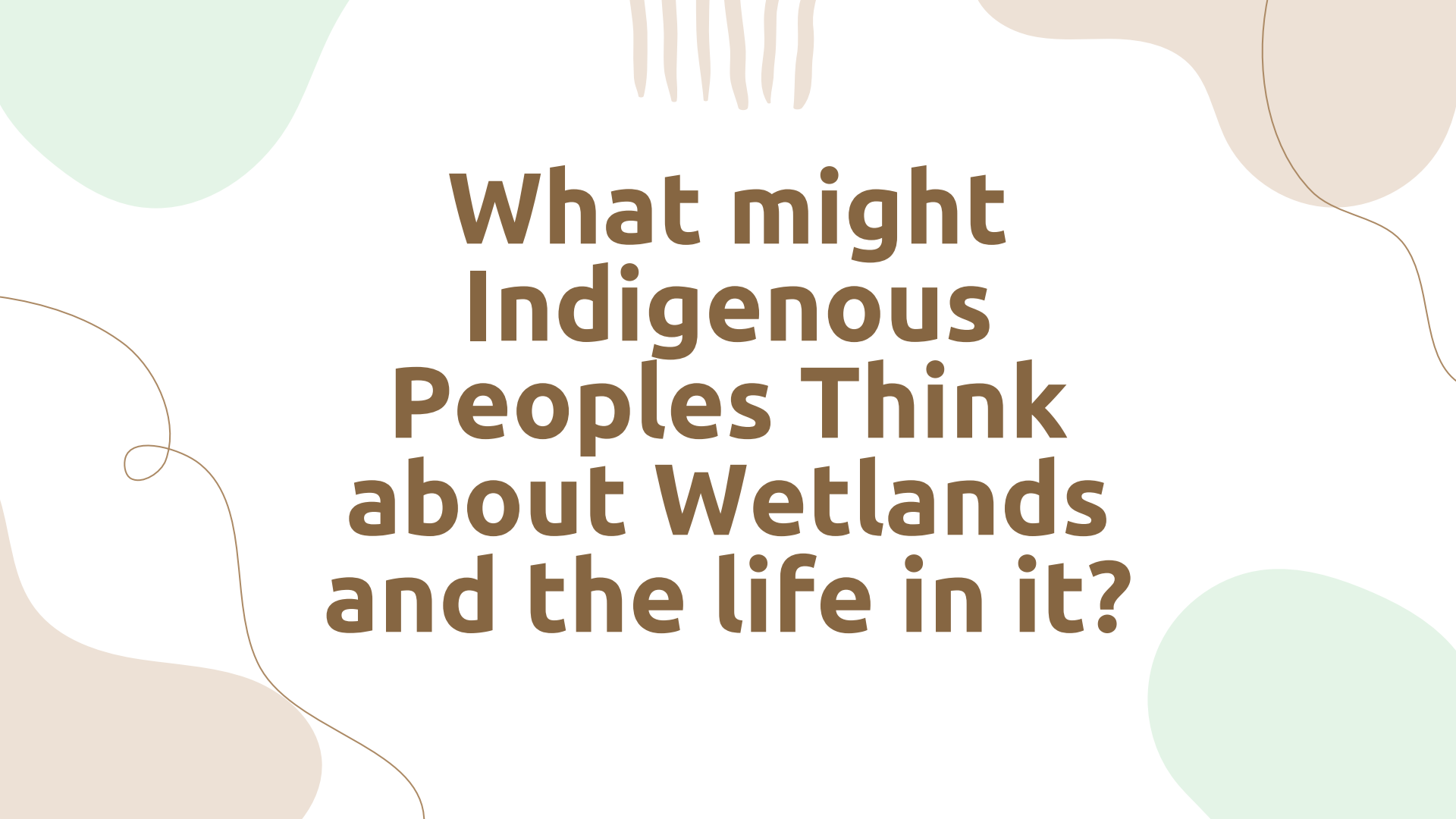
What is a Wetland?

- Wetlands involve the interactions of both **living** and **non-living** things, both in and around the water
- What did we say were some examples?

**So we looked at Wetlands from
a Western Worldview, but can
we look at them from
Indigenous worldviews?**

Indigenous Worldviews





**What might
Indigenous
Peoples Think
about Wetlands
and the life in it?**

Indigenous views of Wetlands

- All components in nature, including those in the wetlands, are considered living things
- The Wetland and the plants and animals in it give us messages and teachings
- The nature in the wetland is sacred
- Indigenous worldviews highlight respect for all living things, which includes everything on Mother Earth, and lead to a healthy environment, including healthy wetlands



03

My Rubber Boots vs. The Tea of Life

My Rubber Boots



The Tea of Life



**What are the
differences
between the views
of the Western
Scientist and Elder
Roy on wetlands?**

The background features several abstract shapes: a light green shape in the top-left, a brown shape in the top-right, a brown shape in the bottom-left, and a light green shape in the bottom-right. A thin brown line curves across the left side. At the top center, there is a series of vertical brown lines of varying heights, resembling a comb or a stylized hairbrush.

Bonus!

**Can you
identify
the nature
in this
video?**



References

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Photo References

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