



GRADE 1 SCIENCE INDIGENOUS GARDEN

Teacher Prompts

Plants and animals of Alberta

1. How can I introduce students to the unique plants and animals of Alberta?

Example: Start with a picture book that features Alberta's wildlife and discuss familiar animals such as beavers or moose.

2. How can I help students connect the roles of plants and animals in Indigenous culture?

Example: Share a story from an Indigenous Elder about the uses of sweetgrass or sage.

3. How do I create meaningful discussions about the importance of plants and animals to humans?

Example: Discuss how trees give us oxygen and ask, "How do you feel when you see a big, beautiful tree?"

4. How can I encourage students to look at plants and animals as interconnected parts of an ecosystem?

Example: Show how bees help flowers by pollinating them and then ask students what the flowers give back to bees.

5. How can I integrate storytelling about local plants and animals into the lesson?

Example: Share a short, age-appropriate Indigenous story about a plant, such as: the legend of the Three Sisters (corn, beans, squash).

6. In what ways can I highlight the environmental needs of Alberta's native plants?

Example: Explain how certain plants only grow in shaded, wet areas and let students point out such areas on a walk.

7. How can I guide students to think about plants as living organisms with specific needs?

Example: Compare a plant's needs to our own: "Just like you need food, water, and shelter, so do plants!"

