

## **ABORIGINAL CLUB**

Jurisdiction: New Brunswick

Contact: Cynthia Harquail

Level: K-12

Theme: Curriculum/materials

Description of Practice: Two students from each class meet in the school's Aboriginal Room, once a week for a thirty minute block, to do traditional crafts led by a member of the Aboriginal community.

Background: This club is open to all students. Adult volunteers open each activity with an explanation of the significance of the craft to the Aboriginal community. The club was developed to make the non-Aboriginal community more aware of Aboriginal traditions.

Development: A volunteer was involved in Social Studies groups last year during Heritage Week. The administrators suggested that noon activities be offered to enrich students. There were no challenges. Everyone was open to learning something so important. It was suggested that longer periods of time next year would prove beneficial as the students would be able to get involved in basket weaving, moccasin making, art work and "meaning" (education on symbols).

Evidence: Teachers have become more comfortable about delivering information about the Aboriginal culture.

Adaptability: This should be a part of the Social Studies unit and someone should be hired to help develop and deliver the material in a detailed and accurate manner.

### Further Information:

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