



Curriculum Links
The Sharing Circle, Season 14, Episode 15:
Solomon Carriere- Last of the Voyageurs

Suggested Grade Levels:

All Grades	Phys ed.
Grades 4 – 12	Social Studies
Grades 5 – 12	Science (simple machines, lakes)
Grades 7 – 12	Counsellor-Careers

Curriculum Themes and

- Environmental Wellbeing
- History of Manitoba
- History of Saskatchewan
- Métis
- Phys ed.
- Role model
- Simple machines

Summary of Episode:

Solomon Carriere is a hunter, a trapper and a world champion long distance paddler. Solomon and his family live a unique blend of the traditional life and the unreal expectations of the 21st Century.

Vocabulary:

- Ancestors
- Back Injury
- Big Eddy
- Cancer
- Canoe Racer
- Challenge
- Cherish
- Compete
- Connected
- Cumberland House
- Death
- Delta
- Eddy
- Environment
- Family
- Flood Life
- Fur Trader
- Game
- Goose
- Home School
- Honesty
- Jacqueline
- Land
- Life
- Machala
- Marsh
- Martina
- Mentorship
- Métis
- Nepawom
- Next Generations
- North America
- Pearson College
- Political Science
- Power Dam
- Privilege
- Professional
- Records
- Reduced
- Riel
- Rent
- Respect
- Return
- Roger Carriere
- Ron Williams
- Saskatchewan River
- Simon Fraser
- Sled Dog Race
- Solomon Carriere
- Son-Partner
- Sports
- Stressed
- Teacher
- The Pas
- Thrive
- Traditional Lifestyle
- Train
- Urban Life
- Voyager
- Wildlife
- World Champion

Suggested Activities:

- Study the Métis. This may include such topics as Louis Riel, Métis Revolution, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Red River Cart, Sash, Flag, Red River Settlement, Michif.
- Discuss what the term Métis means historically. What does Métis mean today? Is it a term restricted to Ojibwa and French? Other people have a much more diverse background but are still of mixed origin.
- Listen to Métis music.
- Read books related to the Métis (see Additional Research).
- Invite people in to jig or to teach how to jig.
- Invite a fiddler in or a fiddle group.
- Look up communities in Manitoba and Saskatchewan that have a high population of Métis heritage.

Suggested Activities (Continued):

- Learn about the Fur Trade and have a speaker in.
- Learn about the Delta in Cumberland House.
- Learn about flooding, marshes and how to protect them.
- Learn about the power damn that is reducing the flooding.
- Learn to canoe and go out onto the river for a ride.
- Race canoes.
- Learn about why canoe racing is not recognized in the Olympics.

Additional Resources (online):

- St. Laurent teaching guide
http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/socstud/st_laurent/teachers_guide.pdf
- Métis National Council
<http://www.metisnation.ca/>
- Métis Resource Centre
<http://www.metisresourcecentre.mb.ca/>
- Pemmican Publications
<http://www.pemmican.mb.ca/>

Additional Resources (text):

- *The Golden Métis*
by Flynn Ell © 2004 Pemmican Publications
- *Li minoush*
written by Bonnie Murray © from Pemmican Publications
- *Louis Son of the Prairies*
by Noelle Palued-Pelletier © 1990 Pemmican Publication
- *The Métis Princess*
by Annette Saint-Pierre © 2004 Pemmican Publications

Additional Resources (text) (Continued):

- Prairie Rose
by Fred Smith © 1993 Pemmican Publications
- The Tobanz
by Edgar Danny Desjarlais © Pemmican Publications
- Women of the First Nations Power, Wisdom and Strength
Edited by Christine Miller and Patricia Chuchryk © 1996 University of
Manitoba Press

Related Episodes:

- The Sharing Circle, Season 14, Episode 1
Crooked Music: John Arcand, the Master of the Métis
- The Sharing Circle, Season 14, Episode 13
Empty Nets

Aboriginal People and the Environment

Traditionally the Aboriginal peoples were very tied to the land. Even though we have been relocated and moved about, many are still connected to the land today. Many First Nations refer to the Earth as Our Mother. This term reflects the belief and sacredness of Earth has for us. As our Mother, the Earth provides us with all that we need to live. The four elements of fire, water, earth and air are major components that are important in our existence.

The importance of the environment is shown in many other ways as well. The way Aboriginal people traditionally lived was very ecological and sound for the environment. Everything is believed to have a spirit and because of this, there is great importance in what all things have to offer us. To take advantage of these things would be to disrespect our Mother.

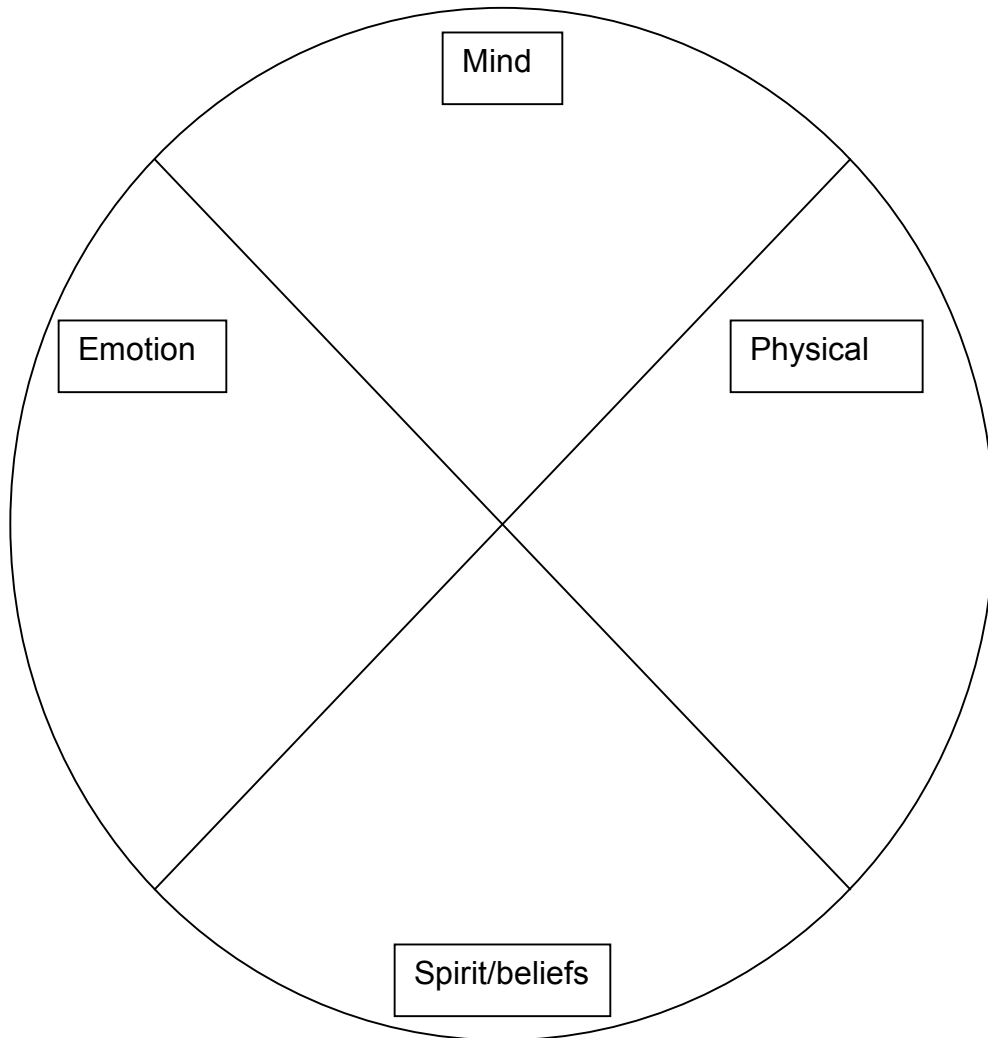
There are many teachings offered by animals and plants and elements of the Earth. Traditional First Nations names often have an animal name attached to it. This helps to build that relationship and kinship. Clans were often related to the animals and roles were reflected in the way that animals contributed as well.

All work, ideas and ways of living were kept in pace with the rhythm of Mother Earth. The rhythm of the animals, seasons, weather, water etc. were all considered. Today we often live in a fast paced rhythm that is often out of step with nature. While, I myself live out of rhythm, I believe there are valuable lessons that can be learned and as we re-connect with the land, our own health and ability to live in harmony may become more vibrant and illuminated.

Environment

Define the term Environment.

What does the environment mean to you emotionally, mentally, in your beliefs, and in your physical being? Write some comments about the Earth and the environment below. See four directions teachings for information at the following website (<http://www.fourdirectionsteachings.com/>)



Environment

What are some issues related to the environment? Research issues in the media (newspapers, TV, movies etc.), and comment below.



What can you do to help the environment? What responsibility do we hold as individuals? What can we do to raise awareness?



The Canoe

Who invented the canoe? What types of canoes were used here traditionally?

The canoe and the paddles are a simple machine. What type of simple machine are they?

Draw a diagram below showing a canoe and the paddles. Describe how they help us.