



DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE MAGIC OF
THE NORTHERN LIGHTS???

INUIT ESKIMO WEBQUEST

CREATED WITH LOVE BY MRS. DAVIS FOR
CLASS 5-315

INUIT CULTURE

- ▶ Remember Little Eva from “The Very Last First Time?” Eva went ice fishing for the very last first time. Ice fishing is very important in Inuit culture. You will be exploring other important aspects of Inuit culture in this webquest.



INUIT ESKIMO CULTURE

- ▶ Do your parents or grandparents tell you stories from the old traditional days?



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- ▶ Well, in the Inuit culture, *story telling* is very important. Story telling is one way to make sure that the younger generation know their history. Often the stories that are told are magical. Have you ever heard of **Naya** or **Sedna**? Those are just two of the stories you will learn about through this journey back through time. Sedna's story can be read here:
<http://www.native-languages.org/inuitstory2.htm>

- ▶ You are about to set out on a trip through Inuit history.

During this webquest, you will explore the past and learn more about Inuit Indian culture.

INUIT CULTURE

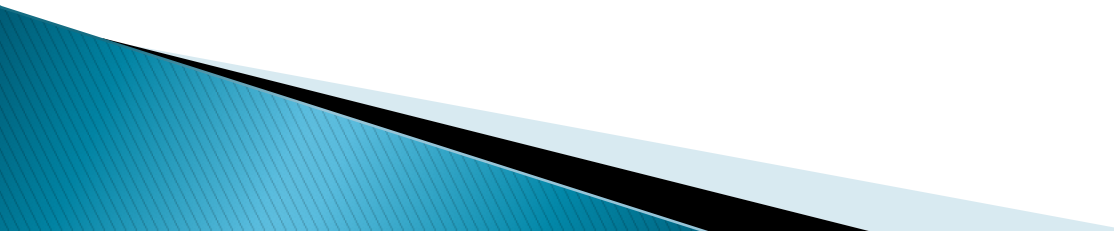
- ▶ You will go on a journey back through time to the early Inuit people. While you travel back through time you will speak to people and visit different places.



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- ▶ You must “visit” an Inuit elder to learn new stories. Choose your favorite one to re-tell in your own words and turn it into a picture book for younger children with your own illustrations–clipart.

You must also learn more about the following aspects of Inuit life and present your information in a graphic organizer:

- ▶ Food
 - ▶ Shelter
 - ▶ Clothing
 - ▶ Environment–climate
- 

INUIT CULTURE

Your group will then present your research in a google document , video or slide show to demonstrate what you learned about Inuit culture. Each group member will also create a journal entry imagining a day in the life of an Inuit eskimo child.



Inuit storytelling

- ▶ Read more about **Northern Lights / Aurora Borealis**
 - ▶ : <http://www.nunavik-tourism.com/northern-lights.aspx>
 - ▶ Watch the following video AT HOME on the Northern Lights:
 - ▶ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjLbeISA_Dzo
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Inuit storytelling

- ▶ Read more Inuit myths–storytelling here:
- ▶ <http://www.native-languages.org/inuit-legends.htm>
- ▶ This website has more Inuit stories and information about Inuit culture:
http://www.unipka.ca/Kiviugq_Story.html

INUIT CULTURE

Inuit

The name Inuit means "the people." When the first Europeans met the Inuit, they called them Eskimo. This was because the Europeans had heard that name from another Aboriginal group called the Cree. In the Cree language, "Eskimo" means "eaters of raw meat." The Inuit don't like to be called Eskimo. They prefer to be called Inuit or, for one person, Inuk.

The Inuit live in northern **Canada** and in **Alaska** (which is in the United States of America), but also in **Greenland**, and in the North Eastern tip of **Siberia** (which belongs to Russia).



INUIT CULTURE

Tools, Weapons and Food

Inuit weapons were primarily hunting tools which served a dual purpose as weapons, whether against other Inuit groups or against their enemies.

The Inuit were skilled hunters, and caught food year-round, even during the harsh winters. Depending on the season they would hunt for different animals. Sea mammals were usually hunted during the winter when they were out on the ice.



However, some sea mammals, like whales, were hunted in the open water. Some land animals that were hunted – caribou, musk oxen, arctic fox, polar bear, arctic hare, and arctic birds.

Fishing was also an important source of food for the Inuit, although it was more important in certain areas than others. They mostly fished for Arctic

INUIT CULTURE

char, especially during their spring and fall runs. During the summer, the Inuit fished from boats called 'kayaks'. During the winter, the Inuit fished through holes in the ice.

Most tools that the Inuit used were made out of stone, or parts of animals, like bone, ivory, antlers, teeth, and horns. To catch fish they used fishing lines, nets, leisters and three-pronged spears. For hunting, the Inuit used spears, bow and arrows, clubs and stone traps.

The Inuit used knives for cutting meat, and also snow and ice. A special knife that the Inuit used was called an 'ulu'. Ulus were used for skinning animals, preparing the animal skins, and butchering.



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Clothing

Inuit peoples were able to create beautiful clothing from animal hides, fur, quills, feathers and even trees! They made the clothing as comfortable as possible while making sure that it was warm in cold weather and cool in the summer.

For the Inuit, warm clothing was a must in the extremely cold temperatures of the Arctic. Since caribou fur was considered the warmest, it was used to make their layered parkas for the winter. Some groups also made coats from polar bear fur. Seal skin was used to make waterproof boots, as well as lighter parkas for spring, summer and fall.



Image credit: Ansgar Walk

Women made the clothing for their family. Girls learned by watching their mothers prepare the skins. It was a lot of work -- scraping, softening and

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working the skins, then cutting and stitching. The tools they used were made from horns, antlers, bones and wood. Caribou sinew was used as thread. Sinew came from tendons in the caribou's leg or back. The sewing was done with needles made of ivory or bone.

Travel

The kayak was used to travel and hunt marine mammals and sea birds. It was used on the open water of summer and to travel through the moving ice in winter and spring.

The frame was constructed from small pieces of carefully selected driftwood or sometimes whalebone and covered with the scraped skin of seal. In earlier times, they were made waterproof by rubbing blubber



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or animal fat into the skin. Seams were made waterproof by sewing them with a special stitch.

Since it was completely covered, a skilled hunter was able to travel in wind and waves. Kayaks could be carried and launched from the edge of the sea ice and maneuvered through moving ice. They had special equipment that was used by the hunter and in earlier times the hunter would wear a waterproof shirt sewn from the intestines of the seal.

The Inuit lived nomadic lifestyles, so they did not stay in one place for a long period of time. Since hunting and fishing was their main source of food, they were forced to move around, following the seasonal migration patterns of area animals. Caribou, muskoxen, and seals all gathered in large groups for their seasonal migrations, and the Inuit followed them closely. During the winter the Inuit mostly lived in coastal areas where they could hunt seals. Temporary winter camps or villages had up to 100 people living there. They used sleds pulled by dogs to travel great distances on the ice, and lived in

c. Fun In Fourth

temporary snowhouses (igloos).

INUIT CULTURE

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During the spring and summer months, the Inuit started moving inland in smaller groups, usually fewer than a dozen people. There, they spent more time fishing and hunting caribou. In the summer they lived in animal skin tents and traveled by foot and boat.

Shelter

At one time the Inuit had a summer home and a winter home. In the summer, the Inuit often lived in tents that they made from caribou hides with wooden frames. In the winter many Inuit lived in sod homes. They would dig a hole in the ground and pile rocks and sod all around the outside to make walls. Pieces of wood or whalebone were used as a frame for the roof, which the Inuit then covered with sod. In both the tents and the sod houses the Inuit built raised platforms at the back for sleeping.

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The Inuit are famous for their igloos. An igloo is built of blocks of snow shaped into a dome. They were mostly used as temporary shelter during winter hunting trips. The igloo is the one of the Inuit's best inventions. It is warm and easy to construct. Most Inuit today have settled in villages and live in houses.



Beliefs

The Inuit believed all living and non-living things had a spirit. That included people, animals, inanimate objects, and forces of nature. When a spirit died, it continued living in a different world- the spirit world. The only people who had enough power to control the spirits were the powerful religious leaders called the Shamans or 'Angakoks'. Shamans used charms and dances as a means to communicate with the spirit world.

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Shamans also wore carved masks—mostly representing animals— while performing their rituals. It was believed that masks had powers that enabled them to communicate with the spirits.

To make the spirits happy the Shamans would make recommendations. They would suggest offering gifts to the spirits, moving away, and sometimes would fine the person for breaking the rules and angering the spirits.

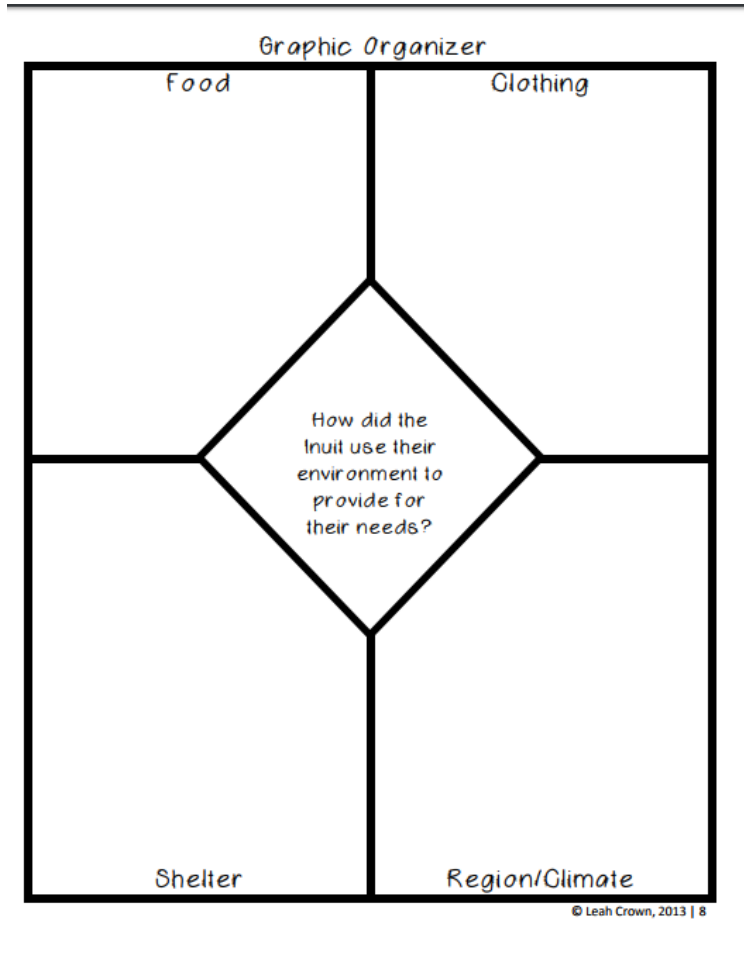
Some Inuit believed that the spirits of their ancestors could be seen in the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights).



INUIT CULTURE

- ▶ Using information from this presentation, the task cards and the following website, complete the graphic organizer provided to you in class:
- ▶ http://www.ducksters.com/history/native_americans/inuit_peoples.php

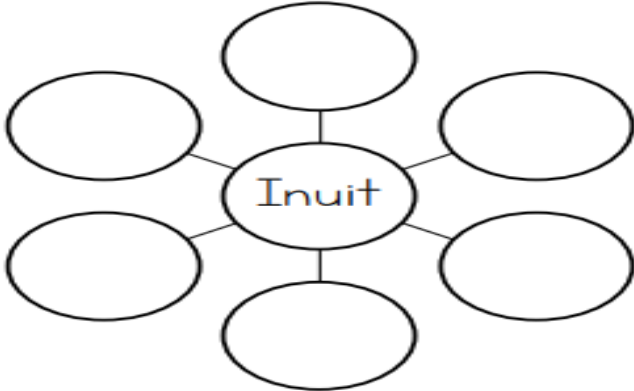
Inuit culture



Inuit culture

- ▶ You will also read one of the other informational articles (that has been differentiated for you based on your reading level) about Inuit culture and complete the following handout that was given out in class:

INUIT CULTURE GROUP ACTIVITY:

Inuit Native Americans	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Why would you consider Inuit shelter unique?2. What is sinew? How do the Inuit use it?3. How do temperatures vary between the inside and outside of igloos?4. What are Inuit boots called? How are they made?5. How did the Inuit waterproof their clothes?6. Describe the intended effect of snow goggles.7. Describe the intended uses of animal teeth and bones.8. What was used to stuff clothing? Why?9. What is blubber? How is it used?10. Where could someone find the Inuit? <p>THINK ABOUT IT: How did the Inuit get to North America? Why do you think they settled in such a cold environment?</p>	<p>Directions: Use adjectives to describe the Inuit Native Americans.</p>  <p>Writing: How did the Inuit use their environment to meet their needs for food, clothing, and shelter? What did the Inuit use for transportation? How would you describe Inuit culture? How do the Inuit compare and contrast with your life?</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Directions: In your opinion, what are the five most important facts that should be known about the Inuit. Use complete sentences when writing the five facts.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.4.5.	

INUIT CULTURE

Writing Topic

Think for a moment about what life in the Arctic was like for the Inuit. Now pretend you are a member of this group. Draw a detailed picture and write a journal entry about a day in your life as an Inuit. Be sure to include details about the climate, environment, food, clothing, and shelter.



INUIT DOMAIN SPECIFIC VOCABULARY

- ▶ PLEASE INCLUDE A PICTURE DICTIONARY OF AT LEAST FIVE SPECIFIC DOMAIN SPECIFIC VOCABULARY WORDS THAT ARE UNIQUE TO THE INUIT CULTURE AND TRADITIONS. INCLUDE CORRECT PART OF SPEECH, A DEFINITION IN YOUR OWN WORDS, AN ILLUSTRATION AND AN ORIGINAL SENTENCE.

RUBRIC FOR WRITING ACTIVITY:

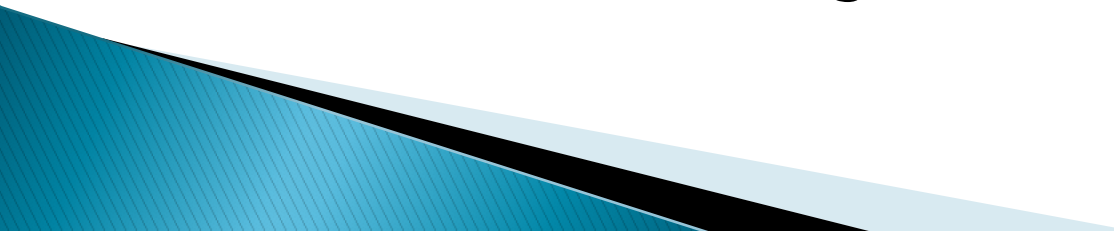
Name: _____ Date: _____

Writing Project Rubric

	1	2	3	4
Climate	The writing included little or no detail about the climate.	The writing included some detail about the climate.	The writing included adequate detail about the climate.	The writing included exceptional details about the climate.
Environment	The writing included little or no detail about the environment.	The writing included some detail about the environment.	The writing included adequate detail about the environment.	The writing included exceptional details about the environment.
Food	The writing included little or no detail about food.	The writing included some detail about food.	The writing included adequate detail about food.	The writing included exceptional details about food.
Clothing	The writing included little or no detail about the clothing.	The writing included some detail about the clothing.	The writing included adequate detail about the clothing.	The writing included exceptional details about the clothing.
Shelter	The writing included little or no detail about shelter.	The writing included some detail about shelter.	The writing included adequate detail about shelter.	The writing included exceptional details about shelter.
Conventions	The writing contained 5 or more capitalization, punctuation, or grammatical errors.	The writing contained 3-4 capitalization, punctuation, or grammatical errors.	The writing contained 1-2 capitalization, punctuation, or grammatical errors.	The writing was exceptional and contained no capitalization, punctuation, or grammatical errors.
Drawing	Drawing was incomplete or non-existing.	Drawing was simple with few details to support writing prompt.	Drawing was adequate to support writing prompt.	Drawing included exceptional details to support writing prompt.

Score: _____

INUIT CULTURE:

- ▶ To recap:
 - ▶ Each group will submit the following:
 - ▶ A graphic organizer that deals with food, clothing, climate and shelter (using different cards that were given to each group).
 - ▶ A children's "book" that retells an Inuit story in your own words with your own illustrations—clipart.
 - ▶ DOMAIN SPECIFIC VOCABULARY WORDS—AT LEAST FIVE
 - ▶ An Inuit Native American activity that was based on differentiated reading PLUS:
- 

INUIT CULTURE INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY

- ▶ Each individual group member will do the writing activity about a day in the life of an Inuit eskimo child.
 - ▶ Sound like a lotta work? You betcha! So get started NOW. You only have one week to complete. Good luck and email your teacher with any questions you have along the way.
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