

**Lesson Focus:** What object best represents your family tradition?

**Materials:**

- Internet access for videos
- Notebook and art supplies or phone video camera

**Invitation to Learn:**

In this lesson you will talk about traditions that you practice with your family and then choose an object that best represents your family tradition.

Watch these videos to see how families represent family tradition:

**It's Tradition** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o9STz3B3ffw>

**Something From Nothing. By Phoebe Gilman** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHzav9BS-Fc>

**Totems: The Stories They Tell** <https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1472670112251/1534962082305>

**The Keeping Quilt. By Patricia Polacco** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AVxr\\_vz0XE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7AVxr_vz0XE)

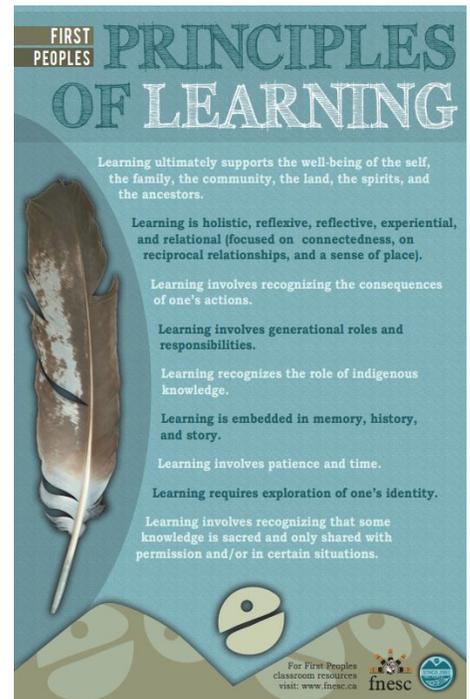
**Haida Button Blanket** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cYt58pw\\_WnY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cYt58pw_WnY)

**Have a Discussion:**

- What does the term "family tradition" mean?
  - **Example: family traditions are special activities that families do over and over again**
- What are some family traditions that your family practices/enjoys?
  - **Examples: planting a garden, going to the summer fair, cooking a turkey on Thanksgiving, going Trick or Treating, decorating your house/yard for special occasions/holidays**

**Learning from First Peoples**

Many First Peoples have symbols that represent their cultural traditions and identity. Symbols such as regalia, drums, paddles, family crests, and totem poles are local to certain families and communities.





Look at the image above.

**Ask:**

- What tradition is being celebrated in this image?
- How is this similar or different to how your family celebrates this tradition?
- What objects in this image represent this image?
- Which object would you choose to best represent your family's tradition of celebrating birthdays?

**Discuss:**

- **Family Traditions**

- Traditions allow families to spend time together having fun, building a feeling of closeness, and strengthening family ties. Celebrating a tradition helps family members learn about their culture, religion, and family values. Most families celebrate traditions every year, for example, Christmas, Potlatch, Chinese New Year, Kwanza. Some families may have traditions that are unique to their families, such as Dad and Daughter Day.
- A birthday is an example of a family tradition commonly celebrated by many families.

**Notebook Time:**

Think about a tradition that your family celebrates.

- Gather one object that best represents this family tradition.
- Create a video of you talking about your object.
  - What is your object?
  - Present your family tradition and object
  - What is your family tradition?
  - When does your family practice this tradition?
  - How does your family practice this tradition?
  - Why is this tradition important to your family?
  - Why does this object best represent your family tradition?