

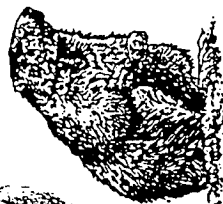
Integrating traditional Yup'ik Knowledge into the regular classroom:



Using legends to teach the sciences & mathematics

The Porcupine and the Beaver

as told
by
Annie Blue
and
Henry Alakayak Sr.



Seeing and being aware:

As simple as recognizing a local leaf...



Sharing

Documenting

Developing

Integrating

Sharing

Traditional Yup'ik Knowledge

Documenting Geographic Place Names



History

The Ciulistet Research Association was established in 1986. The founding members included Alaska Native certified teachers who were employed within the Southwest Regional School District. The founding member included: Esther A. Ilutsik, Anecia Lomack, Nancy Sharp, Ferdinand Sharp, Evelyn Yanez, Mary Alexie, Vicki Dull and William Gumlickpuk, with consultation from Dr. Jerry Lipka, Cross-cultural Teacher Training Program. In 1993 membership was extended to the elders and the other certified native teachers who resided in the area served by the Bristol Bay Native Association. The association has most recently amended their bylaws to also now include classified bilingual and bicultural teacher aides who work directly with a certified native teacher in the classroom.

The Legend Sonor Board Game

How the Porcupine Received It's Weapons

a legend told by the late Evon John of Mamokotak



Dillingham Elementary Students 3rd grade class of Mrs. Sassa Ruby's Spring 1996

The Ciulistet Research Association has developed the following materials to date:

Traditional Method of Counting:
using base 20 with a subbase of 5

The Heartbeat:
where the heartbeat is connected to the drum beat and integrated into the health class and mathematics.

The Yup'ik Border Patterns:
where traditional border patterns are introduced and then integrated into the the regular math curriculum.

The Legend Sonor Board Games :
where oral legends are kept alive by students telling the legends before the game is started. This board game was adapted from the Republic of Sakha, Eastern Siberia where Professor Tomsy created a means of keeping their legends alive by creating the game board which is based on the game chess. These legends are then integrated into the sciences, language arts, reading, and mathematics.

Weather Observation:
where the students are taught how to observe the weather using the skills taught by the elders.

For Further Information

The Ciulistet Research Association offers workshops. The workshops include the framework in which the Ciulistet Research participants organize and gather traditional local knowledge and then the development process to integrating this information into the public school system. The workshops also include sample lessons and further training in a specific area, if requested. For further information contact:

Esther A. Ilutsik
Research Coordinator
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bristol Bay Campus
P.O. Box 1070 Dillingham, Alaska 99576
Phone: (907) 842-5901 or
email : fneai@aurora.alaska.edu