



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Education

Master of
Educational
Technology
Program



Inclusive Makerspace Provocations

Indigenous Opening Doors Provocation

Extending Indigenous Culture Through the Arts

Overview of the challenge

Learners will investigate Indigenous carvings in doors, called, The Aboriginal Doors Program, to learn more about the culture and the storytelling process of BC Coastal Aboriginal arts.

Materials and Resources Required

Materials may include any or all of the following

- Visuals of carved doors from the Aboriginal Doors Program
- Wood
- Wood carving tools (can be purchased at the dollar store- review safety precautions with learners)
- Paper and pencils
- Cardboard
- Construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors

Inclusive Maker Provocation Instructions

Take some time to notice and name what you see on these carvings and identify if you know the associated stories from Indigenous culture. If you do not, spend some time researching these stories. You may also choose to create your own door using the materials available to you, to tell your own story of your own culture.



Critical Questions for Consideration

1. How do the carvings connect with the story for which they represent?
2. How do these door carvings connect to Indigenous culture and ways of learning, knowing, and doing?
3. What connections can you make to these carvings
4. For the doors that you create, how are symbolically representing your culture?
5. How might you extend this provocation?
6. Why is this provocation important to include within an inclusive Makerspaces?

Background/ Additional Information

The University of Emily Carr has created a program called, [The Aboriginal Doors Program](#). This project focused on using BC's coastal red and yellow cedar harvested by the Nuxalk Smayusta First Nations lands using CNC (computer numerical control- kind of like paint or carve by number) technology to embrace the culture and story-telling nature of BC coastal Aboriginal art. The artists are local Indigenous peoples.

Click on the QR code to learn more.



Inclusivity Focus

Ensuring the cultural sensitivity, appropriateness, relevance of Indigenous people and communities is extremely important in this provocation. Being cognizant of learners' and educators'/leaders' inherent biases approaching this provocation are important. Having open and critical conversations about these biases and approaching this provocation from a decolonized lens, free from assumptions is critical.

Inviting learners to extend this provocation by designing and carving their own doors based on a symbolic representation of their own culture is a way to honour all voices and include all learners.

No Tech, Low Tech, High Tech Options

There are opportunities for all learners to engage with this provocation. Providing learners the opportunity to design and carve their doors in diverse ways (i.e., wood and carving tools, Tinkercad and 3-D printing, Cardboard and scissors- using construction paper and markers to represent the symbols, etc.) makes this provocation even more inclusive.

Extension

- Learns can create doors that symbolically represent their own culture and stories
- Invite Indigenous elders or communities to share the stories represented through this doors

- Learners may take a virtual field trip to the location where these doors are created or from where the wood is extrapolated.