



Grade Level: 2
Subject: Science

Who Am I? - Lamprey Investigation

ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS

- Time Immemorial
- History
- Lifeways
- Language

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will be able to investigate clues given to identify a pacific lamprey.

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PRACTICES

- Proximity
- Higher level thinking: investigating
- Interaction with others through collaborative problem solving
- Preserving and honoring cultural history
- Student talk, working together and individually

ASSESSMENT

Students will be assessed on their participation in classroom discussions and their proficient completion of the Pacific Lamprey Activity Sheet.

Overview

In this lesson, students will learn about Pacific Lamprey and their importance to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde through investigation. Students will use investigation skills and clues given in the story to determine what types of characteristics pacific lamprey have and then use those characteristics to illustrate one.

MATERIALS

- Who Am I? [text](#) or [read aloud](#)
- Pacific Lamprey Activity Sheet
- Photo of lamprey at Willamette Falls

LOGISTICS

- Where does this activity take place?
Classroom
- How are the students organized?

Whole Class Teams: 3-5

Pairs **Individually**

TIME REQUIRED

45 minutes

STANDARDS

Oregon Common Core Standards: ELA-Literacy

2.RI.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

Next Generation Science Standards

Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

2-LS4-1 Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats

Oregon Social Science Academic Content Standards

Historical Knowledge 2.17 Identify and describe community celebrations, landmarks, symbols from a variety of traditions and explain why they are significant to the cultural heritage of members of the community.

Background for Teachers

In chinuk wawa, Grand Ronde's native language, lamprey are called skakwal [skahk-well]. Pacific lamprey or eel have been an important species to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde since time immemorial. Pre-reservation, many tribes would travel to different streams and waterfalls to harvest eel for both food and medicinal purposes. Today, eeling is still practiced by the Grand Ronde tribe. Willamette Falls was, and still is, a significant place for tribal people to harvest lamprey, as there was an abundant supply. It is believed that Coyote made Willamette Falls specifically to benefit tribal people.

VOCABULARY

- **Pacific Lamprey-** An eel like fish that lives in the river systems in the Pacific Northwest and Pacific ocean.
- **Ancestors-** a person related to you who lived a long time ago. The people you descended from.
- **Scales-** a flattened, rigid plate that covers the body of a fish.
- **Fins-** Part of a fish's body that protrudes into the water and helps them balance and swim in various directions.
- **Keratin-** a strong natural protein found in skin, hair, nails and more.
- **Latch-** to fasten onto or hold onto something.
- **Gills-** the organ on fish that helps them breath.

Opening

Before reading the story, explain to students that they will be taking part in an investigation. Explain to students what an investigation is.

- investigate: to look into carefully and closely so as to learn the facts

Activity

1. Introduce the “Who Am I” book to the students. Explain to the students that you will be reading the book to them and the story will give hints as to what animal the book is talking about. Before starting the book, ask the students if they can guess what habitat the animal might live in based off of the front cover of the book.
2. Begin the story. As you read, ask the students if they have a guess after it asks, “Who am I?”
3. At the end of the story refer back to the last page where it talks about the animal being an important resource to the Grand Ronde tribe.
4. Show students the picture of lamprey at Willamette Falls. Explain to students that many years ago the rivers used to be full of lamprey. Ask students what they think the Grand Ronde tribe used lamprey for.
5. Some examples may be food, the oil for cooking, the oil and fats for medicine. It’s even said that the tribe used the tail fin as a pacifier for infants.
6. Next, show students the videos:
 - a. Home (<https://youtu.be/-K3sihHVPVY>)
 - b. People of the Falls (<https://youtu.be/DKVHh67HF9Y>)
7. After discussing the importance of lamprey to the tribe, pass out the activity sheet.
8. Explain to students that they will be using the list of clues or characteristics that the story gave to draw a lamprey. The activity sheet includes a checklist for students to use so they can make sure to include all of the characteristics.

Closure

Allow time for students to use the checklist of characteristics on the worksheet to draw a picture of what a pacific lamprey looks like.

Differentiation

- Teachers can use the Pacific Lamprey Activity Sheet to conduct a whole-group activity instead of having students work individually.
- Teachers can create a lamprey drawing in front of the group as they read each clue from the Who Am I? book.

Extension

- This lesson can be combined with the following lessons to create a Lamprey Unit.
 - 2.ELA.Let's Go Eeling
 - 2.SCI.Lamprey Habitat
 - 2.SCI.Luna the Eel
 - 2.MTH.Salmon & Eel
 - 2.SS.Let's Go Eeling

Notes/Other

Jan Michael Looking Wolf's or Grand Ronde Canoe Family audio tracks can be played as background music while students are working. These audio tracks can be found on Spotify or Apple Music.

Jan Michael Looking Wolf: [Spotify](#) and [Apple Music](#)
Grand Ronde Canoe Family: [Spotify](#) and [Apple Music](#)

Appendix

- Who Am I?: Available online at the link below or in hard copy by request to the CTGR Curriculum Specialist
 - PDF: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ulzbkWkju3qX2sJr1rN24o23pAAwplHB/view?usp=sharing>
 - Hard Copy: <https://forms.gle/93sozKwcHw1ATfwY7>
 - Read Aloud: <https://youtu.be/Mq8SiK0I6mq?list=PLA33xEMg9mbqQFEHKsyocT3YRdmzZlneX>
- Pacific Lamprey Activity Sheet:
- Photo of lamprey at Willamette Falls: