SHARED BERNIGIAN HERITAGE PROGRAM

The Shared Beringian Heritage Program at the National Park Service is an international program that recognizes and celebrates the natural resources and cultural heritage shared by the United States and Russia on both sides of the Bering Strait. The program seeks local, national, and international participation in the preservation and understanding of natural resources and protected lands, and works to sustain and protect the cultural traditions and subsistence lifestyle of the Native peoples of the Beringia region. For over 20 years the program has facilitated cooperation and exchange between students, teachers, researchers, government officials, scientists, and indigenous residents of the region. For more information on the program and the annual Request for Proposals, please see: www.nps.gov/akso/beringia.

ARCTIC STUDIES CENTER (ALASKA OFFICE), SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

In 1994, the Anchorage Museum became the Alaska home of the Smithsonian Institution’s Arctic Studies Center, whose base is in Washington DC. In 2010, the Anchorage Museum opened an expansion featuring the Smithsonian exhibition Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska. The exhibition portrays contemporary lifeways of the North and the ancestral histories embodied by over 600 masterworks of Alaska Native art and design from the National Museum of Natural History and National Museum of the American Indian collections. Indigenous voices, perspectives, and knowledge are first and foremost in the exhibition’s concept and presentation.

Living Our Cultures serves as both a public exhibition and as an active resource for collaborative, community-based research and education. Since 2010 these programs have included Alaska Native artist residencies, indigenous language seminars, cultural documentation consultations with elders and community scholars, public talks by Alaska Native artists and researchers, and hundreds of curator and docent-led tours and school visits. Exhibition interactives and the companion Sharing Knowledge website (http://alaska.si.edu) are continually updated to reflect new information recorded during these interactions.

Cover photos: Six objects from the collections of the National Museum of Natural History and the National Museum of the American Indian that are discussed in the Iñupiaq Language & Culture videos. Title page photo: National Museum of the American Indian collection, 188306.000
Listen & Learn

Iñupiaq Language and Culture Video Lessons

Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution
Shared Beringian Heritage Program, National Park Service

DESIGNED & WRITTEN BY: Lauren Shutt, Cultural Enrichment Specialist, Title VII Indian Education, Anchorage School District

WRITTEN & EDITED BY: Dawn Biddison, Assistant Curator, Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution

TRANSLATIONS & EDITING SUPPORT BY: Edna Ahgeak MacLean, Ph.D., Linguist
Bernadette Alvanna-Stimpfle, Eskimo Heritage Program Director, Kawerak Inc.
Lorena Kapniaq Williams, Iñupiaq Language Specialist, The Aqqaluk Trust
Lawrence Kaplan, Director and Professor, Alaska Native Language Center

VIDEOS EDITED BY: Sarah Betcher
Brandon McElroy

PROJECT DIRECTOR: Dr. Aron Crowell, Alaska Director, Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution

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Arctic Studies Center
National Anthropoligical Archives
National Museum of the American Indian
National Museum of Natural History

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1. Map: First Peoples of Alaska

2. Teacher’s Guide
   a. Introduction
   b. Materials
   c. Answer Key / Links
   d. Additional Resources

3. Lessons & Worksheets
   a. Dance mitts
   b. Drum
   c. Harpoon
   d. High-kick ball
   e. Ulu (large)
   f. Waterproof boots (child’s)

4. DVD & CD
   a. DVD: 6 videos
   b. CD: Teacher’s Guide, Lessons & Worksheets
LISTEN & LEARN: TEACHER’S GUIDE

Iñupiaq Language and Culture Video Lessons

INTRODUCTION

The young people and the children coming along should see how their ancestors used to live by the land. They should hear the stories of their forefathers. That is why I have written these things down.

WILLIAM A. OQUILUK from People of Kauwerak: Legends of the Northern Eskimo

The Alaska Office of the Smithsonian’s Arctic Studies Center hosted an Iñupiaq language and culture seminar in January 2011, bringing together eight fluent speakers: Sylvester Ayek, Bernadette Alvanna-Stimpfle, Alvira Downey, Herbert Foster Sr., Willie Goodwin Jr., Jana Harcharek, Faye Ongtowasruk and Rachel Riley. They met for four days to discuss Iñupiaq objects in the Smithsonian exhibition Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska at the Anchorage Museum. The goals were to contribute to documentation of the Iñupiaq language and to create language and culture teaching materials for use in schools and homes throughout Alaska and beyond. The resulting six video lessons offer teachers, students, parents and lifelong learners access to Iñupiaq language and lifeways. For more information about Iñupiaq culture, please visit the exhibition website Sharing Knowledge at http://alaska.si.edu.

Above: A hunter returns home to Nome, 1930s. Courtesy of the Anchorage Museum, B93.12.39B.
The materials provided here consist of six short videos and six lessons about Iñupiaq language and culture. Each is based on an historic cultural heritage object from the collections of the National Museum of Natural History or the National Museum of the American Indian, both part of the Smithsonian Institution. These objects range from hunting tools used for living from the land and sea to ceremonial items used at celebrations and gatherings to everyday clothing. The information shared about them and about life in northwest Alaska enables learners to explore the cultural traditions of the Iñupiaq people. The videos are in Iñupiaq with subtitles in English and Iñupiaq, for following along in both languages. Each six-page lesson includes: three pages of materials to review before watching the video; one page with questions to think about and words to listen for during the film; and two post-viewing pages with activities.

A note on dialects:
According to the Alaska Native Language Center, there are four main dialects of Iñupiaq: North Slope, Malimiut, Qawiaraq and Bering Strait. All of these dialects except Qawiaraq are spoken in the videos and are presented in the lessons as noted.
Below are the answers (bases and words) for the fill-in-the-blank questions on page 5 of each lesson. Also provided are a link to the record for each object on the Sharing Knowledge website, where you will find detailed information and images.

**DANCE MITTS**
1. aqliti
2. nigla; atuq
3. aqli; aggi; unipkaa
4. igita; niqsa; timi; nalua
5. laglu; qilaña; siggu

**DRUM**
1. qilaun; aŋutit; kasa; atuu
2. unipkaaq; ayuqatu; nigla
3. sauya; ayuqatu; nivi
4. ikki; sauy
5. papłu; sauya; mumiq
6. aiġv; aġiaġu

**HARPOON**
1. akłunaaq; ugru
2. avataqpak; ali
3. qayaq; aivaniaq
4. aivi; nauli
5. naulik; aivi; ugru
6. umia
Below are the answers (bases and words) for the fill-in-the-blank questions on page 5 of each lesson. Also provided are a link to the record for each object on the Sharing Knowledge website, where you will find detailed information and images.

HIGH-KICK BALL http://alaska.si.edu/record.asp?id=284
1. aqsra; aqsraa
2. kivgiq
3. aqsraatchiaq; qargi
4. niqsa; pili; kaviqsi; niqsaq; niqsa

ULU (LARGE) http://alaska.si.edu/record.asp?id=280
1. ivik; niġiksriu; igiaq
2. amiksr
3. mitqu; umia
4. ulu; niqliqi
5. uluqpak; ipik
6. aippaani; aŋmaa; isiŋna

WATERPROOF BOOTS (CHILD’S) http://alaska.si.edu/record.asp?id=353
1. iyalu; iyalu
2. iyalu; killai
3. saki; natchiurat; paniq
4. pauk; paniq; natchiq
5. ami; ugru
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

WEBSITES

Alaska Native Language Center  http://www.uaf.edu/anlc

Alaskool   http://www.alaskool.org

Sharing Knowledge   http://alaska.si.edu

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1988  *Ugiuvangmiut Quliapyuit King Island Tales: Eskimo History and Legends from Bering Strait*. Transcribed and translated by Margaret Seeganna, Gertrude Analoak; compiled and edited by Lawrence D. Kaplan with assistance from Margaret Yocom. Fairbanks: Alaska Native Language Center and University of Alaska Press.

Murdoch, John

Oquilluk, William A., with the assistance of Laurel Bland

Pulu, Tupou l. (Qipuk), Ruth (Tatqavin) Ramoth-Sampson, and Angeline (Ipiilik) Newlin