Métis Nation of Ontario Early Learning & Child Care

ELCC ADVISORS' BOOK CLUB

Our Book Recommendation:

Forest Magic: A guidebook for Little Woodland Explorers by Sarah Grindler

Synopsis:

Forest Magic is an enchanting resource designed to inspire curiosity and foster a deep connection to nature in young learners This beautifully illustrated guidebook invites children to explore the wonders of the forest, encouraging hands-on exploration, imaginative play, and an appreciation for the natural world.

Age Recommendation: 3+

Where to purchase:

- Strong Nation

Why We love It

This book is packed with engaging activities, thoughtful prompts, and nature inspired wisdom, it provides educators with a tool to spark outdoor learning, support environmental stewardship, and nurture a sense of wonder in their students. This book invites children to experience the magic of a forest with all their senses, immersing them in the sights, sounds, smells, and textures of nature. Full of rich, descriptive language, it encourages meaningful connections to the natural world and enhances children's vocabulary and observation skills. Perfect for integrating into nature based education programs or enhancing discussions about ecosystems and sustainability

Metis Connections

Forest Magic by Sarah Grindler beautifully reflects the deep connection between Métis culture and the natural world. The book's themes of wonder, respect for the land, and the interwoven relationships of all living things align with Métis values of land-based learning and traditional knowledge. By exploring nature's magic, educators can inspire children to develop a sense of belonging, stewardship, and appreciation for the land, just as Métis communities have for generations.

Additional Resource and Link

Here is a YouTube video featuring Sarah Grindler reading Forest Magic: A Guidebook for Little Woodland Explorers aloud. This engaging read-aloud takes place in a forest setting, accompanied by her child, creating an authentic and inspiring connection to the book's theme.

Let's Read a Story! | Storytime with Sarah Grindler | Forest Magic - YouTube

Scaffolding Activitiy

Magnifying Glasses and Bug Carriers: Bring magnifying glasses and bug carriers to explore a nurse log or other areas of interest. Encourage the children to observe closely: What do they see? What do they notice? Provide bug carriers for safely placing insects inside to observe them up close. This activity fosters curiosity and introduces children to the small yet fascinating life forms in the forest.

Connection to "How Does Learning Happen?" Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years

Belonging: connecting children to the natural environment and encouraging them to work together to explore, observe, and share discoveries. In Métis culture, a deep relationship with the land is central to identity, learning, and community. Through land-based experiences, children develop respect, appreciation, and a sense of stewardship, strengthening their connection to both nature and their

Let's Chat About the Book!

For each book we cover, you can join us and chat about it in the MNO Education Hub's "ELCC Professionals" discussion area! See you there!

Don't have the app? Download it by scanning the QR code.

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