

ELCC ADVISORS' NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Métis Like Me Presentation

Join us virtually
March 25th
at 6:30 pm EST



Inspired by “Métis Like Me” by Tasha Hilderman, this presentation invites educators to explore the “Métis Like Me” Story Bag and how small world play supports children’s curiosity and imagination while introducing Métis heritage and ways of life. Participants will learn about the thoughtfully selected materials and play-based experiences included in the kit.

This session will explore outdoor learning inquiry while extending conversations about cultural appreciation, Truth and Reconciliation and responsibility when engaging with Métis knowledge, stories, and way of life. Educators will be introduced to ideas and activities that complement the resource cards provided in the kit. These activities provide opportunity for outdoor exploration, land-based learning, and inquiry through Métis-inspired themes. They also support children in connecting their own lived experiences as well helping them develop understanding and respect for others ways of life and the land.

Participants will leave with practical ideas to support inclusive, play-based learning where children develop a sense of belonging and respect for diverse cultures. Subject to availability, participants will be provided a “Métis Like Me” Story Bag to use in their own early learning environments.



ELCC Advisor Resources Available for Purchase!

Did you know that Wintergreen Learning Materials now offers Métis-centered resources developed by the MNO ELCC Advisory Team?

- Giving Tree Story Bag
- Christmas Mitten Story Bag
- Ways to Carry a Métis Baby Story Bag
- Métis Like Me Story Bag

Please connect with the Advisor team if you would like any training opportunity to accompany your story bag kit.



Mark your calendars

An Evening With Dr. Shelley Moore

May 14th 2026
6:00 pm - 8:00 EST



300 spaces
Registration opens soon!

Step into Spring

"We, the Métis are people of the lands.... We have respect for each other, for the land and for the animal and plant life that surrounds us."

- Statement of Prime Purpose,
Métis Nation of Ontario.

Spring is a season of renewal and change. As the world awakens from its winter slumber, we welcome sunshine, longer days and so much more. The changes spring brings allow us to engage in sensory rich experiences with our little ones.

How Does Learning Happen? "Every child has a sense of belonging when he or she is connected to others and contributes to their world." Children can develop a sense of belonging as they explore the seasonal change in their outdoor environment together.

Here are a few immersive experiences that can support this learning



Sight

Bring the children outdoors and provide them time to wander and observe the changes that are happening around them. As educators, we can provide them with the language of changes as we engage in conversation with them of the changes happening before their eyes. We can notice how the world is becoming colorful once again.

Hearing

The world under snow is a little quieter. Take a moment to listen to the changes in the season; water running, birds chirping, splashing in puddles, the wind blow, rain falling. Taking a simple moment to listen also encourages children with self-regulation. Being



present to what is around them and how they may feel themselves.



Feel

A variety of sensory opportunities come with the change of season. Melting snow, squishy mud, warm sun, and gentle breezes. So much learning can happen through our hands allowing children to explore. Spring can be a messy season, but it is important to embrace it and have fun!

Smell

Invite the children to take a deep breath and smell all the wonderful things around them. "What is your favorite smell?", "How does it make you feel?"



Taste

Spring is the season which we make maple syrup. Maple syrup was and is an important food source for the Métis people. This was not only to bring them nourishment but also to use for trade. Maple syrup is still enjoyed to this day. If you have the ability, allow children to taste maple syrup. Watch this video how Maple syrup is made.



Spring is a time when the land wakes up, the water flows and new life begins. Bring little ones outside to watch, listen, take care and appreciate the world that surrounds them.

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