

# Continuing Learning

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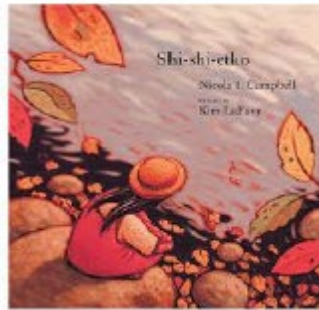


**Level:** Grades K -7

**Category:** Literacy

**Title of Lesson:**

Shi-shi-etko



**Goals/Objectives:**

Shi-shi-etko is a beautifully written story that gently introduces the subject of residential schools to younger children. In the youtube link below, the mayor of Edmonton provides a brief introduction to residential schools in Canada. Children will explore the value of being connected to family, and to our traditional territories. We will discuss how the teachings we learn from our families at home can help us deal with difficult situations. We will complete a visualization activity and can put together a memory bag with natural objects.

**Materials Needed:**

- Access to the internet with the ability to stream video, using a phone, tablet or computer.
- **Shi-shi-etko**, by Nicola Campbell, illustrated by Kim LaFave. Mayor of Edmonton reading the picture book on YouTube. Link: <https://youtu.be/P5B3ReaLQeY>
- blank paper, pencil, pencil crayons

1. Before Reading

- Inform students that good readers can make pictures in their mind while they read. Nicola Campbell uses such descriptive language in her book that it is easy to picture the story as it is told. Share a phrase, such as "...watched the sunlight dance butterfly steps across her mother's sleeping face..."

2. While Reading

- Listen to the reading of Shi-shi-etko focussing on the beautiful illustrations. Pause video and discuss some strong visualization words written by the author.

2. After Reading

- Have students describe activities Shi-shi-etko does with her mother, her father, and her Yayah. Have them share an activity they do with a special family member.

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4. Visualization Activity
  - Read a few quotes. Have children choose one quote to copy and have them now illustrate their visualization on a blank piece of paper. You can print out the leaf worksheet or draw the leaf shape on a blank piece of paper. Attached is the quotes, leaf worksheet and a completed example.

## Extension Activity

5. Memory Bag
  - Go outdoors and collect natural objects such as small stones, shells, sprigs, leaves, feathers, etc. Have children place a few of these items into their felt or fabric (using fall colours) memory bag. Have them also write one word that describes family (e.g. love, strength, teachings, stories) to include in their memory bag. Using a draw string, weave it through the holes to close the bag. Add a couple pony beads to decorate the draw string.



Visualizing Activity adapted from *The Power of Story: Exploring First Nations Literature through Reading Power*. Created by Kaitlin McWhinney and Sarah Hudson in collaboration with Adrienne Gear.