

Appendix A: Essential Understandings and Guiding Questions

Appendix A lists the essential understandings emerging from this concept-based *Community and Diversity* interdisciplinary unit, and the guiding questions suggested for inquiry that promote higher level thinking in students.

Major Concepts

- English Language Arts: Communication
- Mathematics: Change
- Science: Improvement
- Social Studies: Human Needs

Essential Understandings

- Communities consist of diverse populations.
- Populations within a community interact and adapt.
- People are responsible for protecting and sustaining our environment.
- People must value and celebrate the rich diversity of the community.

Guiding Questions

- What is community?
- Who are members of a community?
- What are the physical and natural environment, people, and places that make up the Manitoba community?
- Why are adaptations necessary within a community?
- How do populations interact within a community?
- How does diversity enrich community?
- What cultural communities can be found in the Manitoba community?
- How does identity and culture influence community?
- How is our personal identity influenced within a community?
- How do artistic and cultural achievements contribute to the community?
- How can our Manitoba community connect with the global community?
- How can we use traditional knowledge and technology to care for and sustain our community and our environment?

References

Information about planning integrated units can be found in the following resources:

- Erickson, H. Lynn, and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. *Planning Integrated Units: A Concept-Based Approach: Facilitator's Guide*. Videocassette and Facilitator's Guide. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 1997.
- Manitoba Education and Youth. "Chapter 6: Integrated Learning through Inquiry: A Guided Planning Model." *Independent Together: Supporting the Multilevel Learning Community*. Winnipeg, MB: Manitoba Education and Youth, 2003. Available online at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/multilevel/>.
- Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth. *Tutorial: How to Use the ELA Foundation for Implementation*. Winnipeg, MB: Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, 2007. PowerPoint presentation available at <www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/ela/ffi_slideshow2007.pps>.

