



# What is Inuvialuit Pitqusiit Inuuniarutait?

[www.inuvialuitlivinghistory.ca](http://www.inuvialuitlivinghistory.ca)

## Lesson Plan 1



# Background

## What is Inuvialuit Pitqusiit Inuuniarutait?



E-7729  
Pouch

This project is focused on a little-known collection of objects housed at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Called the MacFarlane Collection after Roderick MacFarlane, the Hudson's Bay trader who assembled the objects, the collection includes nearly 5000 natural history specimens, such as birds' eggs and animal skeletons, and more than 300 cultural objects collected from Anderson River Inuvialuit in the 1860s. Few people have ever seen the collection in its entirety, as it has been in the Smithsonian's care for nearly 150 years. In 2009, our project team sought to change this situation by raising funds to take a group of Inuvialuit Elders, traditional knowledge experts, and educators to Washington for a week-long workshop with the collection. This modest start brought much interest from the Inuvialuit and museum communities, and from the local and national media. The trip launched a much broader program of outreach with Inuvialuit youth, Elders, and community members, and the generation of new knowledge about the MacFarlane Collection and its ongoing life in Inuvialuit communities, that we describe in this website called 'Inuvialuit Pitqusiit Inuuniarutait', which means 'Inuvialuit Living History' in Inuvialuktun.

\*Parts of this lesson plan are hyperlinked to: [www.inuvialuitlivinghistory.ca](http://www.inuvialuitlivinghistory.ca)



# Lesson

# 1A

Grade 4



E-1677  
Belt Buckle

## Curriculum Links:

(NWT Social Studies)

- Reflect on how stories of other times and places connect to students' personal experience
- Demonstrate an understanding of how the fur trade represented both continuity and change for the way people lived in the North
- Demonstrate awareness of the stories of people who participated in the fur trade

## Procedure:

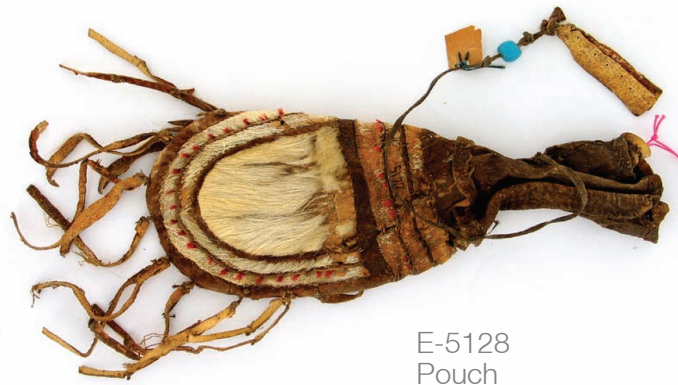
With students, go to 'About' section of the website and read through the following links:

1. [About](#)
2. [The Inuvialuit](#)
3. [The MacFarlane Collection](#)

Once you have read through each section have students fill out the following worksheet.



# worksheet



1. What is the meaning of 'Inuvialuit Pitqusiit Inuuniarutait' and why was this name chosen for the website?

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2. Describe the MacFarlane Collection:

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3. Why was this website created? Who was it created for?

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4. Who are the Inuvialuit and their ancestors?

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# discussion questions



E-7438  
Arrow Tool Kit

- What do you find interesting about the website as a way to get Inuvialuit involved with the MacFarlane Collection?
- What do you think it would feel like to see this collection for the first time?
- How does this website help preserve and teach Inuvialuit culture?

## post-activity

View the documentary by the Inuvialuit Communications Society: “[A Case of Access: The MacFarlane Collection](#)”. Ask students to choose a part of the documentary and share with the class why they liked it and what it taught them.



# Lesson

# 1B

Grade 9



E-2070  
Bracelet

## Curriculum Links:

(NWT Social Studies)

- The essential elements of Canada's trade relations with other nations through history
- The origins, identities and distributions of Canada's first peoples
- The major economic resources of each physical region

## Procedure:

With students, go to the 'About' section of the website and read through the following links:

1. [About](#)
2. [The Inuvialuit](#)
3. [The MacFarlane Collection](#)
4. [Intellectual Property](#)

Once you have read through each section have students fill out the following worksheet.



# worksheet



E-1093  
Ice Scoop

1. What is the origin of Inuvialuit culture?

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2. What was the importance of the trading that took place between Inuvialuit of the Anderson River area and Roderick MacFarlane?

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3. What do you think the MacFarlane Collection can teach us about Inuvialuit history? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. What is repatriation? Can the MacFarlane Collection be repatriated?

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# discussion questions



E-2315  
Saw

- How does this website keep Inuvialuit history alive?
- Why was trading important in the past and why is it important today for Inuvialuit (or is it)?
- How do you think Inuvialuit will benefit from the use of this website?

## post-activity

View the documentary by the Inuvialuit Communications Society (ICS):  
“A Case of Access: The MacFarlane Collection”.

Ask students to write a letter of interest to the Smithsonian Institution in support of the collection and what they think it would be like to see the collection for the first time.



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