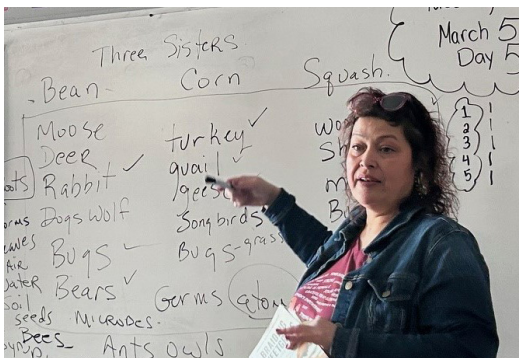


FEATURE of the WEEK

Cookem Daisey

Cookem Daisey is a member of Sagkeeng First Nation and Peepeekisis First Nations. She was adopted by her Uncle and Métis Aunt and raised in Treaty 1 Territory. Her name is unique and intentionally spelled “Cookem” to honor the time she spent cooking with her grandmother, who inspired her to start her catering company, “Kookum” is Cree for grandmother.



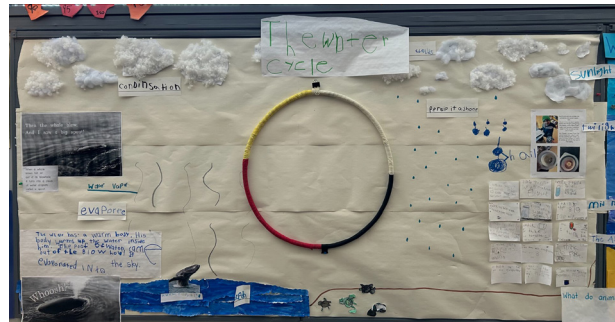
Cookem Daisey is working with several classes at Dawson Trail School this year, as part of the Elder and Knowledge Keeper grant. Through this experience,

students are exploring the inquiry question, “What can animals teach us about who we are, where we come from, why we are here, and where we are going?” With her guidance, staff, and students are exploring how animals work respectfully and collaboratively within their communities to achieve a common goal that benefits the well-being of all and apply this new learning to their own community contexts of family, classroom, and school.

Some classes have been learning about the characteristics and needs of living things and air and water in the environment. They have been studying the water cycle and how air and water contribute to the health and survival of all living things, which of course, includes them living in their communities. Using these science and social studies curricular connections, students can explore big concepts such as connection, relationships, and reciprocity

of water and living things through multiple perspectives.

“Cookem Daisey shares her knowledge through stories, a variety of texts, food, and hands-on materials that meaningfully connect to the curricular concepts being taught in each classroom. Having her join the team at Dawson Trail School has had powerful, positive impacts because the knowledge she shares, and the real-world connections students make, extend the learning for students and deepen their understanding,” says Veronica Thomas, Instructional Coach. “The students look forward to Cookem Daisey coming to the school, and they continue to share their connections and new learning long after she leaves. Students are recognizing that teaching and learning is powerful when we collaborate, share stories, ideas, and perspectives, and when everyone’s voice is valued and respected in our communities.”



HONESTY

EMPATHY

RESPECT

