

Teaching Wabanaki Studies in Elementary School

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Kaya Lolar-- Penobscot, John Bapst

Brianne Lolar

- Penobscot
- First grade teacher at RSU #34
- Previously taught Kindergarten, CH 104 and ed tech in the Library



Kaya Lolar

- Penobscot
- Senior at John Bapst Memorial High School
- Attended RSU #34 until eighth grade



Those of you are here, thank you. You are the ones that are willing to do the hard work.

Woliwoni

What is LD 291?

- Law passed in 2001
- Public schools (K-12) must cover content on Maine Native Tribes
 - Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Abenaki
- Often referred to as Wabanaki Studies

Why isn't it being implemented to its full potential?

- In the past 20 years the implementation has ebbed and flowed
- Originally passed unfunded
 - Funding was made available through grants and educational outreach which has dwindled over time
- \$ for trainings
- Intensives
- Curriculums
- Teacher training programs- MAT
- Law does not pertain to any tribes outside of Maine
- Lack of readily available kits- nor should they be

What can we do now?

- Show up
- Be deliberate in our objectives
- Be culturally responsive
- There is no easy fix
- Go easy on yourself
- Keep trying to improve

“WHAT WE DON'T
NEED IN THE MIDST
OF STRUGGLE IS
SHAME FOR BEING
HUMAN.”

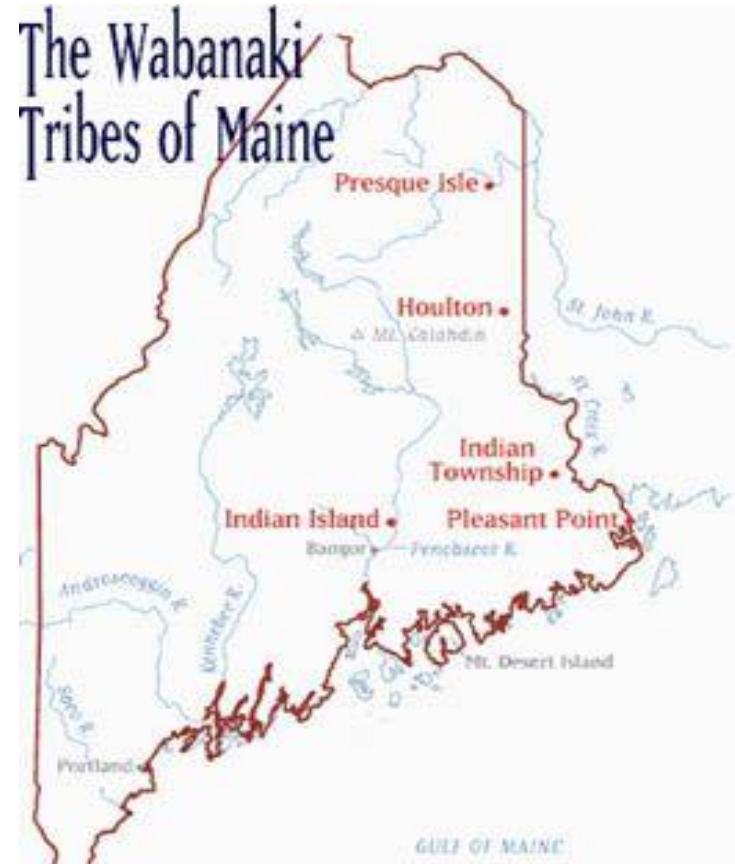
- BRENE BROWN

Distinguished Graduate Program

- Capstone project through John Bapst
- College courses at UMaine: NAS 101, NAS 202, NAS 203
- Task force for Wabanaki Studies
- Resource kits for RSU #34

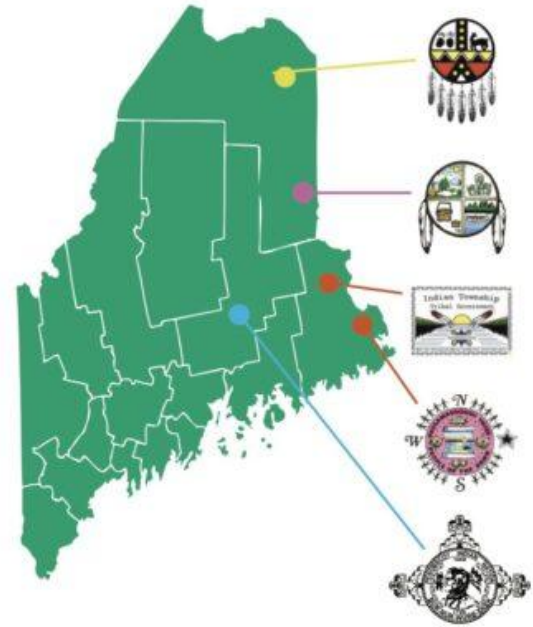
Kindergarten

- Start in the present
 - Family traditions
 - Start with where you're at
 - Listen to music
 - Watch the dances
 - Start celebrating
- Indigenous Peoples Day
- Teach Thanksgiving as a time to give thanks, not the Mayflower story



- Penobscot Reservation, Indian Island 04468
- Passamaquoddy Reservation, Indian Township, Princeton 04668
- Passamaquoddy Reservation, Pleasant Point, Perry 04667
- Aroostook band of Mi'kmaq, Presque Isle
- Houlton band of Maliseets, Maliseet, Houlton
- Abenaki

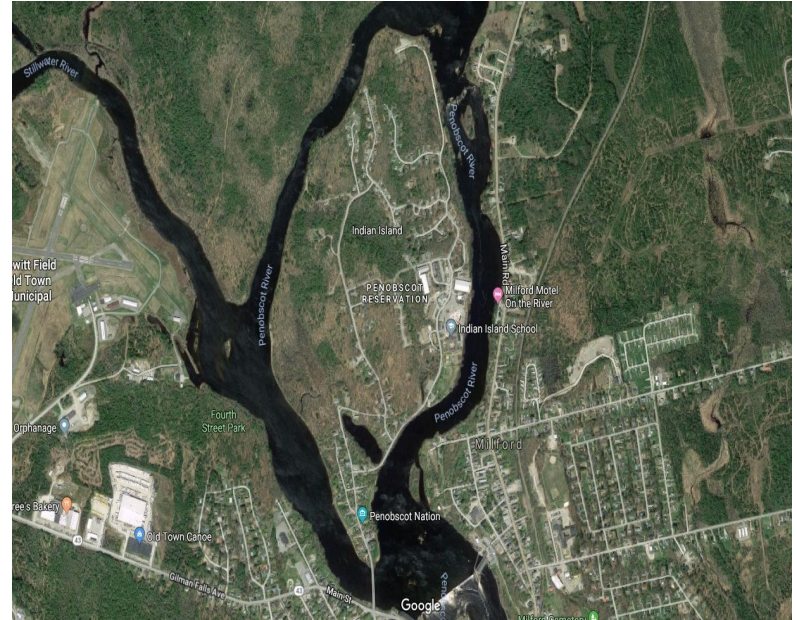
Federal & State Recognized Tribes of Maine



- Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians
- Passamaquoddy Tribe
- Penobscot Nation

First Grade

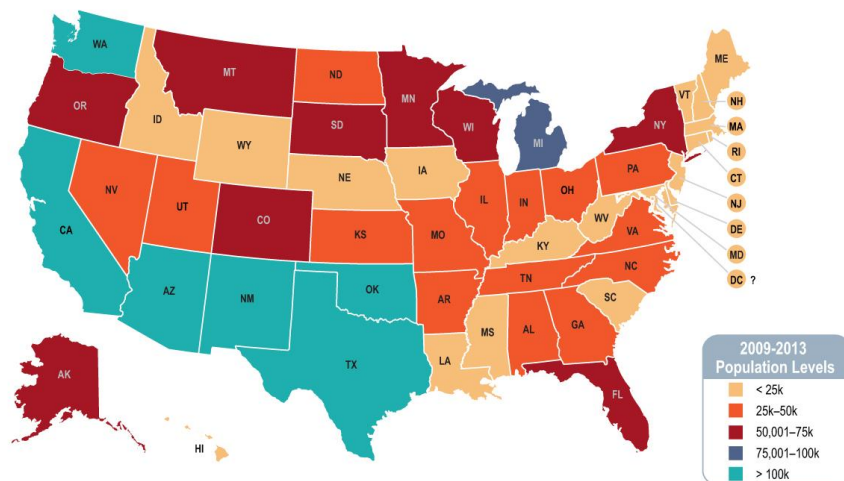
- Community
- Holidays around the world



Second Grade

- Continents
- North America
- 573 federally recognized tribes

2009-2013 American Indian and Alaska Native State Populations



Third Grade

- Language
- Natural resources
- Land
- Emerald Ash Borer

Suggested Resources:

Our Lives in Our Hands

Video of basketmaking for teachers' viewing

Florence Nicola Shay: A Penobscot Basketmaker and Tribal Advocate by Kate Kennedy

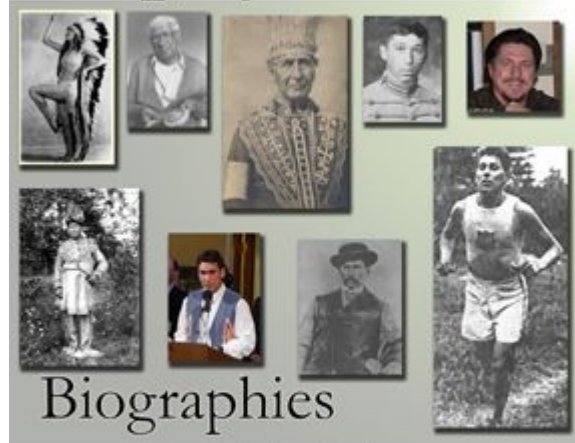
Penobscot Basket Maker Barbara Francis
Many Hands: A Penobscot Indian Story by
Angeli Perrow (Penobscot)

Kunu's Basket A Story from Indian Island By
Lee DeCora Francis E FRA (Penobscot)

Fourth Grade

- Maine people
- Maine events
- Geography- The Penobscot River
- https://docs.google.com/document/d/11eMcG5Hl64GuCEMZN8HbFEJmlR_oUTDZHwzxVanI-Ko/edit

Biographies Unit



Unit designed by the
Penobscot Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Department



Fifth Grade

- History of Maine
- Penobscots in the military
- Stereotypes
- https://docs.google.com/document/d/11eMcG5Hl64GuCEMZN8HbFEJmlR_oUTDZHwzxVanI-Ko/edit

Penobscots in the Military



Middle School

- Military
- Stereotypes
- Disease
- Geography
- Current Events
- https://docs.google.com/document/d/15iPyW_c5GZ_g0oEH1KF70juyw16LW-Vs3io_cjII6rFo/edit

Stereotype Unit

Evaluation Skills



Mascot Issue

Resource Lists of recommended resources, for children and teachers.

List of not-so-good resources with explanations of "why?"



Stereotypes

Your School's Media Specialist has an important job



Unit designed by the
Penobscot Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Department



High School

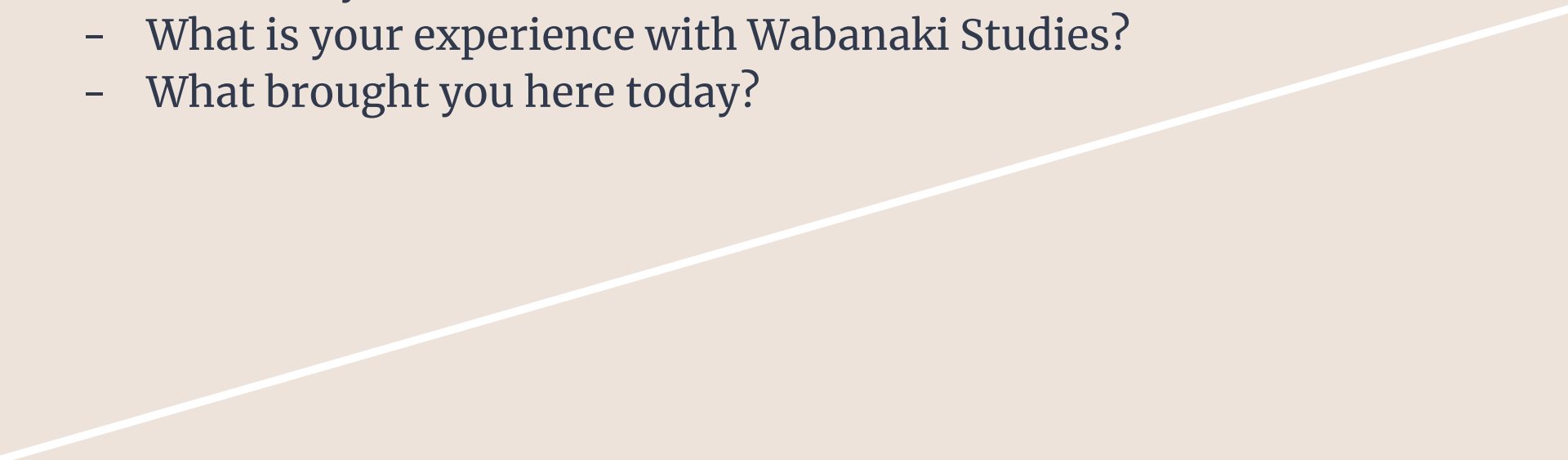
- Cultural systems and history
- Economic systems
- Civics and government
- Geography and territory
- Contemporary essays: persuasive



Conclusion



Questions & Comments

- What are your barriers?
 - What is your experience with Wabanaki Studies?
 - What brought you here today?
- 

Resources

K-5

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11eMcG5Hl64GuCEMZN8HbFEJmlR_oUTDZHwzxVanI-Ko/edit

6-12

https://docs.google.com/document/d/15iPyW_c5GZg00EH1KF7ojuyw16LW-Vs3i0_cjHI6rFo/edit?usp=sharing