Michif Minecraft Lesson 2: Bison Camp and Hunt

Lesson #	Length of Time	Topic
2 / 3	20 minutes	Objective 2: Bison Camp and Hunt

Lesson Description
In this lesson, students will step into Métis history by traveling to a bison hunting camp and participating in a traditional hunt within Minecraft Education. They'll meet key figures like Gabriel Dumont, learn about community roles, and deliver resources to Kohkum, exploring the cultural importance of the bison hunt and Métis values.

Essential Question
How did the bison hunt reflect the Métis people's values of sustainability, community, and respect for nature?

Learning Objectives
After this lesson, students will be able to:

- Explain the bison hunt's role in Métis culture and survival.
- Describe community members' contributions to the hunt.
- Understand sustainable hunting practices and their importance.
- Use in-game tools like the Red River cart and bow and arrow to complete tasks.

Key Vocabulary

- Bison hunt: A Métis tradition of hunting bison for essential resources.
- Sustainable hunting: Hunting responsibly to preserve animal populations.
- Kohkum: Michif for grandmother, a respected community elder.
- Red River cart: A Métis wooden cart for transporting goods.
- Hide: Animal skin used for clothing and shelter.

Materials + Resources

- Computers with Minecraft Education installed
- Educator guide (included with the Michif Minecraft experience)
- Notebooks or in-game portfolio for reflection

Getting Started

- Load the Michif Minecraft world on student devices.
- Share the lesson objectives and agenda with students.
- Make sure everyone starts at the correct location within the experience.
- Stress the cultural importance of the bison hunt in Métis traditions.

MAIN ACTIVITY (18 min)
Say: “We’re heading to a bison hunting camp to join a traditional Métis hunt and learn about their sustainable practices and community spirit.”
Launch Minecraft Education and assist with any technical setup. Or continue the experience from where Objective 1 ended.

Part 1: Journey to the Bison Camp (4 min)
- Objective: Travel to the camp and meet initial community members.
- Instructions:
    - Meet Gus at the Visitor Centre: Get the Red River cart and travel instructions.
    - Head north: Follow the RED infinity flags using the cart.
    - Meet Thomas Bird: Hear a quick note about the white bison’s significance.
- Teacher Tip: If the cart gets stuck, students can break and reposition it.

Part 2: At the Bison Hunting Camp (6 min)
- Objective: Learn about the hunt and community roles.
- Instructions:
    - Arrive and meet Gabriel Dumont: Get a bow and arrow and hear about sustainable hunting.
    - Talk to Philomena: Learn about bison resources and non-hunters’ roles.
    - Chat briefly with Sammy about community teamwork.
- Teacher Tip: Focus on Gabriel and Philomena for core insights.

Part 3: The Bison Hunt (8 min)
- Objective: Hunt a bison and contribute resources to the community.
- Instructions:
    - Hunt: Use the bow and arrow to take down one bison (about two arrows).
    - Gather: Collect meat, hide, and bones.
    - Deliver: Bring resources to Kohkum in the tent near Gabriel.
    - Contribute: Click “Contribute” to share with the community.
- Teacher Tip: Reinforce hunting just one to two bison as a sustainable choice.

WRAP-UP (2 min)
Activity: Quick Reflection
- Objective: Tie the experience to the Essential Question.
- Instructions:
    - Ask: “What Métis value did you see in the bison hunt?”
    - Students share one word or phrase about their takeaway.
- Optional: Record a brief note in the portfolio or notebook.

Things to Consider
- Cultural Respect: Emphasize the bison hunt’s role in Métis life and nature’s balance.
- Time Management: Keep activities flowing smoothly.

- Technical Help: Support students with navigation or controls as needed. If their cart gets stuck, remind them to break it and replace it.