



# MINECRAFT

## EDUCATION EDITION

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## MANITO AHBEE AKI: THE PLACE WHERE THE CREATOR SITS

Educator Guide – Phase 1

Find the student guide for this phase [here](#).

## Game Overview

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Boozoo Aniin, in the Manito Ahbee Aki Minecraft World, participants will have the opportunity to travel back in time to visit Manitoba, Canada before European contact in North America. Players will live amongst the Anishinaabe Nation to learn and understand how Indigenous peoples thrived on the land and lived in harmony with Mother Earth.

As a member of the Anishinaabe Nation, you will receive teachings about the environment, including traditional materials for crafting long established items. You will explore a sacred site called Manito Ahbee, located in Manitoba's western Whiteshell area and discover some of the abundant wildlife of the region.

Players will also build a community through collaborative activities such as assembling a tipi, making birch bark canoes and participating in a bison hunt. Through gameplay and in-game lessons, players will learn about the Anishinaabe worldview, gain knowledge from Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and develop an understanding of how Anishinaabe people respected the earth and all living things.

### **There are three phases in Manito Ahbee Aki**

Phase 1: Explore Manito Ahbee Aki

Phase 2: Travel to Manito Ahbee (Petroforms) and Gather and Craft

Phase 3: Design a Community and Establish Food Sovereignty

Storytelling is very important in the Anishinaabe culture and way of life. In the Manito Ahbee Aki world there are Knowledge Keepers teachings that will help the students understand the challenges in the game and the Anishinaabe way of life.

In Anishinaabe culture, it's important to offer tobacco to receive a teaching from a Knowledge Keeper. The students spawn with tobacco in their inventory. The students' tobacco inventory will reflect the offering given to a Knowledge keeper, after a teaching is received.



## Meet the In Game Guides:



## Knowledge Keepers:



## Look for these icons in the Teacher Guide:

- ❖ Knowledge Keeper teachings
- ✓ Challenges to complete in the world
- Things to gather and craft
- Things to plan and think about to be successful in the world
- ★ Extended Knowledge Keeper Videos



## Phase 1: Explore Manito Ahbee Aki

### Lesson Overview:

Students will spawn at the Forks, which is the meeting place of the two rivers, the Red and the Assiniboine. At the Forks, Indigenous peoples would come together to trade and collaborate. This meeting place was and is very important for the Anishinaabe Peoples.

The Forks today is still a meeting place for people to explore the history of the land, to visit markets or participate in gatherings, festivals and celebrations.

### Teacher Role:

Tell the students to imagine they are a member of the Anishinaabe community living on Turtle Island 5000 years ago before European contact. In Phase 1 student are to explore their home and learn valuable information and teachings from the Knowledge Keepers.

**Tell the students to work together and stay together and complete each phase before moving to the next phase**

### Knowledge Keeper Teachings

Tell the students to visit the Knowledge Keepers for teachings on the following:

- ❖ Sema (Tobacco) – Grandmother Chickadee
- ❖ Skkode (Fire) – Knowledge Keeper Vern
- ❖ Giizhiko (sky) and Giizis (sun) to how to determine direction – Knowledge Keeper Isaak

### Plan

- The student's Minecraft inventory will include a camera, journal & quill, tobacco and berries



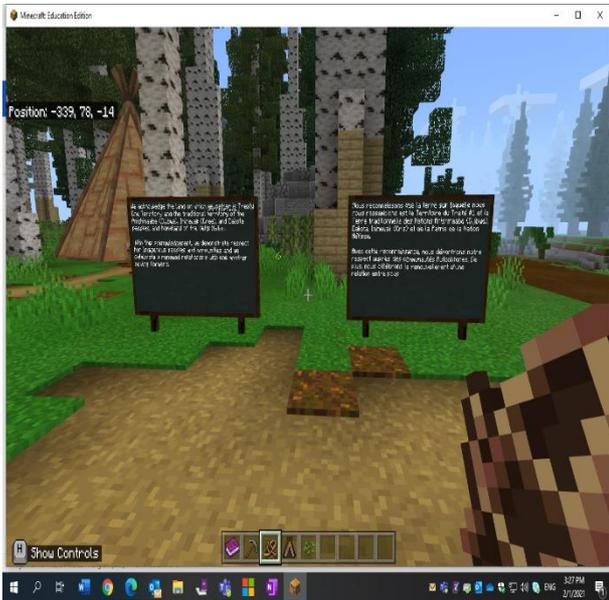
- Have the students use the camera and journal to document their findings as they explore (environment and animals)





**Have Students Do:**

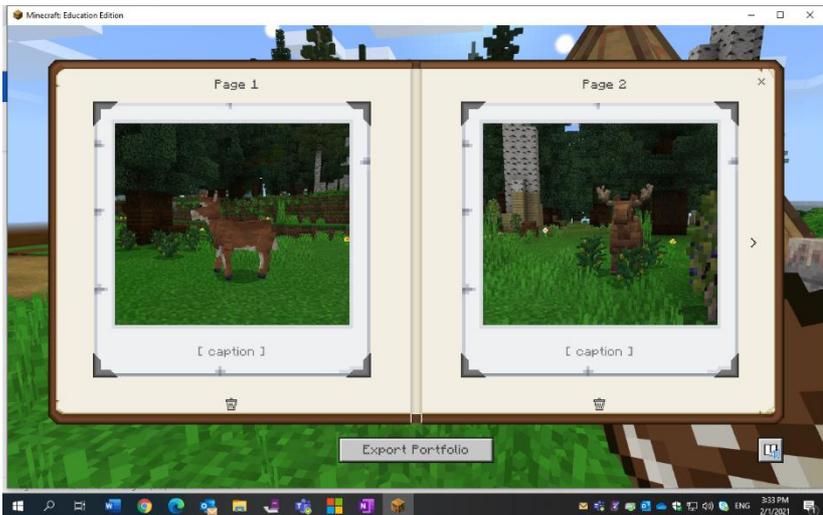
- ✓ Review the land acknowledgement boards and explore the environment and location.



- ✓ Record the x, y and z coordinates of the land acknowledgement boards at the Forks.



- ✓ Take photos with the in-game camera as you go. Using the journal, insert the photos and describe any discoveries including vegetation and animals you recognize and don't recognize.



- ✓ Discuss in class the design of a tipi. What are the important considerations for building a tipi?
- ✓ List three adjective to describe this place and how it makes you feel, giving reason for your choice
- ✓ Describe why it's importance to give semaa (tobacco) to receive teachings



- ✓ Have the students place rocks or branches on the ground to help remember directions.
  - ✓ Keewatinong (north), Zhaawanong (south), Wabaanoong (east), Ningabwenoong (west)

#### Extended Knowledge Keeper Teachings Videos

- ★ [Sema \(Tobacco\)](#)
- ★ [Skkode \(Fire\)](#)
- ★ [Cardinal Direction](#)

#### [Knowledge Keeper Extended Teaching Videos – Youtube Channel](#)



## Lesson Plans:

### Gaining knowledge about Fire, Water and Cardinal Directions:

Description: Players will proceed to the area with tipis and interact with three NPCs for the teachings about Fire, Water and Cardinal Direction using the sun and stars.

Social Studies grades 3-6

Language Arts grade 3-6

Competencies: Citizenship, Collaboration and Critical Thinking and Writing.

Time: 15 mins

**Learning Objective:** Students will learn about the importance Fire, Water and the Cardinal directions using the sun and stars.

After students complete Phase 1 the teacher can give the students three critical thinking questions with regards to the acquired information. Students can write down their reflections regarding the questions for assessment.

Note: See bottom of document for fire response sheet.

#### [Extended Teaching video about fire](#)

- Summarize the description of Fire given by Vern in the game? Does this change your perspective about fire? How do you feel about Fire?

Water: Teacher initiates the following discussion about water:

#### [Extended Teaching video about water](#)

- Knowing the Anishinaabe world view of water, how do you think the use of water in your area of the world is looked upon?
- Knowing the Anishinaabe world view of water, how do you think the use of Shoal Lake to supply Winnipeg's water, has affected the Anishinaabe of Shoal Lake?
  - Use the video link below to allow students to inquire about the above question.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onxeHGYtC2s>

Cardinal Direction: Teacher initiates the following discussion:

#### [Extended Teaching video about cardinal direction, sun and stars](#)

- Are the sun or stars still used today to find directions, or has technology replaced that need? When might you use the Sun or stars to figure out a direction?

### Extension activities:

1. You have learned about the importance of Water and sustainability to the Anishinaabe's Peoples. Now research the current local concerns about the Earth's water and write a short report on what you discover.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/sustainable-earth/water/#close>

2. Using a Contrast and Compare sheet, have the students look at the Forks today and compare it to the past.

Note: See end of document for sample page.

- Have the students try to imagine the differences and write a description of the Forks 5000 years ago, <https://www.theforks.com/about/the-forks%20>



Name:

Date:

**Fire Teaching**

How do you view the use and importance of fire?

Summarize the description of fire given by Vern in the game.

Has your perspective changed? Explain your thoughts.

Concept 1: The Forks Today

Concept 2: The Forks of the Past

How are they alike?

How are they different?

