

Instructional Outline A Counterblast

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Drug Literacy

Big ideas

- x People have been using drugs for thousands of years and in almost every human culture
- x Drugs can be tremendously helpful and also very harmful
- x As humans, both individually and as communities, we need to learn how to manage the drugs in our lives
- x We can learn how to control our drug use by reflecting on the different ways people have thought about drugs, exploring stories from various cultures and listening to each other

Competencies

- x Assess the complex ways in which drugs impact the health and wellbeing of individuals, families, communities and societies
- x Explore and appreciate diversity related to the reasons people use drugs, the impact of drug use and the social attitudes toward various drugs
- x Recognize binary constructs (e.g., good vs bad) and assess their limitation in addressing complex social issues like drug use
- x Recognize how official reactions to drugs often have less to do with the drug than with other factors
- x Develop social and communication skills in addressing discourse and behaviour related to drugs

Links to Curriculum

First Peoples' principles of learning

- x Learning ultimately supports the well-being of the self, the family, the community, the land, the spirits, and the ancestors
- x Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational (focused on connectedness, on reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place)
- x Learning is embedded in memory, history and story

Social Studies 8

- x Recognize binary constructs (e.g., good vs bad) and assess their limitation in addressing complex issues like drug use
- x Exploration, expansion, and colonization had varying consequences for different groups

Competencies

- x Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to: ask questions; gather, interpret and analyze ideas; and communicate findings and decisions
- x Assess the significance of people, places, events and developments at particular times and places
- x Determine what factors led to particular decisions, actions and events, and assess their short- and long-term consequences
- x Make ethical judgments about past events, decisions and actions, and assess the limitations of drawing direct lessons from the past