



The Authentic Deconstruction Approach

The Authentic Deconstruction Approach is a holistic model designed to be used when teaching a Comprehensive Literacy program. This approach was created to fulfil the learning needs of both aboriginal and non-aboriginal students' heart, body, mind and spirit. It combines the Medicine Wheel Teachings of the First Nations groups found in our School Boards area. The model aids both teachers and students in critically assessing various forms of media at both at primary, junior and intermediate level to create higher level thinking and awareness within the classroom. Students are encouraged to look at where media is coming from, when it was created, who is being represented and the accuracy and fairness of these representations. The approach can be used in various ways and is open to interpretation by the teachers using it. It could be used as a shared reading lesson planning tool, or a teacher could use just one question from the wheel and focus students on in-depth responses. Included in our package is a; basic medicine wheel teaching overview, direct media literacy connections/terminology, recommended resources and possible applications in the classroom. We have also included divisional lesson plan ideas to aid teachers in the Models use. Our hope is that this Approach will create a new sense of awareness within the classroom and that aboriginal students will see their culture and learning styles/perspectives met.