

Task-Based Activity



Perform Digital Tasks for Cultural Research



OALCF Link

Relevant Goal Paths (Spirit-Vision):

✓	EMPLOYMENT
✓	INDEPENDENCE
✓	POSTSECONDARY
✓	SECONDARY SCHOOL CREDIT
	APPRENTICESHIP

Rationale: Learners on the Employment, Independent, Postsecondary, Secondary School Credit and Apprenticeship Goal Paths need to perform well-defined multi-step digital tasks in order to do research on topics related to their Goal Path, including culture.



Learning Plan Link (Heart- Feeling):

Searching for on-line documents and videos are commonplace activities in all jobs and walks of life. An essential part of online research is the ability to find relevant information on different sites and in different media.

Task-Based Activity Description:

In this task-based activity, the learner will search for an article, as well as a video on the Internet about a successful First Nation women's drum group.



Competency, Task Group and Level Indicator: (Mind - Knowledge) LEVEL:

Find and Use Information			Communicate Ideas and Information				Understand and Use Numbers				Use Digital Technology	Manage Learning	Engage with Others
Read continuous text	Interpret documents	Extract info from films, broadcasts & presentations	Interact with others	Write continuous text	Complete and create documents	Express oneself creatively	Manage money	Manage time	Use measures	Manage data			
A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	E	F
A1.2		A3									D2		

Materials Required

Question Sheet

Pen or pencil and eraser

Computer with Internet access

**Overview of Task (Body-Skills)****Activity Introduction**

Discuss with the learners that this task-based activities asks them to search for and read the assigned online article selection about the Oshkii Giizhik Singers. Next, they will search for and watch a hand-drum performance by that group. They will answer several questions about the content of the article, as well as information related to the postings of both the article and the video.

New Words/Phrases

Review the new words that are being introduced. Explain the meanings of the words to the learner. Not all new words are in the new word list. You may need to review additional words as the learner works through the activity.

Instructions

1. Have the learner fill in their name and the date on the learner sheet.
2. Have the learner complete the pre self-assessment.
3. Review the Learner Task Sheet with the learner.
4. When the learner has completed the activity, have him/her complete the post self-assessment.
5. After the learner has completed the task-based activity, complete the assessment section and review the results with the learner.
6. Discuss next steps with the learner.



Task-Based Activity: Perform Digital Tasks for Cultural Research

Learner Name: _____ Date: _____

Pre self-assessment

I need to improve my skills at reading texts to locate details.

- Yes
- No

I need to improve my skills at writing texts to describe information and ideas.

- Yes
- No

I need to improve my skills at performing digital tasks.

- Yes
- No

New Words

Assessment

Task-Based Activity: Perform Digital Tasks for Cultural Research

Learner Name: _____ Date _____

Practitioner Name: _____

Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Improving	Excellent
A1.2 Scans text to locate information Locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts A3. Extract info from films, broadcasts, and presentations D.2 Selects and follows appropriate steps to complete tasks Locates and recognizes functions and commands Makes low-level inferences to interpret icons and text Performs simple searches using keywords			

The learner needs to work on the following:

This task was successfully completed ___ This task needs to be tried again ___

Practitioner Comments:

Learner Comments:

Question Sheet

Meet the Oshkii Giizhik Singers

You want to learn more about First Nation drums and the role of women. You heard about a group of Ojibwe women who use hand drums to share Anishinaabe culture. You want to learn more about them.

Part One: Find and read an online article.

1. On a computer with Internet access, navigate to a search engine such as Google.com or Bing.com.
2. Perform a search for "Ojibwe women singers learn from their ancestors' voices."
3. Browse through search results until you find an article by this same name from Minnesota Public Radio.
4. Click on the search result to visit the web page.
5. Read the article entitled.

Answer these questions:

A. What date was the original article published?

B. What is the reporter's name?

C. Who were the interviewees for this piece?

D. What is one new thing about First Nations you learned from reading this article?

Part Two: Watch a hand-drum performance by the Oshkii Giizhik Singers.

1. Navigate to www.youtube.com.
2. Use the YouTube search bar to search for "Oshkii Giizhik Singers."
3. Browse through the results and choose one Oshkii Giizhik Singers music-performance video to watch.
4. To enjoy the audio, please use headphones if the computer you are using is within earshot of other students.

Answer these questions:

A. Who posted the video?

B. When was the video posted?

C. What is one new thing about First Nations you learned from watching this video?

Post self-assessment

I think my skills have improved as a result of this activity.

- Yes
- No

I was able to read and understand the instructions.

- Yes
- No

I was able to open a web browser and type in the web page address.

- Yes
- No

Text from the assigned web-site
Minnesota Sounds and Voices: Ojibwe women singers learn from their ancestors' voices

Growing up, Fond du Lac band member Elizabeth Jaakola didn't hear women singing — men were in charge of the songs, women stood in the background.

Now, that's changing, at least here at the Fond du Lac reservation. Jaakola is the creator of Oshkii Giizhik, or New Day Singers, an ensemble of Ojibwe women singers who are finding artistic success on the reservation — and beyond.

Jaakola said the singing is a reminder that Ojibwe culture has always had a role for women as leaders.

"Not to take a role away from anybody, just to take back what is rightfully ours in that balance between a male and female," she said. "Using our voices is really important in that process."

Jaakola and other members of the Oshkii Giizhik Singers rehearse every week at the Fond du Lac Community Collage near Cloquet. The singers perform Thursday in Minneapolis where Jaakola will receive a national award.

The group won the 2009 Native American Music Award for their first CD titled, "It Is A New Day" and are working on a second recording project. The group's first appearances were mostly on the Fond du Lac reservation, but as word spreads they've performed at national events as well.

One selection, "The Anishinaabekwe Song," calls Anishinaabe women to the circle and back to their culture.

"Even though none of us in the group are fluent speakers or first speakers we're pounding through just because it's so important especially for our children," said Sarah Curtiss, one of the vocalists.

Jaakola said she doesn't know the origin of "The Anishinaabekwe Song," only that it's been around for a long time.

All the songs have a story or a legend behind them, she said, including "The Strong Woman's Song." Jaakola said she learned the music from an elder who said Ojibwe women in a Canadian prison sang the song to stay safe during a prison riot.

A TOUGH, BUT BENEFICIAL COMMITMENT

Rehearsal attendance is spotty as members balance family, jobs and transportation. About 10 members perform with the group, but only five came to a recent rehearsal. More than 40 Anishinaabe women have been a part of the group at various times.

In between songs, conversation veers into the latest news about kids, the health of friends and neighbors and the joy of having some time together.

Fond du Lac band member Darcy St. John said among other benefits, singing has helped her kick her smoking habit.

"I can finish a whole vocable or a whole lead now, where, you know before I'd run out of breath, and then I'd complain because the song was going too fast," she said.

The Oshkii Giizhik singers have a wide range of vocal experience. Christal Moose sings in groups and solos. She's a newcomer to the group and said singing traditional tunes with other Ojibwe women fills a void.

"I love music, I sing constantly," she said. "I feel like I'm growing more and more into who I was created to be."

Answer Key

Part 1:

Link to the article:

<http://www.mprnews.org/story/2012/09/27/arts/oshkii-giizhik-fon-du-lac-reservation-female-singers>

Questions:

- A. What date was the original article published? **Sep 27, 2012**
- B. What is the reporter's name? **Dan Olson**
- C. Who were the interviewees for this piece?
Elizabeth Jaakola, Sarah Curtiss, Darcy St. John, Christal Moose
- D. What is one new thing about First Nations you learned from reading this article?
Answers will vary with the learners.

Part 2:

There are a few songs on Youtube, for example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AovCy7-JeCY>

A. and B. The date and name can be found under the video box.



- C. What is one new thing about First Nations you learned from watching the video?
Answers will vary with the learners.