

Task-Based Activity



Read Newspaper First Nations Inventor McCue



OALCF Link

Relevant Goal Paths (Spirit-Vision):

<input type="checkbox"/>	EMPLOYMENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDEPENDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/>	POSTSECONDARY
<input type="checkbox"/>	SECONDARY SCHOOL CREDIT
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPRENTICESHIP

Rationale:

Learners on the Employment, Independence, Postsecondary and Secondary School Credit Goal Paths often need to research career options through various sources, such as doing an internet search and/or reading a newspaper article.



Learning Plan Link (Heart- Feeling):

Learners may need inspiration to pursue career options that they feel are not open to them because of life circumstances. This article describes the dedication of a man from a First Nations community in Southern Ontario to pursue an education while working full-time.

Task-Based Activity Description:

This task-based activity is based on an article from the December 2007 edition of the Anishnabek News following the honouring of Bernard McCue, Beausoleil First Nation, with a National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the Technology and Trades category.

The text is approximately 240 words. Learners will be given an internet link to find this article, be asked to read the text, and to answer questions about it.



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				B2.2 B2.3							D1		

Materials Required

Computer with internet access
 Pen or pencil and eraser
 Question Sheet



Overview of Task (Body-Skills)

Activity Introduction: Discuss with the learner that people feel career options may not be open to them because of life circumstances. Explain that Bernard McCue, Beausoleil First Nation, was encouraged by his father to get an education to make a good life for himself. Bernard's perseverance led to a National Aboriginal Achievement Award.

New Words/Phrases

Review the words/phrases and explain their meanings. 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.
2. Have the learner complete the pre self-assessment.
3. Review the Student Activity 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.

Extension Activities: Ask the learners to describe what impact the work of Bernard McCue has had on their lives – or those of other people



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Learner Name: _____

Date: _____

Pre self-assessment

I need to improve my skills at reading texts to locate and connect ideas and information.

- Yes
- No

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

- Yes
- No

I need to improve my skills at performing digital tasks.

- Yes
- No

New Words

Honoree
synthetic
lubricants
patent
innovative
persevere

Assessment

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Learner Name: _____ **Date** _____

Practitioner Name: _____

Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Improving	Excellent
<p>A1.2 Makes connections between sentences and between paragraphs in a single text</p> <p>Scans text to locate information</p> <p>Locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts</p> <p>Makes low-level inferences</p> <p>Follows the main events of descriptive, narrative, and informational texts</p> <p>Obtains information from detailed reading</p> <p>B2.2 Writes texts to explain or describe</p> <p>Conveys intended meaning on familiar topics for a limited range of purposes and audiences</p> <p>Begins to sequence writing with some attention to organizing principles (e.g. time, importance)</p> <p>Connects ideas using paragraph structure</p> <p>Uses a limited range of vocabulary and punctuation appropriate to the task</p>			

<p>Begins to select words and tone appropriate to the task</p> <p>Begins to organize writing to communicate effectively</p> <p>B2.3 Writes texts to present information, summarize, express opinions, present arguments, convey ideas, or persuade</p> <p>Manages unfamiliar elements (e.g. vocabulary, context, topic) to complete tasks</p> <p>Selects and uses vocabulary, tone, and structure appropriate to the task</p> <p>Organizes and sequences writing to communicate effectively</p> <p>Uses a variety of vocabulary, structures and approaches to convey main ideas with supporting details</p> <p>D1 Follows simple prompts</p> <p>Follows apparent steps to complete tasks</p> <p>Locates specific functions and information</p>			
<p>The learner needs to work on the following:</p>			
<p>This task was successfully completed ___ This task needs to be tried again ___</p>			

Practitioner Comments:

Learner Comments:

Question Sheet:

Make sure the computer's internet connection is on. In the web browser, enter the website <http://anishinabeknews.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/2007-12.pdf>

This will take you to the Volume 19, Issue 10, December 2007 edition of the Anishnabek News, published monthly by the Union of Ontario Indians.

Scroll down to page 3, find the article on Bernard McCue, and answer the following questions.

1. How did McCue's father influence his education?
2. What were some of McCue's successes/accomplishments in his work?
3. In at least 3 paragraphs, describe what impact Bernard's example has on your life.

Post self-assessment

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

- Yes
- No

Award Quenches His Thirst for Knowledge

Bernard McCue says an *'unquenchable thirst for knowledge'* gave him the freedom to succeed in life's challenges.

The Christian Island man is a 2007 honoree of the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards in the Technology and Trades category for his dedication in achieving an education in chemistry equivalent to an Honors University level by taking courses after working hours.

Through his work as a professional chemist in the Research and Development laboratory at Dupont Canada and later the British American Oil Company Ltd. Research Centre, McCue made significant contributions to the development of synthetic jet aircraft lubricants and was awarded 3 US patents. He was also recognized for making process improvements for the television industry by new and innovative methods that greatly enhanced the color characteristics of television sets for RCA Ltd.

"I found that as a professional I was treated as an equal and given unrestricted freedom by my research directors to utilize my talent at research centres at Dupont, British American Oil and RCA Ltd." says McCue.

"I was fortunate to find happiness in this type of work and made contributions to the industry by the patents that were awarded and published technical papers. My contributions resulted in considerable cost savings benefits to my employers."

One of seven children, McCue credits his father with fuelling his drive to learn. A struggling fisherman coping with the harsh conditions of reserve life, McCue's father encouraged his children to *'seek an education for a better life.'* It was advice that served McCue well during the traumatic years of his youth and later as he excelled in school and life.

"When I was 14, I was sent away to residential school over 500 miles from home in Spanish, Ontario, and it was very distressing. I experienced the trauma common to all those who attended residential school but, in my case, damage from physical and psychological abuse was more evident. Many times during the four years that I stayed there I felt like running away but I remembered my father's words and persevered to overcome my lack of self-confidence and self-esteem," McCue recalls.

"I graduated in 1956 with first class honors and started St. Michael's College in Toronto."

Answer Key

1. How did McCue's father influence his education?

Bernard's father encouraged his children to get a good education for a better life.

2. What were some of McCue's successes/accomplishments in his work?

He was awarded 3 US patents, and made improvements to television sets for RCA that greatly enhanced their colour characteristics.

3. In at least 3 paragraphs, describe what impact Bernard's example has on your life.

Answers will vary with the learners but may include some or all of the following:

- He had an 'unquenchable thirst for knowledge'
- Got an education in chemistry equivalent to an Honours University level by taking courses after hours
- Felt like running away from residential school but persevered because of his father's words