

Fatty Legs: A True Story

Ouleman Pokiak, a young Inuit girl, travels from her home in Canada's Arctic to Aklavik. There, she attends a residential school where she becomes Margaret, and meets the antagonistic teacher whom she calls Raven. The resource is an accurate and true portrayal of traditional Inuit life and values and one Inuit girl's experience at residential school.

CURRICULUM FIT

Does the resource support BC curriculum?

Extensively

Does this resource address the prescribed learning outcomes for this BC curriculum?

Extensively

Can the resource be used for cross-curricular studies?

Extensively

THIS PRODUCT SUPPORTS THE CORE COMPETENCIES OF THE BC CURRICULUM:

- Reading
- Social Responsibility

This novel can be used for Social Studies, Language Arts, and can be extended to Science regarding Aboriginal technologies.

SUGGESTED CLASSROOM USAGE

This would make a good addition to a Novel Study/Literature Circle unit about Canadian History, Aboriginal peoples, and Aboriginal way of life.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Do the social considerations support, rather than detract from, student learning?

Extensively

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS COMMENTS:

The resource is an accurate and true portrayal of traditional Inuit life and values and one Inuit girl's experience at residential school.

GENERAL CONTENT

CONTENT

Should this product be identified as Canadian?

Yes

Is the resource engaging?

Extensively

Is the content current for the intended curriculum and grade?

Extensively

Is the content accurate for the intended curriculum and grade?

Extensively

Is the content timely and important for student broad understandings?

Extensively

Is the resource an Authentic First Peoples Text?

Yes

AUDIENCE:

Is the content appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students?

Extensively

Is the content of particular interest to male students?

Moderately

Is the content of particular interest to female students?

Extensively

Is the language use appropriate to the emotional maturity and cognitive level of students?

Extensively

This resource can be used at many different grade levels and for many different learners. This book provides a close examination of one girl's very emotional experiences at a residential school, but could also appeal to boys because of the non-fiction features and strong illustrations that represent the story.

NOVEL

LITERARY MERIT

Does the text show insight into the complexity of the human condition?

Extensively

Does the text broaden students' experiences and understanding?

Extensively

Does the text provide opportunities for creative and critical thinking?

Extensively

To what degree is this text stylistically rich?

Extensively

PLOT DESCRIPTION:

Ouleman Pokiak, a young Inuit girl, travels from her home in Canada's Arctic to Aklavik. There, she attends a residential school where she becomes Margaret, and meets the antagonistic teacher whom she calls Raven. Raven punishes the strong-willed Margaret, as Ouleman comes to understand how important her family and culture are to her.

GENRE:

- Historical
- Autobiography
- Illustrated Novel

LITERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Rich Characterization
- Well-developed themes
- Effective figurative language
- Point of view

TYPE:

- Novel
- Literary non-fiction
- Autobiography

VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS:

- Novel
- Literary non-fiction
- Autobiography

TECHNICAL DESIGN

Does the resource make effective use of the medium?

Extensively

Does the visual presentation support student learning?

Extensively

Is the use of font, text size, presentation of illustrations uniform?

Extensively

Are the extraneous elements/illustrations kept to a minimum?

Extensively

Is the location of illustrations appropriate?

Extensively

Is the resource easy to use?

Extensively

The illustrations and accompanying photographs support the story and provide a very visual way to learn about this part of Canadian history. Concepts and vocabulary are clearly explained at the bottom of the page.

INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN

Is the instructional design effective and appropriate for the intended audience?

Extensively

Is the resource suitable for a wide range of learning and teaching styles?

Extensively

Are the instructional elements consistent with the purpose of the resource?

Extensively

Are the concepts clearly explained?

Extensively

Are the content chunking and sequencing appropriate?

Extensively

Does the resource provide multiple strategies to help learners construct meaning?

Extensively

Does the resource support a gradual release of responsibility i.e. explicit instruction, guided practice, independent learning?

Extensively

This would make a very effective resource for a Literature Circle/Novel Study unit. The glossary, photos, illustrations, large print, non-fiction content support many learning styles.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

READABILITY:

- At intended grade level(s)