



The Secret Pocket

Activity 1: Nak'azdli Whut'en

Format:

- Teacher-Facilitated Group Discussion

Materials:

- Computer
- Projector

Timing:

- Following the pre-reading discussion

Instructions:

1. Look up Nak'azdli Whut'en on a map to situate the story geographically with the students.
 - <https://www.google.com/maps/search/nak%E2%80%99azdli+whut%E2%80%99en/@53.6670426,-127.3495364,7z?entry=ttu>
2. Zoom in and out of Nak'azdli Whut'en on the map to explore and discuss:
 - What is around Nak'azdli Whut'en that you recognize (water, cities, etc.)?
 - What province is Nak'azdli Whut'en in?
 - How far is Nak'azdli Whut'en from your school?
 - Is Nak'azdli Whut'en further north or south from you?

Activity 1: Letter to Mary

Format:

- Individual Activity

Materials:

- Lined/letter size paper
- Pencils

Timing:

- About halfway through the book, or after the discussion while reading

Instructions:

1. Guide the students to write a letter to Mary. Prompts could include:
 - What would you want to hear if you were in Mary's shoes, missing your family, hungry, cold, etc.?
 - What are you proud of Mary for?
 - How has Mary inspired you?
2. Depending on the feeling in your class, you may want to lead a brief discussion to begin helping students process their feelings about Mary's experience, and to generate some ideas. This discussion could also take place after the letters have been written as a share-back in a circle.

Activity 3: Truth Before Reconciliation

Format:

- Part 1: Teacher-Facilitated Group Discussion
- Part 2: Small Groups

Materials:

- Computer(s) – If a computer room, or enough computers are available for each group to have one, then Part 2 can be done in small groups, if not, it can be done as a class and facilitated by the teacher.
- Projector

Timing:

- Following the post-reading discussion

Instructions:**Part 1 (Teacher-Facilitated Group Discussion):**

1. Watch the following CBC Kids video on Reconciliation (2:30) :
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RT_ho4A6yw8
2. Lead a discussion with the group:
 - The video asks how being taken from your family in September and being unable to see them until June would feel for you. Do you want to share?
 - How would you describe Reconciliation in your own words?
 - Why is important for Truth to come before Reconciliation?
 - When did the last Residential School close?
 - What came after the government's apology of residential schools?

Part 2 (Small Groups, depending on availability of computers):

1. In small groups students will explore [Spirit Bear's kid-friendly 94 Calls to Action](#)

2. As a group the students will select 2-3 Calls to Action. For each Call to Action they should discuss which category it falls in (Education, Culture, etc.) and its importance.
3. Students should prepare to share some of their reflections with the class.
4. If appropriate for your group, they can also do some research about whether their chosen Calls to Action have been addressed or are being worked on. This research can also be done as a class.