

Positionality Exercises

The following questions are meant to help educators explore their positionality with respect to the materials in the database.

Before attempting to answer the questions below, there are a few steps you should take to get in the right headspace:

Environment

You will want to go through these journaling prompts in a quiet space. We suggest going outside or looking out a window if you are able to. The questions below are asking you to connect with your physical environment, and we think it would be beneficial to see nature while pondering on these questions and how they resonate with you.

Supplies

We provide blank space below the questions so you can print this document and fill your answer in the blank space. However, we encourage you to use your own journal or supplies to write your answers, so don't feel restricted by the space we provide!

Time & Consistency

Sometimes encountering your own positionality can be challenging! This journey is not quick and will take time and consistency. Be patient with yourself, and open to the fact that your journey is not linear, and as you continue to put more time into unpacking what you know, and stay consistent with this work, you will continue to grow! We recommend setting a realistic goal for yourself (ie. 15 minutes a day, week, etc).



Where were you born? Where did you grow up? Where do you live now?



How connected do you feel with the lands you've listed above?



Would describe yourself as *connected* or *disconnected* with your ancestral land? How does this make you feel?



How did you come to be where you are? Is your story a colonization story or a creation story?



Do you arrive in this space from a settler or Indigenous perspective?



Describe ways in which colonization has impacted the land you are currently living and working on. Who has it most impacted?



If you arrive here from a settler background/perspective: in what ways do you think you benefit from the ongoing process of colonization and the social structures it maintains?



What does the term "reconciliation" mean (with respect to Indigenous peoples in Canada)? In this context: why is reconciliation necessary?



Describe your personal connections with the night sky. What does a connection with the night sky mean to you?



Identify a resource from the database that you would like to feature in your classroom. What core themes can you identify? What Indigenous traditions are represented in this resource?



How do the themes of resource align with your curriculum and pedagogical goals for your classroom?



Why is it important to you that your students' learning include Indigenous Knowledges and Ways of Knowing?