

Student Activity Book for Fur Trade Cards



Student's Name _____

FT1 - The Hudson's Bay Company

Fill in these blanks using the words in the box.

1. Pierre Radisson and Medard Chouard were 2 _____
_____ from France.

They were very excited about the fur trade in Canada and decided to go to England to convince other people about the riches of this fur trade. To whom were they telling stories of the fur trade? _____

2. In what year was the Hudson's Bay Company formed?
_____ What century was that? _____

3. King Charles II liked their ideas. He decided to form a trading company called the _____
_____.

4. It wasn't long before many fur trading posts were set up on the shores of _____.

5. Name 3 Hudson's Bay Company forts and the rivers where they were located. _____ - _____

_____ (look at the wall map for these answers)

Hudson's Bay Company

fur traders 1670 King Charles II

Hudson Bay

FT2 - The North West Company

1. The North West Company traveled inland to trade for furs.
Name 3 rivers that were used by the North West Company.

-
2. Where were the headquarters of the NWC located?

-
3. Describe or illustrate 2 ways in which the North West Company was different from the Hudson's Bay Company.

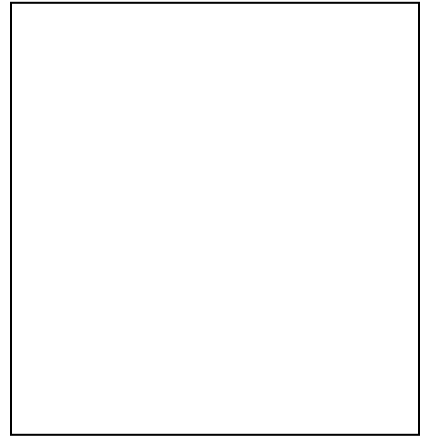
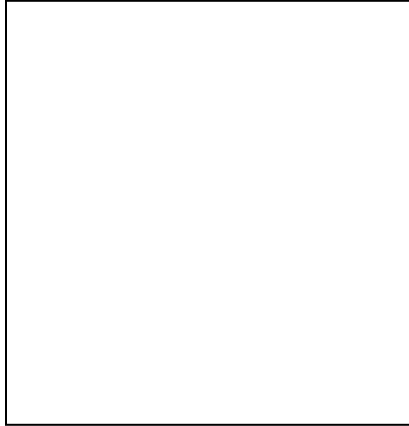
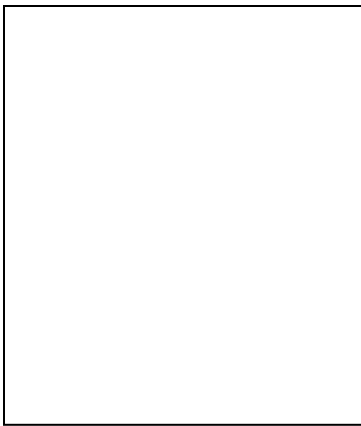
4. What item, made of beaver felt, was popular to wear in Europe in the late 1700's? Draw two styles of this item!



FT3 - "Stuff" of the Fur Trade

1. What was the usual weight of one fur bale? _____ pounds

2. Draw 3 fur trade items



3. Of all the things that you have seen related to the fur trade, what is your favourite item and why?

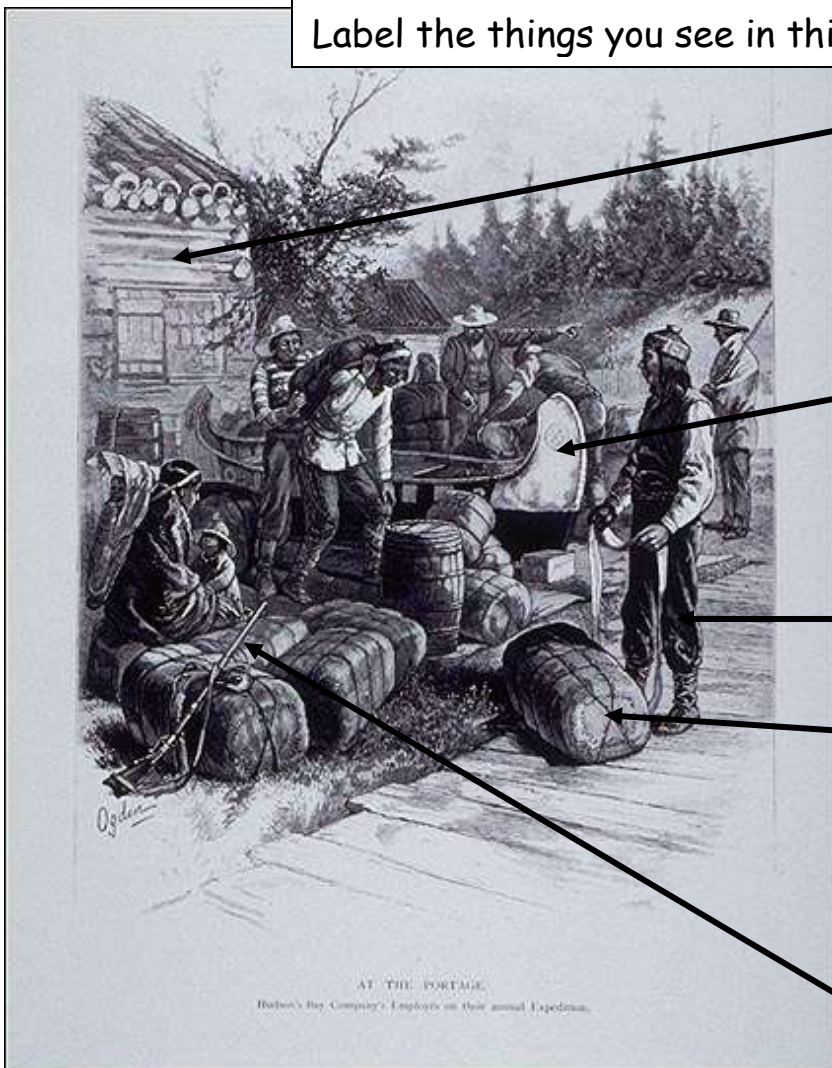
4. Using the chart from this group's presentation package, how many Made Beaver would you need to buy 1 gun?

FT4 - Paddling, Portaging and Working in the Forts

- Write a one-page entry from a journal as if you were living and working at a trading post. Which company do you work for? What is your job?

Describe your typical day, food, work, people you meet or work with, the weather, etc. You might want to present your journal page in a way that makes it look like it was written long ago.

Label the things you see in this picture.



Job Matching Activity - draw a line from the "job" to the correct "job description"

<u>Job in the company</u>	<u>Job Description</u>
Voyageur	I am responsible for everything that goes on in this fort.
Translator	I build fine barrels and furniture from the trees around the fort.
Officer (Governor)	I set broken bones and sew up the cuts that the men get from their work or fighting during the long winters here in the fort.
Voyageur	I work like a dog from sunrise to sunset in this frozen shack of a fort. I wish I'd gone to school and learned to write.
Officer (Surgeon)	I help steer the canoe in rapids and watch for rocks. I have eyes like an eagle.
Labourer	I paddle the canoe better than anyone who has ever lived. I lost my pipe on the last portage!
Tradesman	I speak Chipewyan, Cree and Slavey, as well as French and English. I help to negotiate with the people for their furs.

FT5 - "Cooperation and Conflict" in the Fur Trade

1. Creative Writing using Perspectives

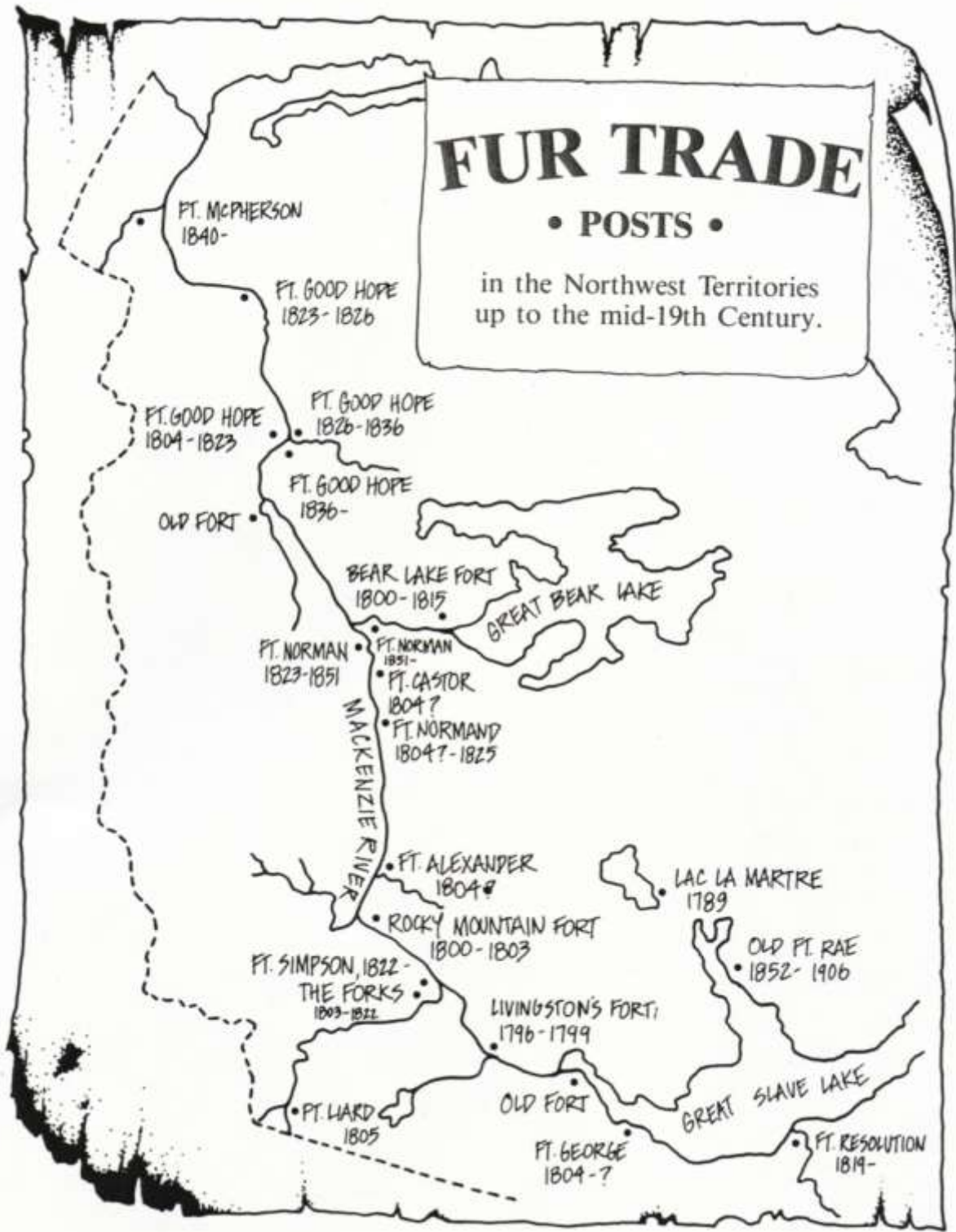
Create a fictional story using one of the following ideas (or by making your own idea).

- You are the Chief Factor for the HBC and men from the NWC have stolen your trading goods.
- You are a fur trader and feel you have been cheated at the trading post.
- You are an Aboriginal woman living at the trading post.
- You are a trapper from 1980 and have been taken back in time to trap and trade in 1829. How have things changed in the fur trade?

2. Look at the map of the NWT **fur trade posts** on the next page. What is similar about the location of all the forts?

3. Use the same map on the next page. All of the trading posts built before 1821 would have belonged to the North West Company. Using your map, make a list of 5 of these trading posts.

FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT



FT6 - People in the Northern Fur Trade

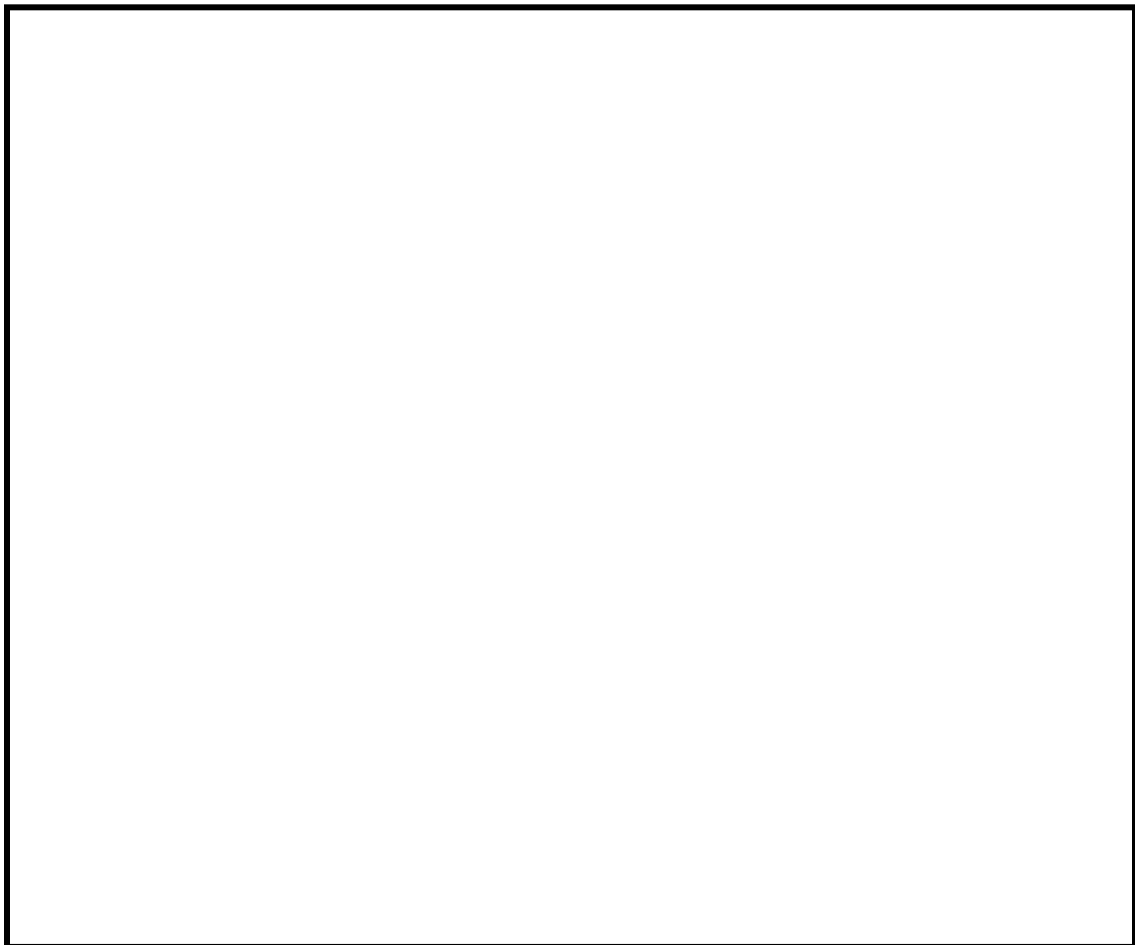
- Choose one person from the fur trade in the NWT that you have learned about. Fill in the following blanks:

_____ was born in _____.

He was a(n) _____ during the fur trade. He was important because _____

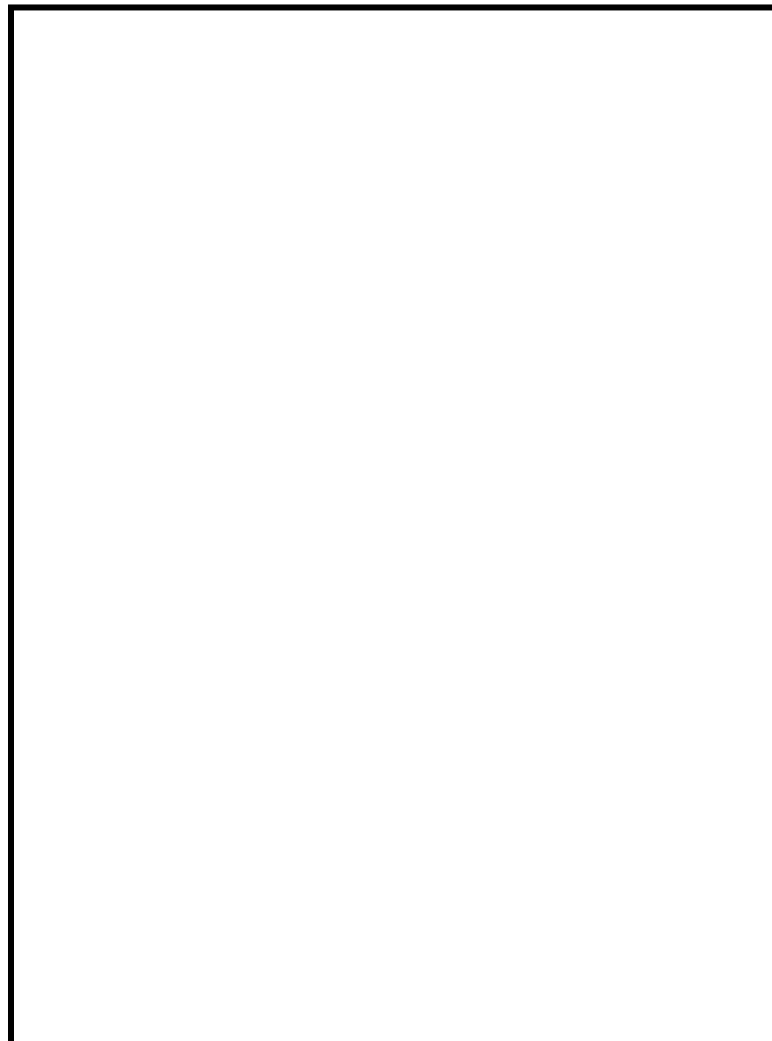
_____.

- Draw one item that could represent this person.



FT7 - Métis of the fur trade

1. Métis people are descendents of _____ and _____ people.
2. List 3 different kinds of work the Métis did during the fur trade. _____, _____, _____
3. Métis often wore sashes as part of their daily clothing. Each sash had a design from a particular region. Design a sash for your own family. What do the colours or the design mean for your family?



FT8 - The Changing fur trade

The fur trade went through many changes during the 1900's. Use the words in the box below to complete this paragraph.

By the late 1800's the fur trade had changed in a lot of ways. Trading companies were now using steamboats and railways instead of _____. In the early _____ fur prices were at their highest.

However, with the Great Depression, prices fell and other resources such as _____, _____ and _____ were discovered in the NWT.

Further north, _____ became very important.

Whales were being hunted for their _____ and _____. This industry had a great impact on the lives of the _____.

uranium

gold

oil

Inuvialuit

1900's

large canoes

whaling

baleen

oil

FT9 - The Fur Trade Today

Write a postcard to a trapper today. Write another postcard from the trapper back to you! (What image would you put on the front of each of these postcards?)

The form consists of a large rectangular box with a thick black border. Inside the box, there are two columns of horizontal lines for writing. The left column has 12 lines, and the right column has 12 lines. A vertical line separates the two columns, positioned approximately one-third of the way from the left edge of the box.

Other Activities

- "Words From the Fur Trade" Quiz - circle the correct answer(s)
1. A **voyageur** is
 - a) a banker
 - b) a paddler
 - c) very strong

 2. **NWC** stands for
 - a) North West Carrier
 - b) North West Company
 - c) North West Canada

 3. **Pemmican** is
 - a) pounded dry meat
 - b) an animal
 - c) good to eat

 4. **Baleen** is from
 - a) a dog
 - b) a whale
 - c) a whale's mouth

 5. A **canot de maitre** was
 - a) a voyageur
 - b) used during the fur trade
 - c) a very large 'master canoe'

 6. The most popular **fur** in the early days of the fur trade was
 - a) lynx
 - b) caribou
 - c) beaver

- Match the following pairs of words

Voyageur

90 pounds

Canoe

Hudson's Bay
Company

Trader

birch bark

Beaver

baleen

HBC

tobacco

Fur bale

paddling

Whaling

furs

trade goods

hat

• **FILL IN THE BLANKS**

1. The _____ brought tobacco with them as a trade item for furs during the fur trade.
2. Name 3 of the colours found in the Métis Sash.
_____, _____, _____
3. _____ were made from the fine, thick underfur of the beaver.
4. _____ was made of pounded dry meat and fat.
5. A voyageur would usually paddle up to ____ hours per day!
6. Name 3 types of furs that the Tlicho people have traded in the past. _____, _____, _____
7. During the early years of the fur trade, canoes were made of _____.
8. A beaver skin that was cleaned and stretched for trading was called a _____.
9. List 3 types of transportation that the aboriginal people showed the Europeans during the fur trade.
_____, _____,

• Letters to the Chief Trader

It is 1827 and you are working for the North West Company at Bear Lake Fort. The Chief Trader calls you into his house and says he has a special job for you. You are to travel 100 miles north to establish a small trading post. He wants you to stay for one year and then come back with as many beaver pelts as you can. You write four letters to him within this year.

Letter #1

Before you leave from Bear Lake Fort write a letter explaining:

- What kinds of trade items you need
- What types of food, supplies and tools you need
- Who you need to come with you
- What you are worrying about
- How you will travel to the new fort

Letter#2

When you arrive at your new location write a letter to explain:

- Where you have chosen to build your post
- Why you chose this site (are there trees? water, food and beavers?)
- Who lives in the area?
- Are they friendly?
- How do you communicate with them?

Letter #3

After you have been there for 3 months, write to tell:

- What the weather is like
- How your trading is going
- How many beaver pelts you have
- Whether you need more supplies - if so, what?
- How you are preparing for the winter

Letter #4

Now that winter is over, write a letter to explain:

- What it was like living in the fort over the winter
- What food you have to eat (from your supplies, from friends, from hunting and fishing)
- How many beaver pelts you have- what you have traded for them
- How you will bring them back to Bear Lake Fort
- Draw a picture of your fort.

FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT

- **Trapping Stories** - Read the next 2 stories and choose one to illustrate!

My First Trapping Season

By Tony Dryneck

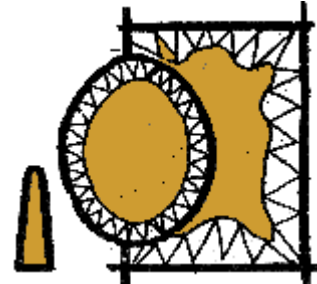
When I was a young boy I went trapping with my dad for the first time. My little brother came along too.

Our trapping camp was far away from our family home. It was so quiet out there in the bush. All we could hear was the birds singing.

Every morning my dad woke up early and made a fire in the little stove. After a good breakfast he led us to the traps. I was so happy that first morning because we caught a big muskrat.

The next morning my dad told us that we had to go and check the traps by ourselves. My little brother was happy because we were lucky and caught some more muskrats and we ate them for supper.

My father showed us how to set up the tent, how to set traps, and how to live in the bush. He taught us everything we needed to know.



Three different kinds of hide stretchers.

Akwełò Ehdzo K'ìle

Chekoa ehì hò, ehkwełò sèta xè ehdzo nets'èle ha whenahdi. Sechia si goxè àja.

Gokòta gots'ò goiwa nats'ède. Dechìta nats'ede nindè asàgodì le, chya yagijì zò ts'ehkw'ò.

K'omòdò tət'e setà asòk'ò nechalea yì kò natlā. Sheets'eazhe tì'ahò ehdzo k'ats'eta ha ts'ède. Eyì k'omòdò sii sinà agòja, dzò ỳe k'èts'itlā ts'ìhò.

Ìdai k'omòdò setà goxì whachò ehdzo k'àts'ehta ha gohdi. Sechia sii wina agòja, gots'òhoìdì t'à dzò k'echidihlā, eyì hèt's'ò weghò sheets'eazhe.

Edaani nimbà nèt's'ehge, edaani ehdzo nèt's'ele, edaani dechìta nats'ede dì azhò setà hagohtò, asì azhò hogohtò.

— Dogrib

FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT

Trapping

By Kevin Conroy

I went out to our cabin in the bush with my father and older brother.

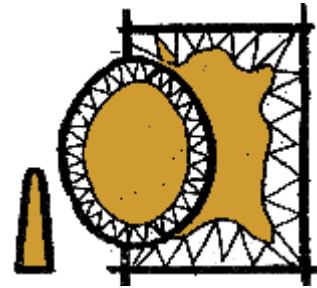
When we got there we ate some fish, then went out to set the traps. We followed the cut line and set the traps along the way. We set ten before we headed back.

It was cold all the way there, and boy it was cold all the way back!

After we ate supper, we washed up and went to bed. At five o'clock our alarm went off and we got up. I made breakfast. Then my brother and I went to check the traps and hunt. We were about a mile away from camp when we saw a lynx chasing a rabbit through the bush, and before we knew it, they ran past us. My brother fired and the lynx went down. He ran to it but when he got there it was still alive so he shot it again so it could not bite him.

When we got back to camp we had a total of one lynx and four ptarmigan.

Dad had two lynx and four marten so we packed up and headed for town.



Three different kinds of hide stretchers.

ʔehdzoʔats'eehʔı

Deshʔta raxékøę góʔo ts'ę setá, sodee hō kuk'édéhla.

ʔeyı rırıdee gú lugefę ghō shéyıyee yıtł'á ʔehdzo riwi lee gha godéwiwe. ʔeyı sasóné behshéné géré gá yide gú begá w'ıla ʔedhdzo rırıla. ʔehdzo horéno rırıla yıtł'á k'érawıdee.

ʔekō godéwiwe gú ʔélegu ráwese gots'ę k'érayıdé gú nıyá w'ıla súde ʔélegu ráwese.

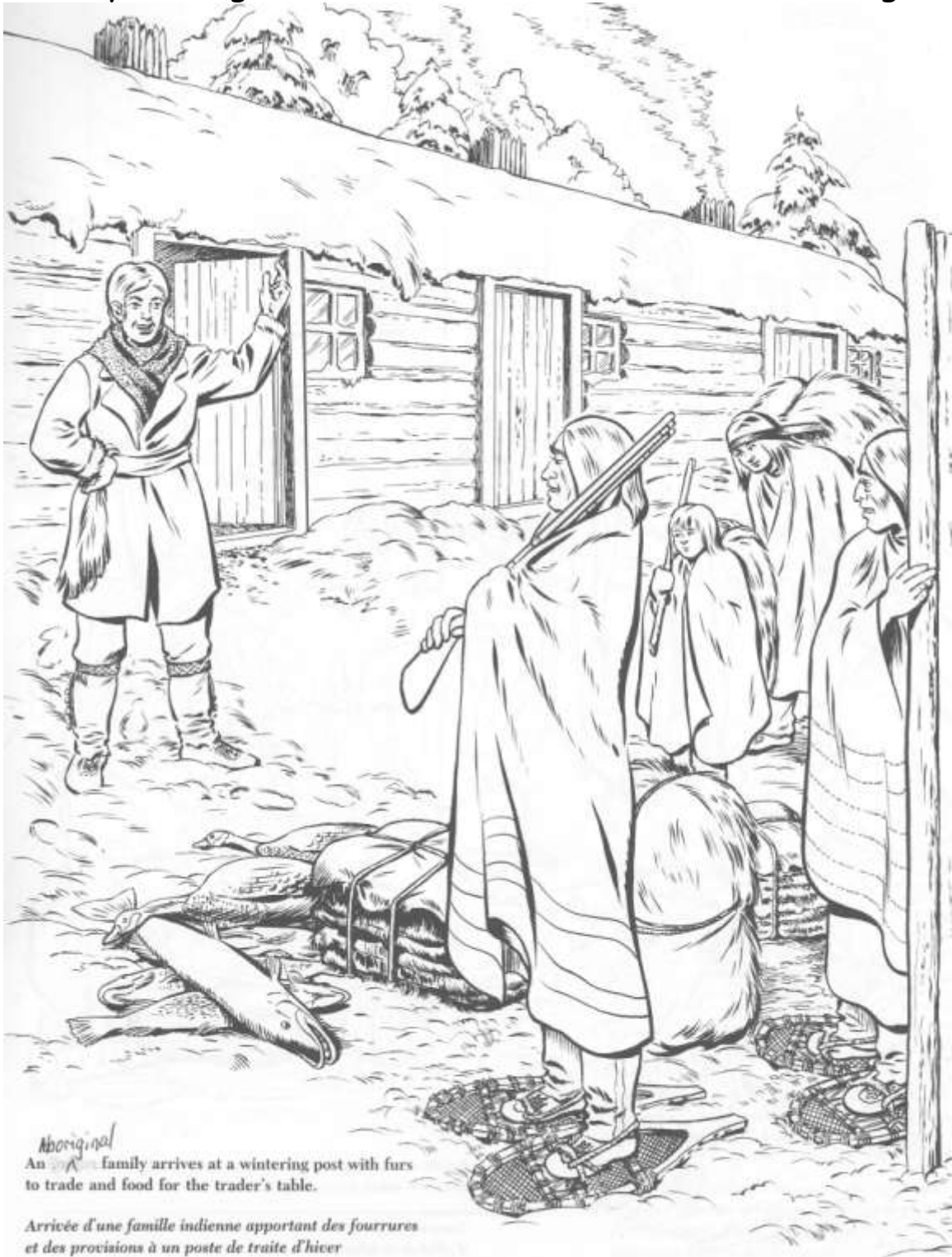
Xéhts'ę shéyıyee yıtł'á k'eráreyıse hıt'ú shuréwiya. Lak'e sadzee gú raxe sadzée déhsa gú rhéwıdee. Yáhkale bekáʔewıht'ee. Gots'ę sodee hō ʔehdzo ghárayewıda hé ráwızee gha ʔekō radéwit'a. Raxékøę gots'ę líe lebú rırıt'a gú k'áıta nōda hai gah hédéhfe gháyııda. Raxezare raxeyehxa yédéhfe yłé sode yúmıhk'e yı lé nōda hai goyıdáwe. Yets'ę ʔejıdéhla, kólı yeghá rıʔejehęla gú k'ála gódı, hé káyhsho goch'á rayéhk'e.

Raxékøę rırarıt'a gú ʔareyóné gogha gú nōda lát'e hé k'áhba dıdet'e ʔahıla.

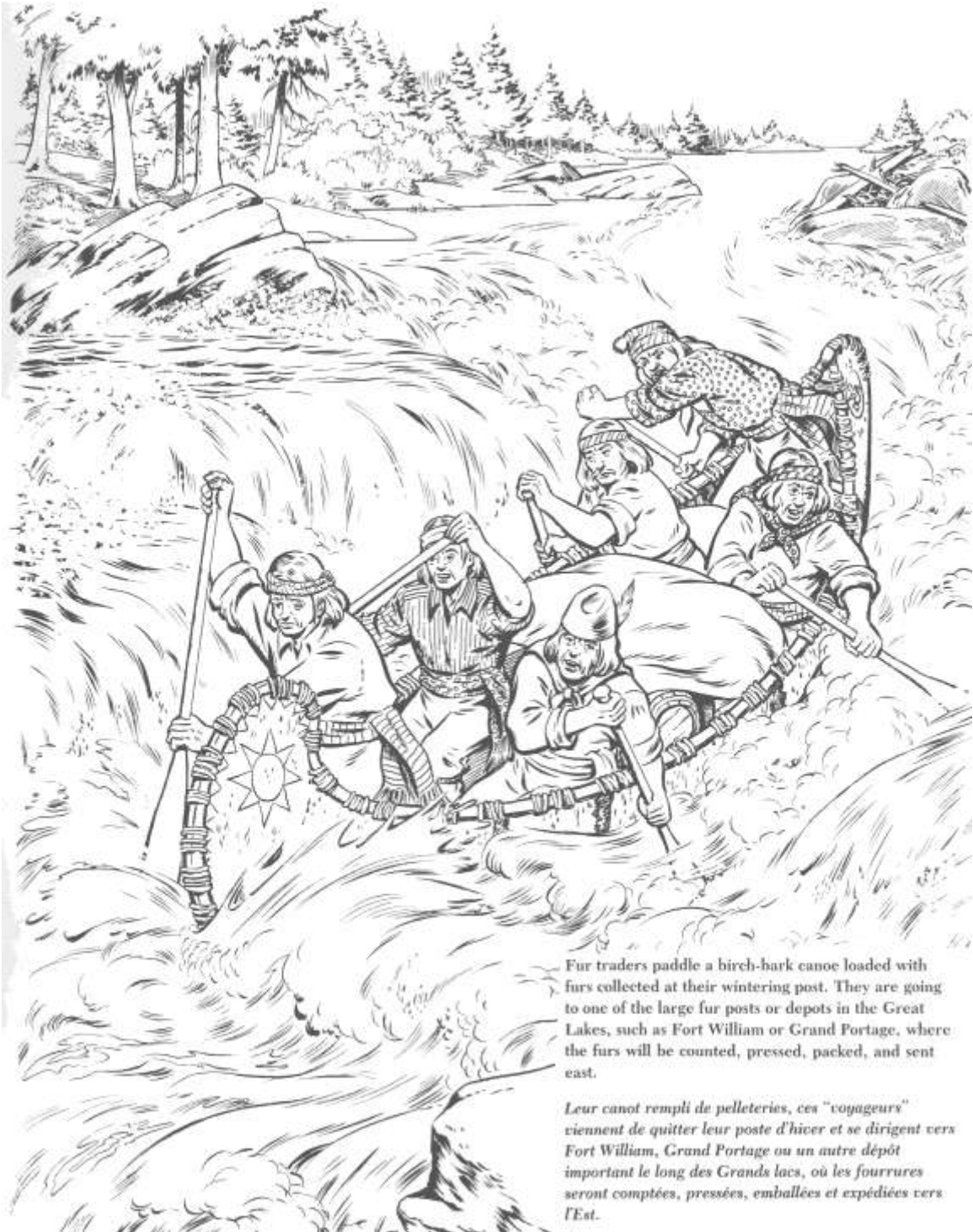
ʔabá nōda rákee hé dzo dı ʔahála hé raréwıyá gú kōę gots'ę radéwıdee.

— North Slavey

The following pages can be used for labelling activities, story writing, identification and, of course, colouring!!



FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT



Fur traders paddle a birch-bark canoe loaded with furs collected at their wintering post. They are going to one of the large fur posts or depots in the Great Lakes, such as Fort William or Grand Portage, where the furs will be counted, pressed, packed, and sent east.

Leur canot rempli de pelleteries, ces "voyageurs" viennent de quitter leur poste d'hiver et se dirigent vers Fort William, Grand Portage ou un autre dépôt important le long des Grands lacs, où les fourrures seront comptées, pressées, emballées et expédiées vers l'Est.

FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT



Goods traded for furs included (clockwise): blankets, gunpowder, ice chisels, animal traps, pans, pots, knives, flints and firesteels, pipes and tobacco, and guns.

Les Amérindiens troquaient leurs fourrures contre divers articles. De gauche à droite: couvertures, poudre à canon, ciseaux à glace, pièges, ustensiles de cuisine, couteaux, pierres à briquet, pipes et tabac, fusils.

FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT



With new supplies of merchandise, the clerks and voyageurs set out from a large depot for their wintering posts.

Chargés de provisions et de marchandises, ces commis et "voyageurs" quittent le dépôt pour regagner leurs postes d'hiver.

FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT



At a portage everything is taken out of the canoes and carried around a rapids or rough section of the river to smoother water.

Le portage. Pour traverser un rapide ou une rivière non navigable, les canots sont déchargés et transportés à dos d'homme.

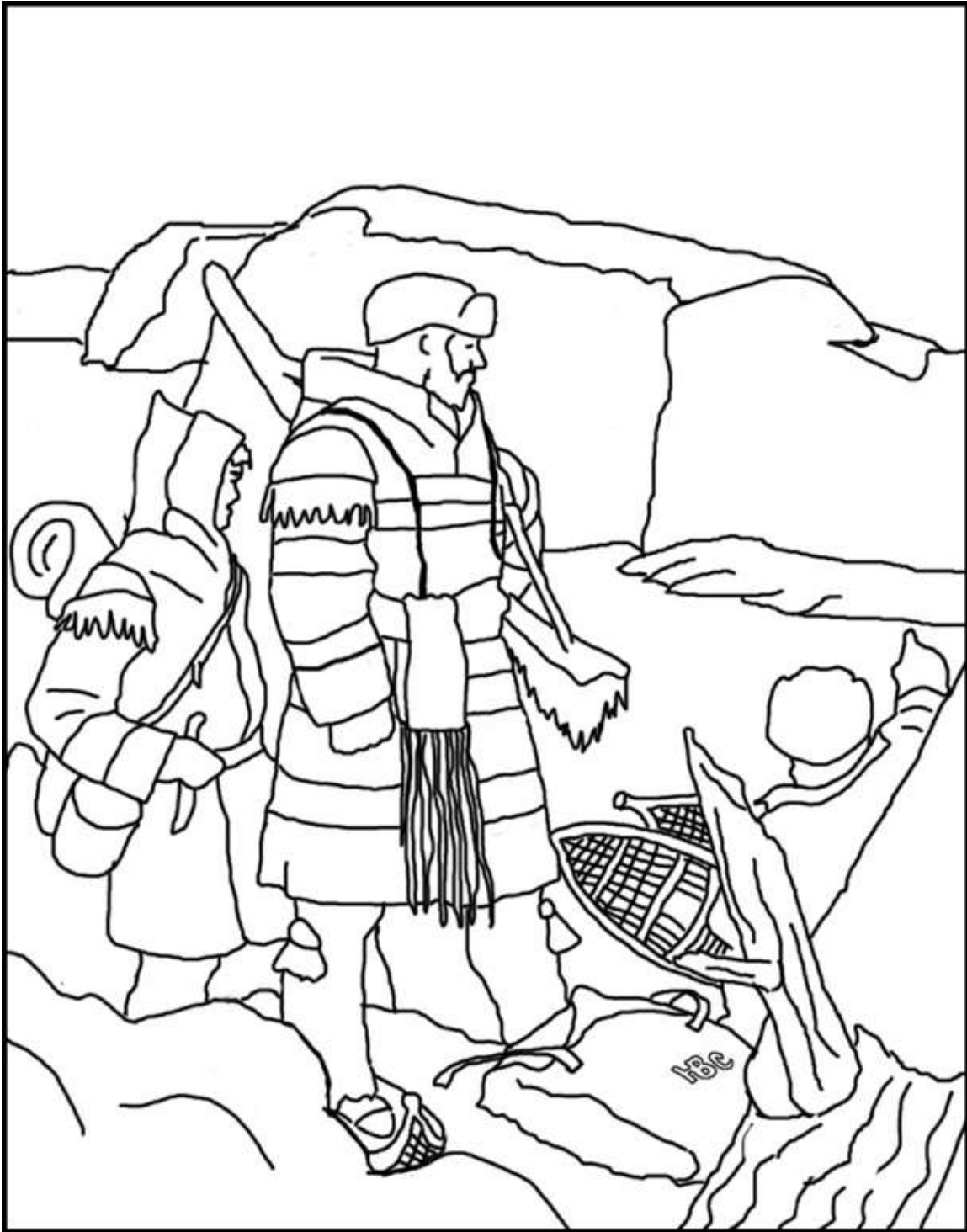
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FUR TRADE - Changing Times in the NWT



Pressing furs into bundles makes them easier to carry.

Les fourrures sont pressées en ballots, ce qui en facilite le transport.



Fur Trader working for the Hudson's Bay Company