

2. Learning & Storytelling

Traditional teaching and the passing on of knowledge and wisdom was done through storytelling, song, ceremony and daily way of life, often incorporating specific gender and age specific responsibilities. These continue to be some of the best modes for learning for both Native and non-Native learners.

Extended Description

When we sing the songs and tell the stories, we pass on the wisdom, knowledge, and teachings of praying, fatherhood, motherhood, coming of age ceremonies, care of the home, children, environment, and care of the water. We teach respect for life, self, family, star, and universe knowledge. In all of this one finds truth to live a good life (Elder JT ShiningOne Side).



Petroglyphs are another form of storytelling. This is a drawing of an underwater panther (mishibizhiw) as well as two snakes and a canoe, attributed to the Ojibwe people.

Wikipedia.org File:

Underwater_Panther_rock_painting_(crop).jpg



Turtle Mountain Chippewa Elder J.T. Shinging Oneside tells the story of how the Sweat Lodge came to her people.



“When we sing... we pass on the wisdom...”