

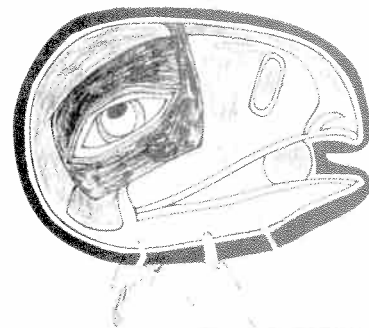
Pocket 3

THE TLINGIT OF THE NORTHWEST

CUT AND PASTE

**Pocket Label, Shelter Stamp,
Picture Dictionary Cards** page 24

See page 2 for information on how to prepare the pocket label and shelter stamp. See page 10 for information on how to prepare the picture dictionary cards.



FACT SHEET

The Tlingit page 25

Read this background information to familiarize yourself with the Tlingit. Share the information with your students as appropriate. Incorporate library and multimedia resources that are available.

STUDENT BOOKLET

Make a Tlingit Booklet pages 26–28

See page 2 for information on how to prepare the student booklet. Read and discuss the information as a class. Encourage students to read their booklets to partners or independently.

ACTIVITIES

Create a Potlatch Mask pages 29 & 30

Going to a potlatch is a special event. Students make a raven potlatch mask to wear to a potlatch celebration.

Totem Pole Layer Book pages 31 & 32

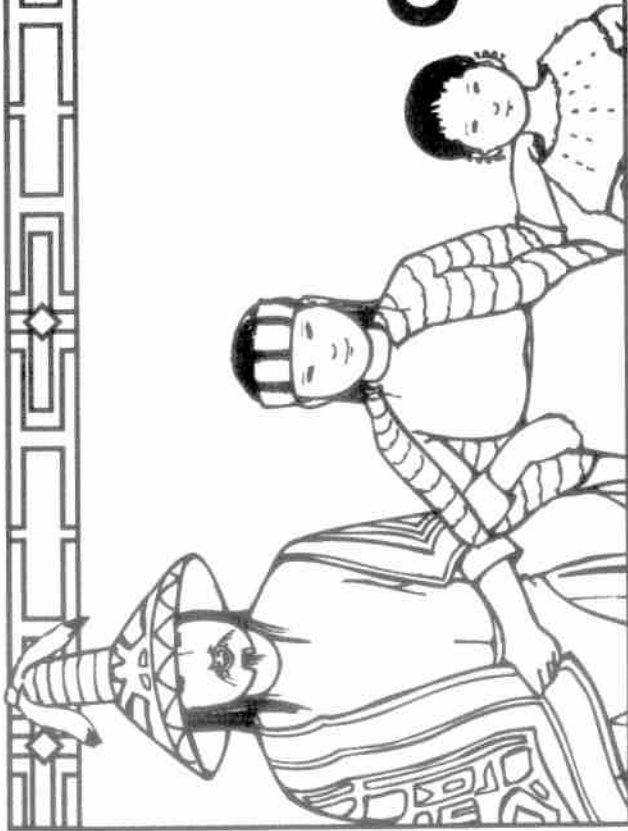
What is the meaning behind a totem pole? Students will find out when they create their own Tlingit totem pole layer books.



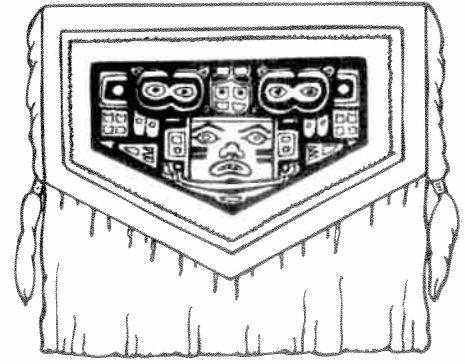


THE TLINGIT OF THE NORTHWEST

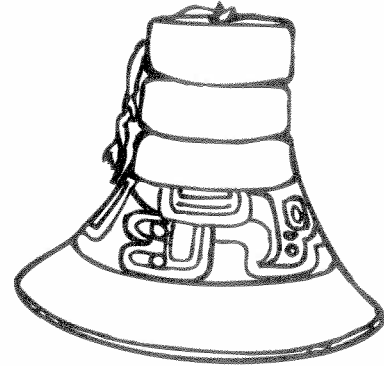
©2003 by Evan-Moor Corp. • EMC 3703



Pocket Label



Chilkat robe

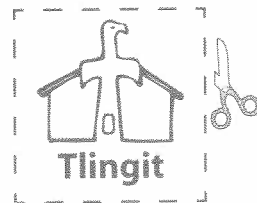


potlatch hat



totem pole

Picture Dictionary Cards



Shelter Stamp



FACT SHEET

THE TLINGIT

INTRODUCTION

One of many Native American groups that lived along the Northwest Coast was the Tlingit (KLIHN kiht). The Tlingit made their home along the southeastern coast of Alaska, northern British Columbia, and the Yukon Territory. The Northwest Coast was rich in natural resources. Food was plentiful, and the Tlingit often had more food than they needed. They often traded their excess food with neighboring tribes in return for other goods.

CLOTHING

The Tlingit wore animal skin pants with feet in them, leather aprons, and skin blankets made from rabbits or marmots. Men and women wore nose rings and earrings. Some people pierced their lower lips and wore tattoos.

The Tlingit had ceremonial clothing for special feasts called potlatches. They wore carved masks, potlatch hats, dancing dresses, and Chilkat robes. Chilkat robes could be fur-trimmed, multicolored, or fringed. Chilkat robes and dancing dresses had extreme value. The animal designs on the masks, hats, and clothing identified the person's clan.

FOOD

The most important source of food for the Tlingit was salmon. In early spring, millions of salmon would swim from the salty Pacific Ocean to freshwater rivers to lay their eggs. The Tlingit called this event the salmon run. The salmon run lasted from spring until late summer. It was not unusual for a family to catch more than 1,000 pounds (454 kilograms) of salmon during a salmon run. A large portion of the salmon was dried or smoked so it could be preserved for future meals.

Each summer and fall, the Tlingit people lived in fishing camps near the sea. They built large canoes and caught halibut and other types of fish, sea lions, and otters. On the shore, they gathered clams and mussels. Near the forests, the Tlingit hunted animals such as goat, deer, elk, and bear.

In the winter, the Tlingit held ceremonial potlatches. Potlatches were often held to honor the dead or celebrate good fortune. People often ate

seal meat, fish, berries, and vegetables at a potlatch. Guests ate and ate until they became sick, which was considered a great compliment to the family who hosted the potlatch. Potlatches could often last up to 12 days. Many potlatches took years to plan.

SHELTER

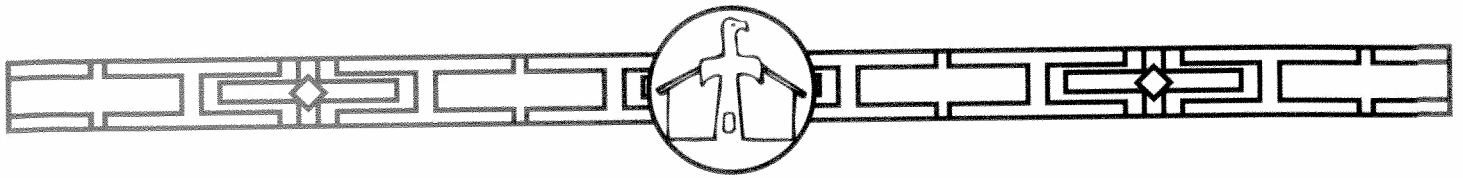
The Tlingit built large plank houses. They used red and yellow cedar, yew, alder, maple, and Sitka spruce from the vast Northwest coastal forests. Many times, planks were cut from large trees without chopping down the trees.

As winter approached, the Tlingit left their fishing camps. During winter several families lived together in one house. The Tlingit painted their houses with bright pictures and colorful designs. The designs usually depicted animals and birds. Common raven family crests included raven, whale, salmon, and frog. Eagle crests included eagle, bear, shark, and thunderbird. The Tlingit often carved these animal crests on the beams, doorways, and entrances of their homes. Many wealthy families had elaborately carved panels in the interior of the house.

Huge wooden totem poles stood in front of each home. Tlingit families recorded their family histories by carving special animals and birds on the totem poles. Most totem poles were 40 to 60 feet (12 to 18 meters) tall, but some measured more than 100 feet (30 meters). Raising a totem pole was a special event. Totem poles were often raised at potlatches.

FAMILY LIFE

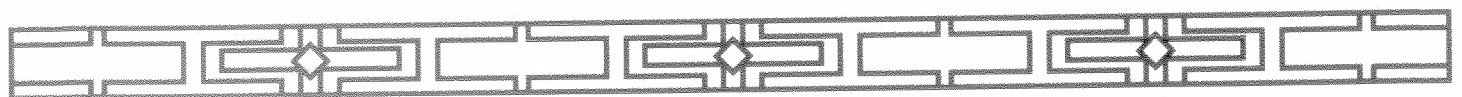
Each plank house was home to several families who belonged to the same clan. The relationships were established through the mother's side of the family. When a boy reached eight years old, he went to live with his mother's brother. There he eventually learned to hunt game animals, as well as other responsibilities. Girls learned house traditions from their mothers and grandmothers. Both boys and girls learned from their elders the clan's history and customs.

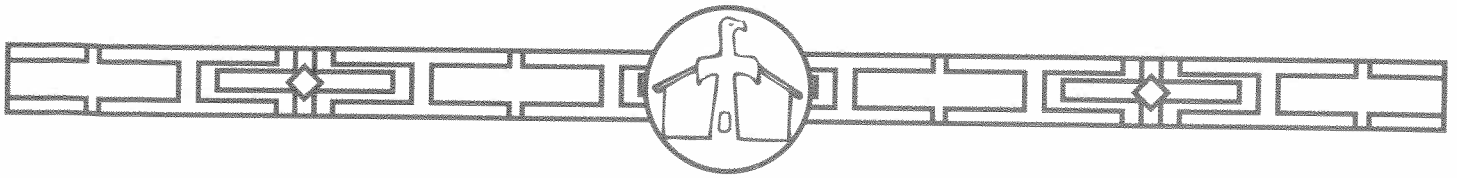


THE TLINGIT OF THE NORTHWEST

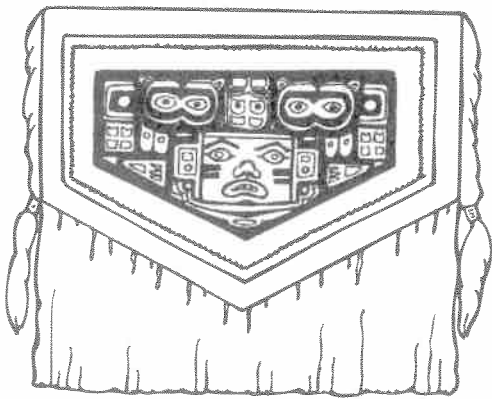
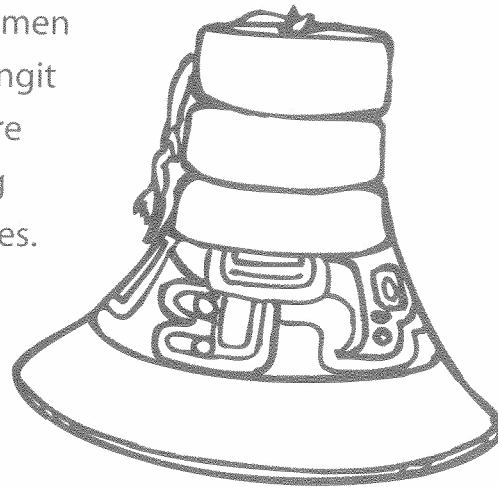


The Tlingit have lived along the Northwest Coast of North America for a long time. This area includes Alaska and Canada. The Tlingit lived near forests, rivers, and the Pacific Ocean. They traveled in canoes to trade fish, shells, furs, carvings, and woven blankets.

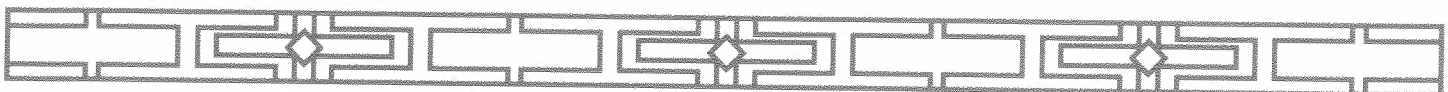
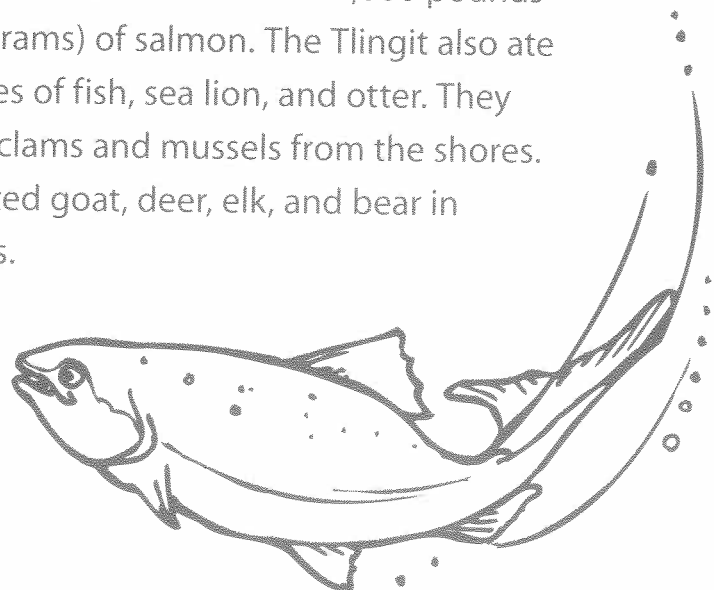


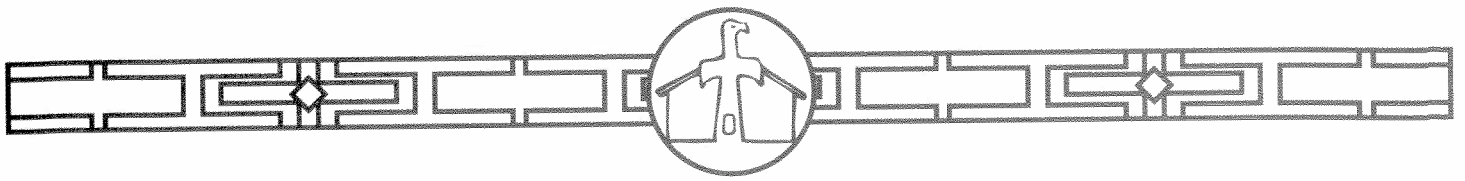


The Tlingit wore animal skin pants, leather aprons, and skin blankets. Men and women wore nose rings and earrings. Some Tlingit people pierced their lower lips and wore tattoos. The Tlingit had special clothing that they wore to feasts called potlatches. At potlatches, the Tlingit wore carved masks, **potlatch hats**, dancing dresses, and robes called **Chilkat robes**.



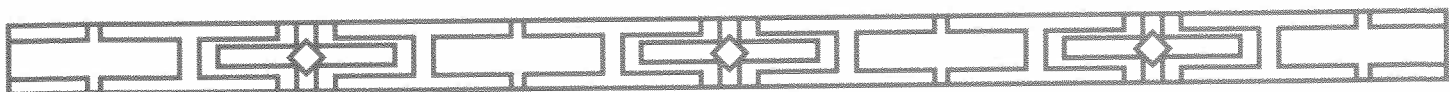
A fish called salmon was the most important food for the Tlingit. In early spring, millions of salmon swam from the ocean to the rivers to lay their eggs. The Tlingit called this the salmon run. During a salmon run, a family could catch more than 1,000 pounds (454 kilograms) of salmon. The Tlingit also ate other types of fish, sea lion, and otter. They gathered clams and mussels from the shores. They hunted goat, deer, elk, and bear in the forests.





The Tlingit built large plank houses. They used cedar, maple, and spruce trees to build their houses. The Tlingit painted their houses with bright pictures and colorful animal designs. These designs stood for a family's clan. Huge wooden **totem poles** stood in front of each home. The Tlingit carved animal symbols on the totem poles to tell the history of their families.

Each plank house was home to several families. The families belonged to the same clan. When a boy reached eight years old, he went to live with his mother's brother. His uncle taught him how to hunt game animals. Mothers and grandmothers taught girls how to weave blankets and make baskets. The Tlingit used storytelling to pass down their history to both boys and girls.



CREATE A POTLATCH MASK

The Tlingit made clan masks to wear to special potlatch celebrations. Encourage students to celebrate Tlingit-style by making a raven clan crayon-resist mask.

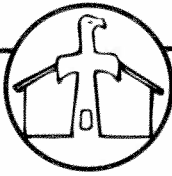
STEPS TO FOLLOW

1. Talk about the potlatch celebration as described on page 27 of the student booklet. Remind students that decorative masks, hats, and clothing were worn for this special occasion.
2. Have students color and cut out the raven mask on page 30.
3. Direct students to glue the mask onto black construction paper, trimming around the edges.
4. Instruct students to punch three holes in the mask. Then they thread raffia through each of the holes and tie it.
5. Have students tape a wood dowel to the back of the mask. Now it is ready for the potlatch celebration.

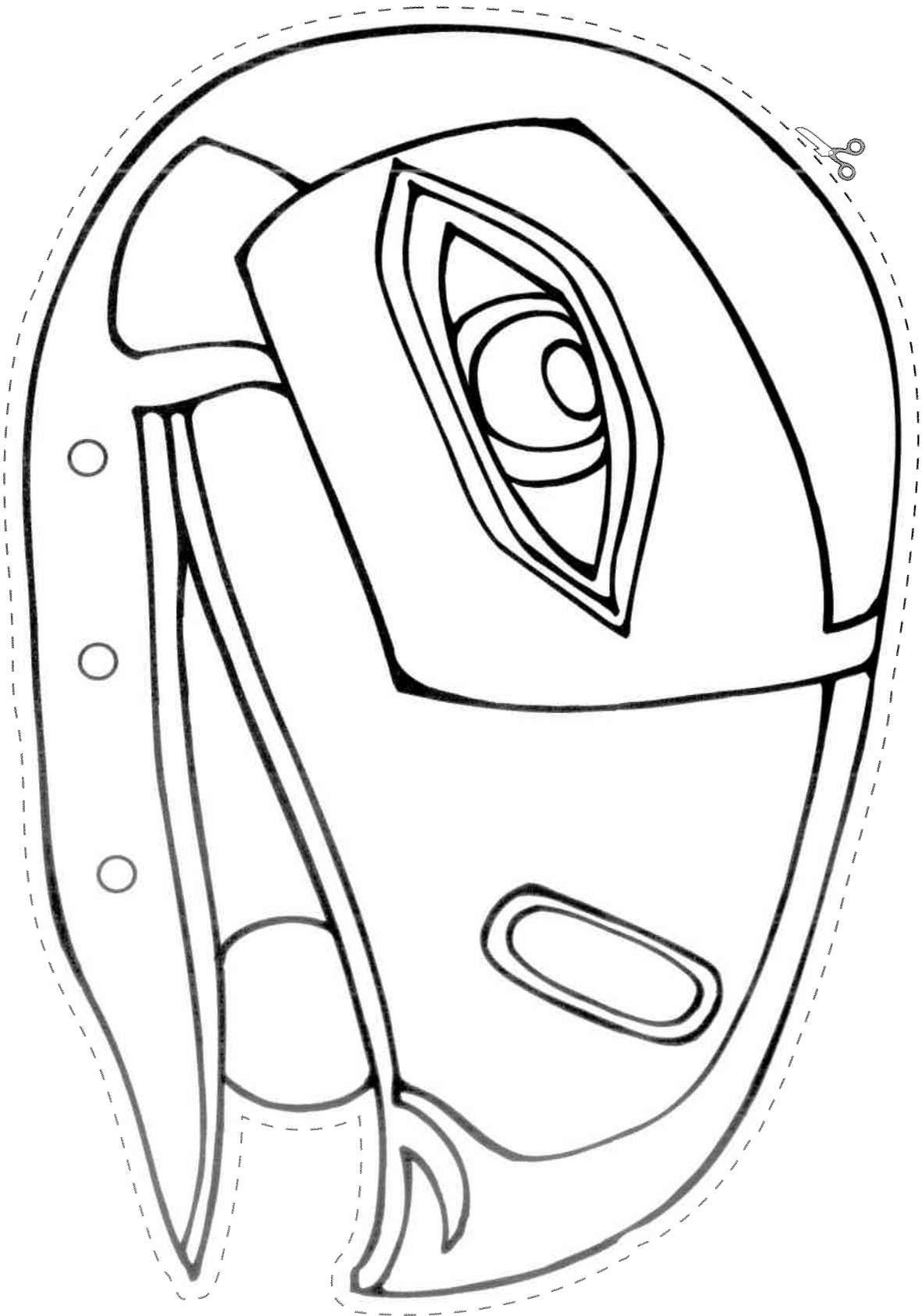


MATERIALS

- page 30, reproduced for each student
- 9" x 12" (23 x 30.5 cm) black construction paper
- crayons or marking pens
- scissors
- glue
- transparent tape
- hole punch
- raffia
- 12" (30.5 cm) wood dowel, stick, or ruler



CREATE A POTLATCH MASK

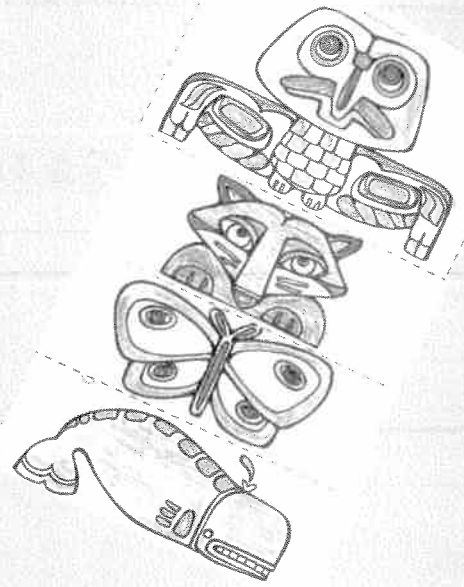


TOTEM POLE LAYER BOOK

The Tlingit carved animal symbols on totem poles to help them tell their family histories. Encourage students to create their own totem pole layer books to tell about their families.

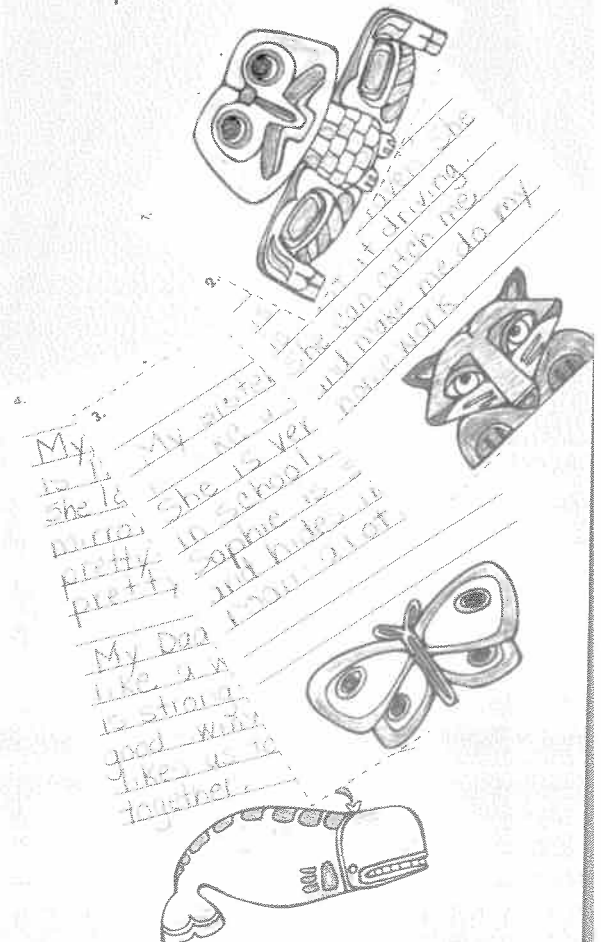
STEPS TO FOLLOW

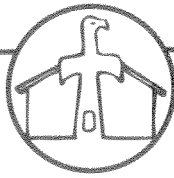
1. As a class, make a list of the qualities of the four animals represented in the totem pole book on page 32. For example: The raven is smart, free-spirited, and independent. The fox is shy, clever, and fast. The butterfly is delicate, colorful, and beautiful. The whale is strong, friendly, and a good swimmer.
2. Have students cut apart the four totem pole layers.
3. Assemble the layers in the proper order (from shortest on top to longest on the bottom).
4. Staple the book together at the top.
5. Have students choose four people in their family that they think have the same qualities as the four animals in the book.
6. Direct students to lift the raven picture and write about a person who is like the raven. The students then lift the fox picture and write about a person who is like the fox. Then they lift the butterfly picture and write about a person who is like a butterfly at the top of the page and about a person who represents the whale at the bottom of the page.
7. Have students color the four animals and then share the totem pole layer books with the class.



MATERIALS

- page 32, reproduced for each student
- stapler
- scissors
- crayons
- pencil

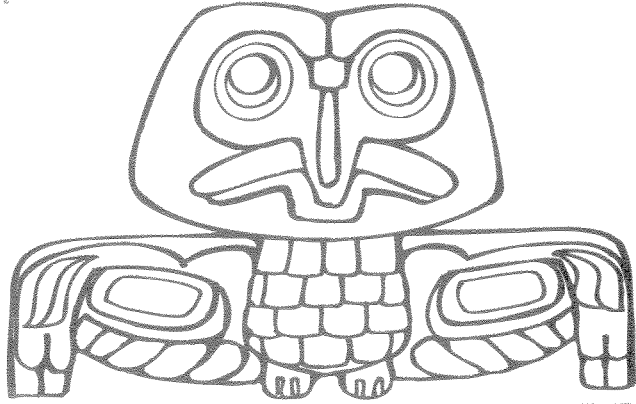




TOTEM POLE LAYER BOOK



1

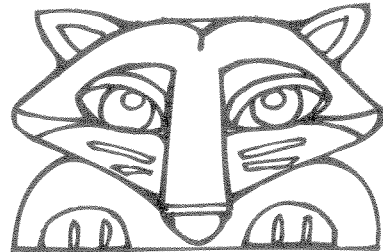


2

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten horizontal lines.

3

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten horizontal lines.



4

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten horizontal lines.

