Native Report Season 17 Episode 5

Watch the Video:
Linda LeGarde Grover: Book release – Gichigami Hearts: Stories and Histories from Misaabekong

Grade level: 10-12
Time needed: 2 class periods

Materials Needed:
Video linked above
Copy of student viewing worksheet

Minnesota ELA Standards
10.1.8.1 Evaluate the impact of vocabulary, including key words or phrases with multiple meanings, on content, style, and meaning of literary text.
10.2.1.2 Write with command of grammar and mechanics to influence voice and style.
10.2.2.2 Write to represent personal perspective, identity, and voice as a member of a global community.
11.2.6.2 Apply structural elements characteristic of the personal essay or autobiographical essay.
11.3.1.1 Exchange ideas through storytelling, discussion, and collaboration, both as facilitator and participant, expressing ideas, intentionally considering the perspectives of Dakota and Anishinaabe people as well as other perspectives.

Objectives:
▪ Use critical thinking to engage with Linda’s video.
▪ Compose a short story or essay capturing a moment in life.
▪ Effectively use descriptive language to paint a picture.

Activities:
1. Watch the video
2. Complete the worksheet questions
3. Write a short story or essay
4. Share and discuss stories with the class

Questions for class discussion:
▪ What was it like turning a moment or experience into a written portrait?
▪ What challenges did you have in describing these scenes for the reader?
▪ Why is it important to use descriptive language in writing stories?
▪ Did you feel more connection to your story as you wrote it? How so?
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Directions: Watch the video and respond to the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What does Misaabekong mean?

2. What are a few of the topics Linda says she wrote about in her book?

3. How does Linda describe printed work and her writing process?

4. What language does Linda use in her excerpt from The Wolf and the Rabbit to make the scene come alive for the reader/listener?

Directions: Complete the following activity on a separate piece of paper. Please write at least one full page.

Linda LeGarde Grover explains her book as a “portrait of the people of this part of Lake Superior”. Think on your own communities and life experiences. Write a short story or essay that is a portrait of a time, place, or experience of your life. Focus on including descriptive language so that a reader or listener can envision this moment, as if seeing a portrait.