

Mni Sota Maḵoḵe: The Daḵota Homeland Curriculum Outline

Curriculum Goal:

Minnesota learners will understand the significant Daḵota relationship to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe and explore how certain Daḵota worldviews and values can help create more balance and respect among the different communities who call Mni Sota Maḵoḵe home.

Lesson	Main Idea	Essential Question(s)
1) Mni Sota Maḵoḵe: Our Homeland	Mni Sota Maḵoḵe is the homeland of the Daḵota people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How do we know that Mni Sota Maḵoḵe is a Daḵota place?• What kind of relationship do Daḵota people have to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe?
2) Mitakuye Owas'iy: Daḵota Worldview	A central part of the Daḵota worldview places Daḵota people in a special relationship with the land.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does the Daḵota worldview of <i>mitakuye owas'iy</i> ("we are all relatives") mean?• What relationship do Daḵota people have to the land in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe?• Why does it matter to learn certain Daḵota names and phrases?
3) Mitakuye Owas'iy: Our Relative the Land	<i>Mitakuye owas'iy</i> teaches that humans are a relative of the land and of all things that exist on the land, in the air, and in the water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does viewing the land as your relative change your relationship to it?
4) Daḵota Wicoh'an: Daḵota Values in Action	Within a Daḵota worldview, it is important to live <i>Daḵota wicoh'an</i> (Daḵota ways of living).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What does living <i>Daḵota wicoh'an</i> (Daḵota ways of living) mean to Daḵota people?
5) Striving for Ikḵe Wicaḵta in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe	Within a Daḵota worldview, it is important to strive to be an <i>ikḵe wicaḵta</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why should we all learn about <i>ikḵe wicaḵta</i>?

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6) Dakota Places in Mni Sota	The longtime and ongoing Dakota relationship to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe is supported by the longtime and ongoing use of Dakota place names in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does knowing more about the origins of certain place names help us deepen our understanding of the history of Mni Sota Maḵoḵe? • Why should we learn the meaning and correct pronunciation of Dakota place names?
7) Changes and Upheaval in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe: Treaties, Loss, and Exile, Pt. 1	The Dakota have a significant and sovereign connection to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe that, because of United States governmental policy, changed drastically between 1805 and 1930.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did treaties between the United States and the Dakota in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe affect Dakota relationships to the land? • How did <i>Mni Sota Maḵoḵe</i> become Minnesota?
8) Changes and Upheaval in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe: Treaties, Loss, and Exile, Pt. 2	The Dakota have a significant and sovereign connection to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe that, because of United States governmental policy, changed drastically between 1805 and 1930.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the events of 1862 and afterwards impact the relationship of Dakota people to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe and with the United States government? • What changes did the US force upon the Dakota in Minnesota?
9) De-colonizing Mni Sota Maḵoḵe: Reclaiming Dakota Language and Culture	Dakota connections and relationship to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe continue through a process of de-colonization.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are some ways that the Dakota stay connected to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe?
10) Living Together in Mni Sota Maḵoḵe	We all belong to Mni Sota Maḵoḵe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even if I am not Dakota, how can I be a good relative in and with Mni Sota Maḵoḵe?