

Canada's Indigenous Peoples — Knowledge Organiser

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Key facts

- Canada's Indigenous peoples are made up of three groups: First Nations, Métis and Inuit.
- They have lived in the land now called Canada for thousands of years, long before Europeans arrived.
- There are more than 600 First Nations communities, speaking many different languages.
- The Inuit live mainly in the Arctic north; the Métis have both Indigenous and European ancestry.

Key vocabulary

- Indigenous — the first peoples of a land.
- First Nations — Indigenous peoples of Canada who are not Inuit or Métis.
- Inuit — Indigenous peoples of the Arctic.
- Métis — peoples of mixed Indigenous and European ancestry.

Connection to the land

Indigenous peoples have deep knowledge of the land, animals and seasons, passed down through stories, ceremonies and the spoken word over many generations.

Truth and reconciliation

Canada is working to understand and make right the harms of the past, including the residential schools that took Indigenous children from their families. Each year, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (30 September) remembers this. We learn about Indigenous peoples and cultures with respect.