

My Ideas and Thoughts about the Project

I feel about our project we are doing a good job. I'm learning about plants. Me and my class are learning about digital cameras and discs. I'm learning to make medicine tea. I planted sweet grass to see if it will grow. The project is teaching me a lot about Mother Earth.

The teacher and those people from the University of Calgary showed me how to work with nature. They said we have to respect everything the Creator put on this earth. They also taught us how to use a camcorder, computer, and how we will create our website.

I want to show my brothers and sisters what I learned about this project.

I'm having a lot of fun and I hope my classmates are having fun.



Japheth

My Ideas and Thoughts about the Project

It is fun and cool. The project is about plants, Blackfoot, about roots, and sweet grass. We used a digital camera and we are making a website. The web site is cool.

I want to show my mom, my brothers, and sisters what I have learned from this project. The teacher and the others taught us a lot about all the plants on our reserve. I'm learning how to type and I will know where to pick these plants when I am older. I will get to teach other students about what I have learned.



My Ideas and Thoughts about the Project

We are doing this project because when we grow up we will know how to use these plants. We will know how to pick sweet grass and make herb tea and mint tea. We will know how to use a digital camera. I have to do this project all year. I just can't wait till I'm on the computer.

On the third week of school, we planted sweet grass roots and they are really growing. On my pot I put the four main poles and mother earth. When we have our computer classes our teacher teaches us how to type.

One of the digital cameras we put our discs in and we take our pictures. We could look at our pictures on the computer. To me the project is fun and cool.

Marvin



My Ideas and Thoughts about the Project

I'm feeling really good about the project. I am very happy about the project. Me and the other students are going to talk about sipatsimo. We are learning to use a digital camera. Now we have our own digital camera. With a disc we can take pictures.

We can go on the website. My teacher teaches us how to use the computers. We put our fingers on the home row keys. We are typing asdf jkl; 5 times. Sherri is helping us to do our project. Sherri taught us how to work a digital camera.

I hope everyone had a fun time working a digital camera. We can share our website with all the people of the world and our community.

Kendra



My Ideas and Thoughts about the project

We are learning what the roots looks like. I feel good about this project. I can't wait to learn how to use a digital camera. We use a computer in our computer class and we are learning how to type. We are learning how to go on the website.

We planted roots and we used gravel to hold the soil and water in. We use sipatsimo to wash our hair with. We use sipatsimo to make herb tea.

I want to learn a lot of things from the project to help me when I get older. My teacher, Sherri and the elders are helping us learn.

Shelby



February 15, 2005

Carolla Calf robe came back again and she told us about more plants. She talk to us about the white willow bark and Japheth and Shelby interview her for this plant.

Then she talked about the sage brush and Noah and Kendra interviewed her. This plant is used for diabetes, cuts, sores, and you could soak your tired feet in it when you boil some.

Marvin and Bryton interviewed her about kinickinick (tobacco).

Bryce did most of the videotaping and we all took turns taking pictures.





February 10, 2005

Dean Bareham came to teach us how to make music and we made up a song about our plants. We have been very lucky because we have all kinds of people helping us out with our research and we are learning all kinds of things that will help us with interviewing, working with technology and learning about all the plants for our website.



February 1, 2005

We had Carolla Calf Robe in our class today and she told us about many different plants that she was given the rights to use. She knows a lot of different things about plants and she brought a lot of plants to show us. She talk to us about sooyaihtsii, tsiinaimo, liquorice root, ka'ksimii, aohtokso'kii (yarrow). The yarrow plant is best to be picked in July or August. It is used for first aid, high blood pressure, and tostop bleeding. She also had bitter root, bear root, rat root, and she told us that some people make sweetgrass lotion now. Somebody asked her if we could smudge with the lotion. Shelby did the interview.



January 25, 2005

We were invited by Randy Bottle to go into Chief and councils meeting today so that we could present our project to them.

We all took turns reading our reports and Bryce did the videotaping. Council was very positive in how they felt about what we were doing. They said that they were happy for us and that they would not know what to look for if they went out to look for some of the herbs.

It was a good experience for us because we don't think there are too many 9 and 10 year old kids that get to go present something to Chief and Council.







January 20, 2005

Today Harrison Wolf Child came to talk to us about katoyiss (sweet pine). He showed us what it looks like and how it is used. The people who have thunder pipe bundles use it when they smudge. He told us that the sweet pine is not easy to find that it is hard to find. Bryce and Marvin interviewed him. We all took turns taking pictures and videotaping.



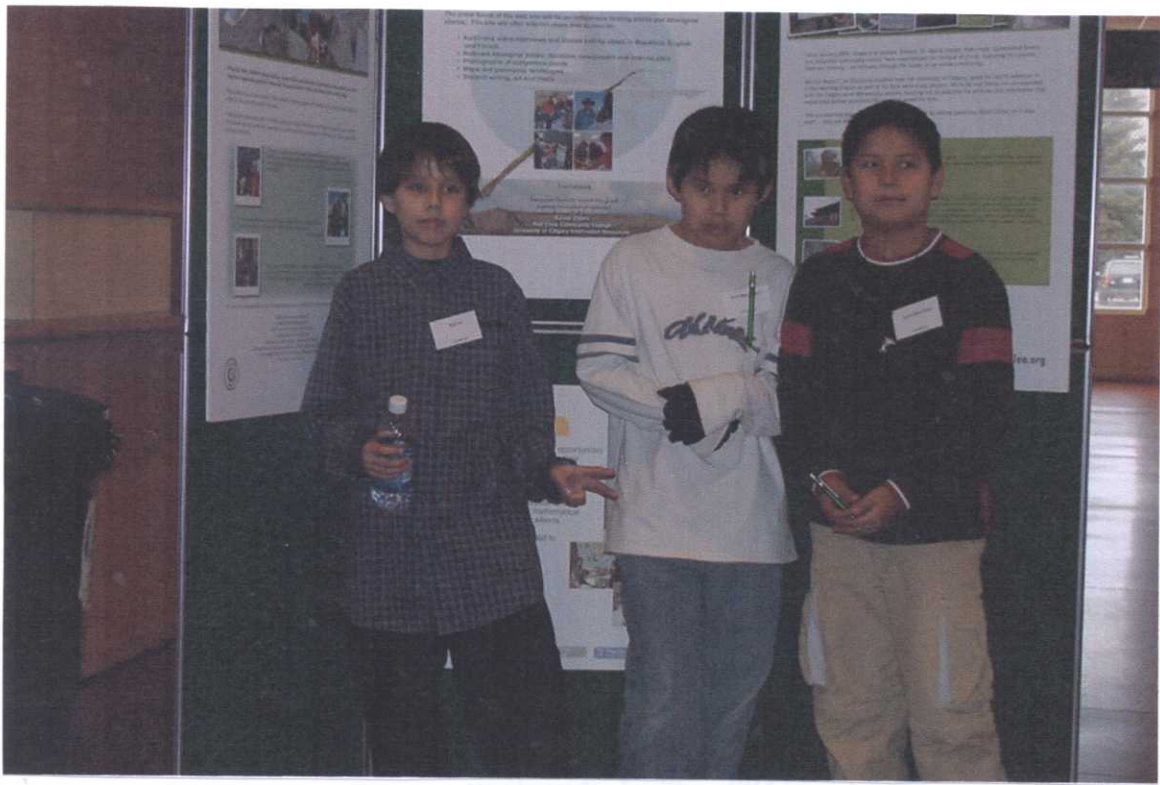


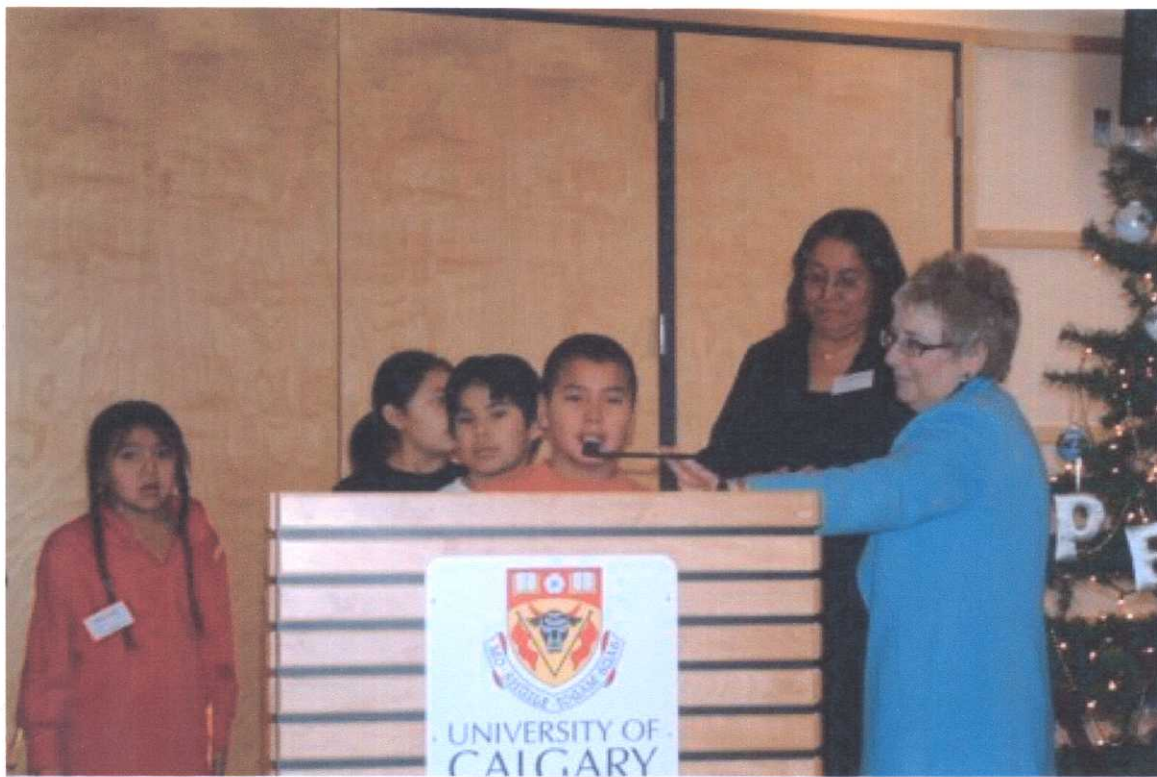
Glenbow Museum Visit

On December 7, 2004, we went to the Glenbow Museum to do some research in the archives. We saw artifacts that were made of the plants that we are studying. When we started going through the drawers we ran out of time and realized that we need more time to do our research. We need at least two days to go through everything. We need to spend two nights and two full days to finish going through everything there. We found out that there are a lot of things in the museum about our people. Some of us have never been into a museum and this was a really good experience for us.

Bryton

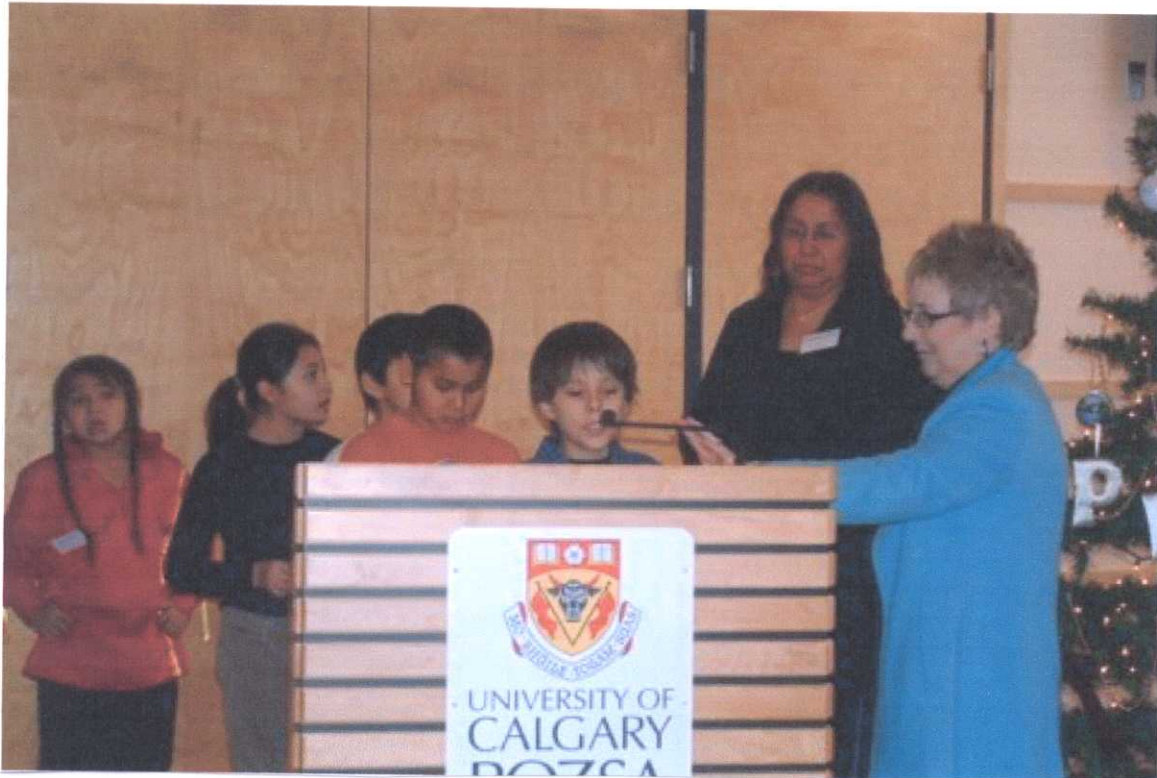






AGM

On December 3, 2004, we went to the University of Calgary to make a presentation at the 5th Annual General Meeting for Galileo Educational Network. When we made our presentation we told everyone about our project and what we were doing. The people were all very interested in what we were doing and they really encouraged us to keep on doing a good job. There was a lot of positive feedback from everyone.





November 12, 2004

Adam and Alfreda Delaney came to our school to tell us what they know about the different plants. Bryton interviewed both of them. The rest of us took pictures and videotaped the interview. They both know a lot about plants and they have been in the Horn Society. Adam said that we have to know the names of the plants and know how to use them because it is that much more easier for us to lose the knowledge. They both told us that the work that we are doing is important and that we can learn now and when we get older we will be able to help other people learn what we learned. They both learned a lot of things from their parents.







October 28, 2004

Pete Standing Alone was at our classroom and Noah interviewed him about different plants. We found out that he knows more about the different trees and what they are used for. He took us down to the Old Agency. We went for a walk by the old St. Pauls school. He told us a lot about the trees and he showed us where there used to be a little store there. We learned somethings about the History of that area of the reserve. We even saw where Albert Mountain Horse was buried. He was in the World War. We really learned a lot of different things from Pete.

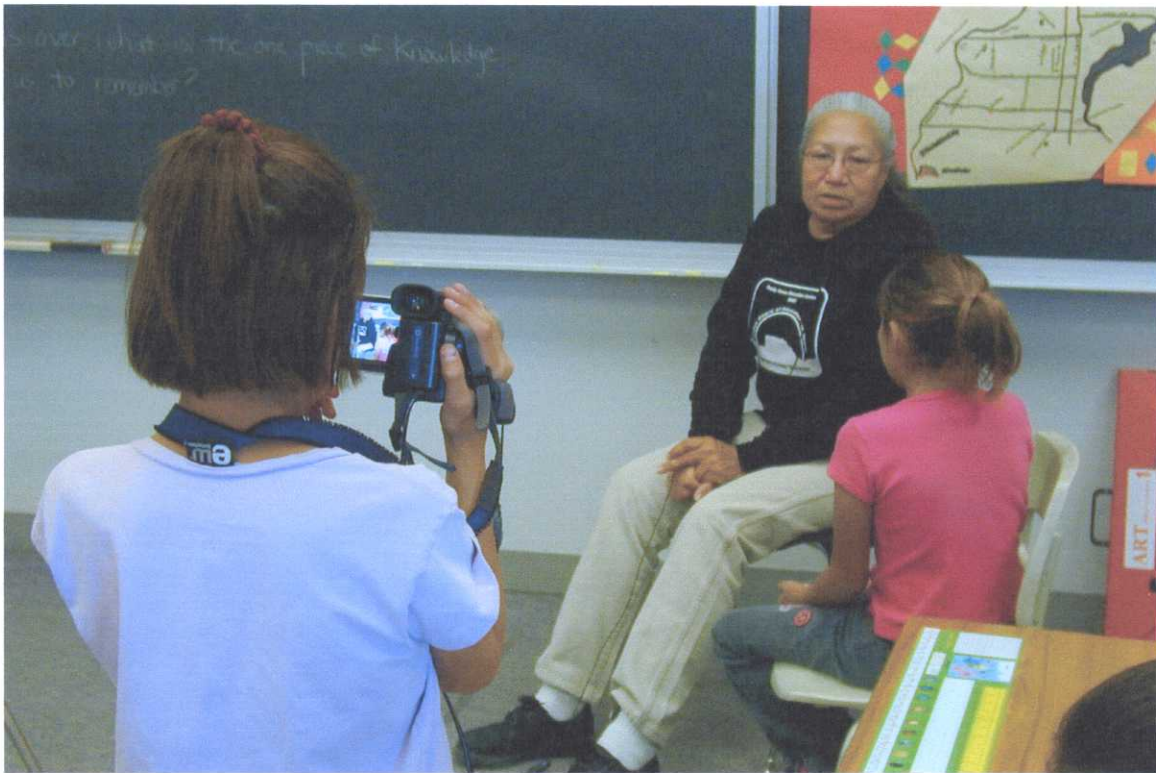


October 27/04 continued

Charlene Mountain Horse was interviewed and she talked about her views on what we are doing.

She was very impressed with how we are learning about technology and research compared to when she was in High School.

She said that we were very lucky to be doing the research at our age and the advantages that we are receiving from the project. We are learning so much about technology and how we can use it to save all the stuff that we are researching.







October 27

We spent the morning working with Courtney, Angela, and Richard on interview skills, camera techniques, video taping, and using editing software on the computer.

The afternoon was spent interviewing Elders, Agnes First Charger and Sandra Singer about the aomaohksikimii plant. Summer interviewed Agnes and we found out how the plant is used by herbalists and the medicinal uses of the plant. She told us where to find the plant, when was the best time to pick it, and how she gain the rights to use this plant.

Sandra told us about how she learned to use the plant. She also told us where to pick the plant and how to use it.

One thing that we have not learned is the English name of this plant. So far everyone that we have asked just knows the Blackfoot name. We have named it red tea because of how it has been described to us by the elders when it is prepared it comes out red by the elders. While the interviews were going on, we took turns taking pictures with our own discs and took turns with the camcorders.



Presentations

When we first started the project, I had a chance to present at the Treaty Seven Education conference in Calgary in October, 2004 with my teacher Ms. Mountain Horse, Brenda Gladstone the Chief operating officer for Galileo Network, Sherri Rinkel-Mackay (also from Galileo), and Narcisse Blood from Red Crow Community College. Then I was able to make a presentation with the same people to the Kainai Education board members also in October. Our teacher made a presentation of the project at the University of Calgary, at the New Ways Conference in October with Brenda Gladstone, Narcisse Blood, and Francis First Charger. There were a lot of people there talking about their projects and work on the internet and they were very excited for our website to be on the internet.

Marvin



October 5, 2004

Today we went to Standoff with Shirley Mountain Horse and she showed us where to find omahkokataowahsin (gopher food). We found some by the church in Standoff. We found out it is used for stomach problems.

Then we went to Old Agency and we went to find some aomaohksikimii (red tea). We had a hard time finding the plant because it had really dried up.



October 4, 2004

Today we had Shirley Mountain Horse come to our class and talk to us about how we use sipatsimo and how she learned to use it. We all had a chance to interview her and ask her some questions. We learned a lot from her. One really important thing that she told us was not to pick herbs and plants that look like bugs or insects were eating. The bugs suck all the juice out of the plants and the plant is not good anymore. She told us that she makes medicine tea and that she makes it for people that want her to help them get better.

We also went around the school yard and we found some burdock. We found out that it is used for anything wrong with the liver. We had to get a shovel to dig the burdock up. We could not just pull it out.





September 27, 2004

Today we were with Mary Rose and Margaret Gros Ventre Boy. They showed us where to pick sweet grass and how to find it. We went to the Eagle Plumes house and we picked sweet grass there. The ground was really wet and the sweet grass was still green and it grew really long.

We took a lot of soil from this place. We pulled a lot of sweetgrass roots so that we can cut the roots off and we will plant the roots in the soil that we got, to see if the roots will grow.

We went to a field by the Russels, they live Southwest of our school. We picked sweetgrass there but the sweetgrass was very short and the soil was really dry. The sweet grass is a shiny green color and it is purple or red at the ends.

We learned how to braid the sweetgrass too. When we got back to the school we planted the roots in pots.

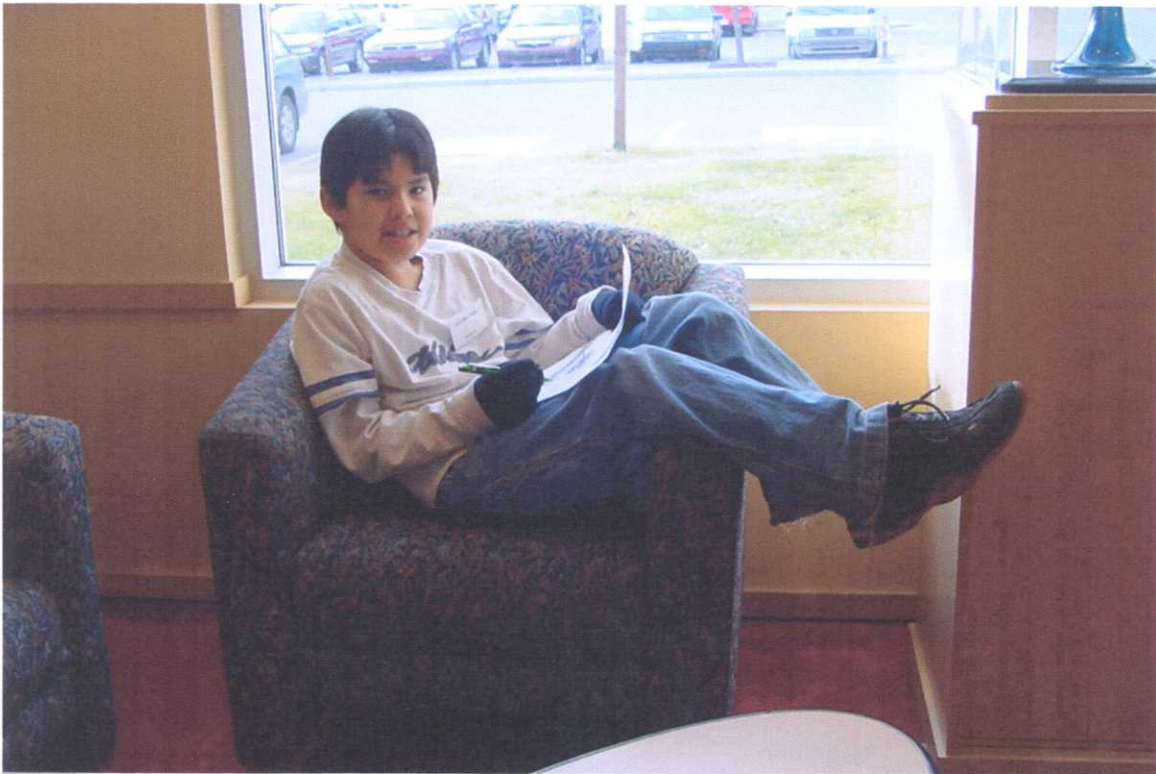
We also went to the Kainai High School to see the computer lab. We needed to get to know what technology is about.



My Ideas and Thoughts about the Project

I did not get to go out into the field with the rest of the students when the project first began. I transferred in from Lethbridge at the end of October. I have learned a lot from the project. We have done a lot of work. We have done a lot of things that are exciting. We are learning so much about technology. This is a real good way of learning. It is different for us because we are the first Native Students in our area that have a website and that are doing the kind of work that we are doing. We are very lucky that we can do this kind of work. It is good for us to learn now and when we get older we can use what we have learned.

Bryce



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Shelby



Other Presentations

We have other presentations that we have scheduled. In May, we don't have the exact date we will be presenting again in Calgary at a conference on technology. Then on June 22, we will be presenting to the Faculty of education students at the University of Lethbridge and on June 23, we will take the same students on a nature walk with Pete Standing Alone. I interviewed Pete when he came to our school and when he took us on a nature walk in Old Agency we all had a chance to take pictures. Our teacher said that we looked like a bunch of reporters when we were all standing around with our cameras and camcorders when we were taping Pete and taking pictures. There are others that want us to make a presentation to them but the dates have not been set yet.

My Ideas and Thoughts about the Project

I feel proud of the project. We are learning how to make herb tea and learning how to use digital cameras. We are doing a website and learning how to plant wild plants.

When we go to computers, our teacher teaches us how to type out words. We are planting sipatsimo. How we plant it, we grab some gravel then we put soil in. We put the roots in the soil that we got from the place we picked the sweet grass.

These people are teaching us what to do, our teacher, Sherri, Vincent, and the elders. So when we get older we know how to pick the plants and know how to use them. We will know how to use technology when we get older.

Bryton



My Thoughts and Ideas about the Project Now

I interviewed one of the elders about aomaohksikimii (red tea) .I learned a lot from the interview. I have my own disc, my own stuff that I work with like a sketch pad to draw the plants with pastels and a field journal book. What I like most about the project is drawing the plants, interviewing, and working with different technology.

Sommer

