



DIALOGUING TREATY WORDS (T1)

OVERVIEW

In this learning experience, learners are introduced to twelve key treaty terms and ideas. They are asked to absorb the meanings of the words through a creative dialogue experience. Dialogue bubbles are used to mimic the heavy reliance on discussion and negotiation at the heart of treaty-making. Learners imagine what people might think as well as what they might say.

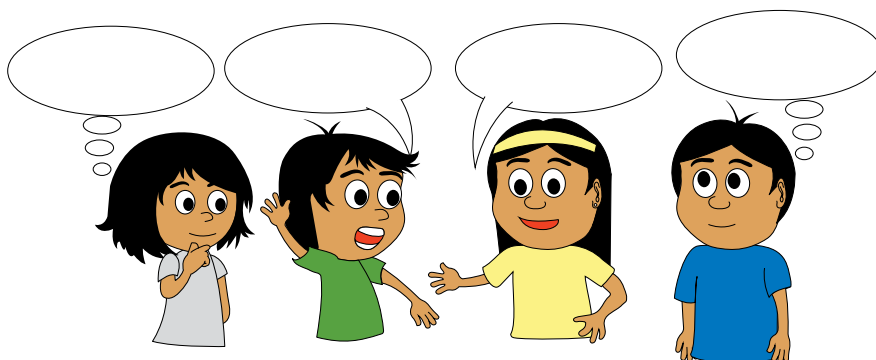
LEARNERS WILL...

- ▶ Grasp basic treaty vocabulary through a creative experience that emphasizes the social context of treaty-making.
- ▶ Be asked to use treaty terms appropriately within a scenario they imagine.
- ▶ See how other learners perceive the same primary terms.
- ▶ Be asked to consider what people are thinking at the same time that someone is speaking: the visible and non-visible aspects of discussion and dialogue.
- ▶ Apply their knowledge of social interaction and dialogue to convey meaning to others.

FOCUS

Twelve cards have been provided in the supplementary materials. Each card has one of the treaty terms on it, as well as a definition for that term and a blank dialogue image. Learners are asked to choose one card and absorb the term and its meaning. Then, on the reverse side learners are asked to create a dialogue that demonstrates their understanding of the term. The dialogues can be shared as a class discussion, or learners who share the same term can find each other and discuss the similarities and differences with their dialogues. An initial class discussion on the terms may be a useful start.

The terms for this experience are: **treaty, heir, alliance, signatory, right, responsibility, netukulimk, negotiation, peace, promise, consensus, and ratification.**



PE!

It is important that students engaging in this LE have a clear understanding of the following content:

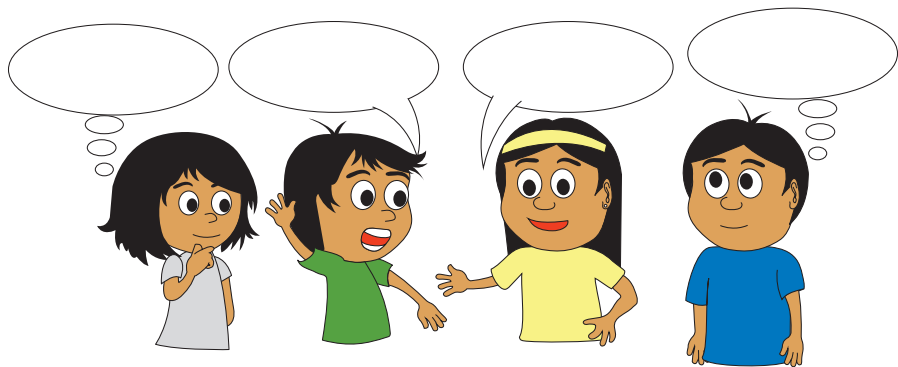
- The Mi'kmaq as the Indigenous people of Nova Scotia and the Atlantic region.
- Mi'kma'ki as the ancestral homeland of the Mi'kmaq.
- The concept of *netukulimk*.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

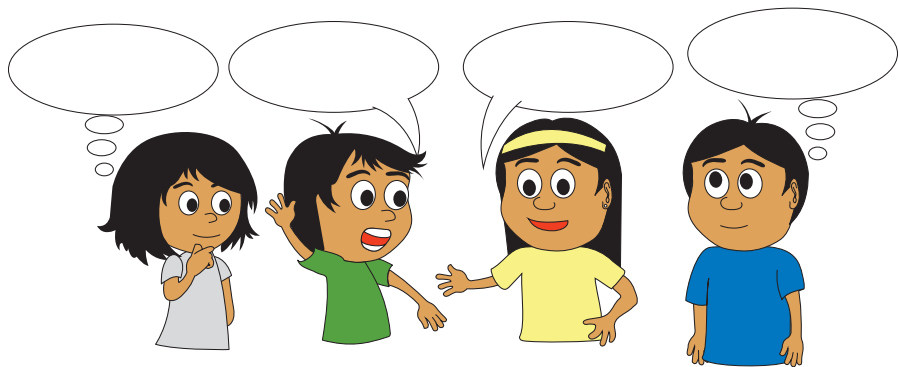
See the theme introduction on page 51 as well as the next theme introduction (Treaty- Making) on pages 55-57 and the general introduction to the resource (p. 11-12).

There are additional resources on the Mi'kmaq treaties at the following websites:

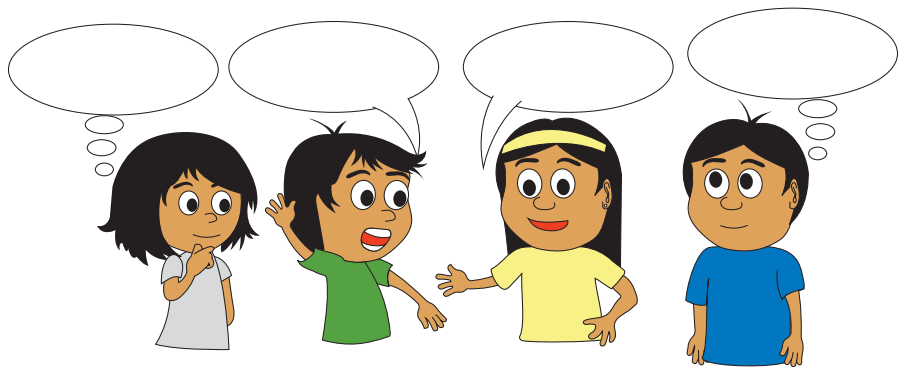
- **Sister Dorothy Moore L'nu Resource Centre** (includes FAQ): <https://www.cbu.ca/indigenous-affairs/unamaki-college/mikmaq-resource-centre/treaties/>
- **Nova Scotia Archives:** <https://novascotia.ca/archives/mikmaq/results.asp?Search=AR5&>



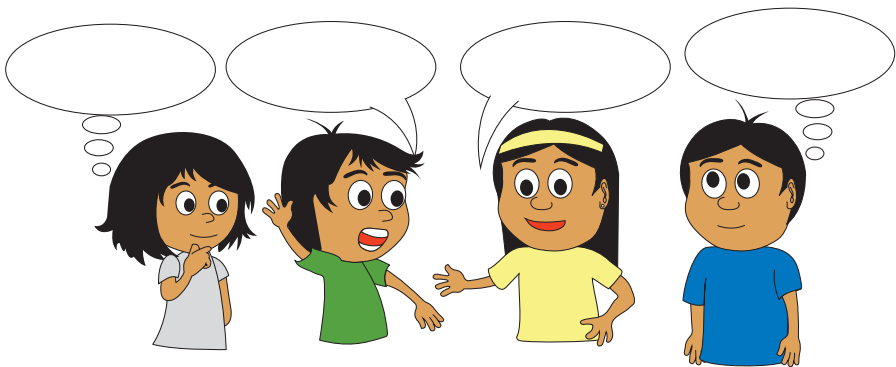
Treaty: Treaties are formal and legally binding agreements made between two or more parties. To Mi'kmaq, treaties also establish ongoing relationships between treaty signatories, outlining their responsibilities to one another and to the Earth.



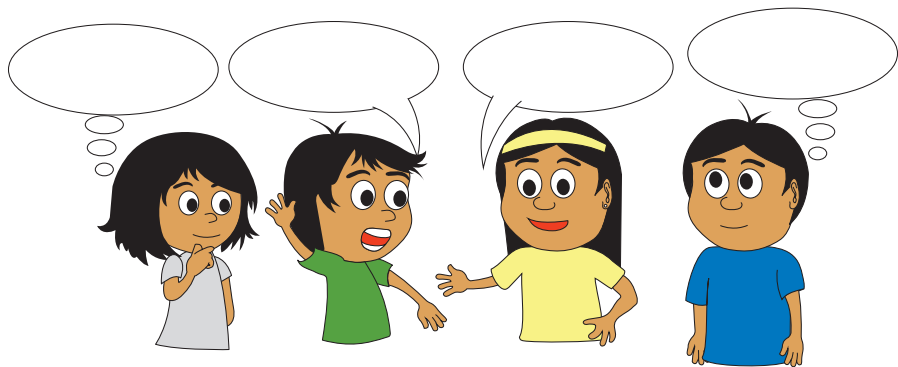
Heir: Someone who inherits the responsibilities of the people who originally signed the treaties.



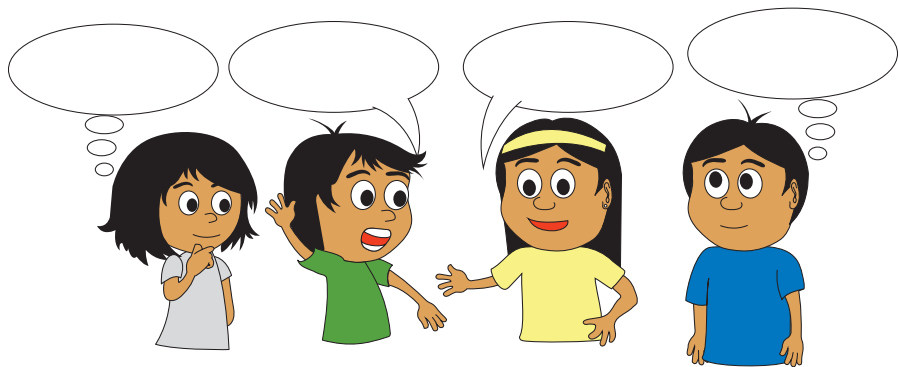
Alliance: A relationship made between two or more individuals or groups to achieve mutual benefit, or to reach a common goal.



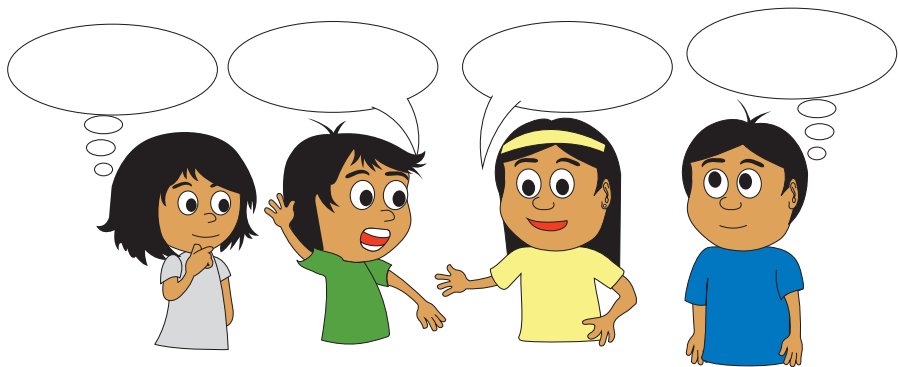
Signatory: Someone who signs a treaty as a representative of their family, community, or nation.



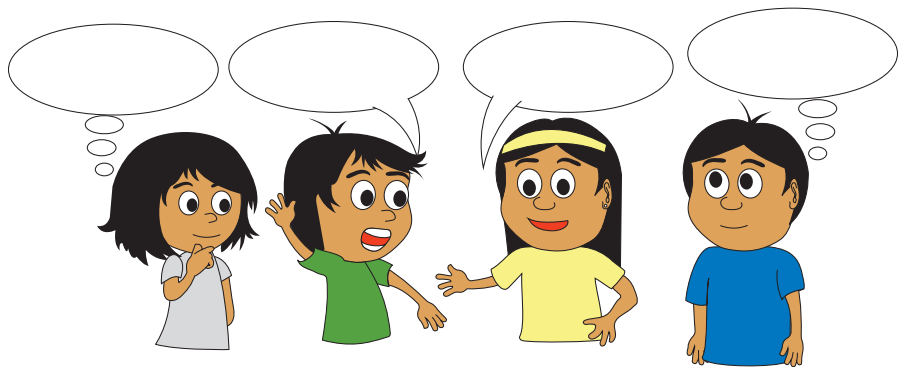
Right: Rights are things or ways of being that people are entitled to. Rights are protected, usually by law. For example, Canadians have the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to protect their rights. Treaties also protect rights.



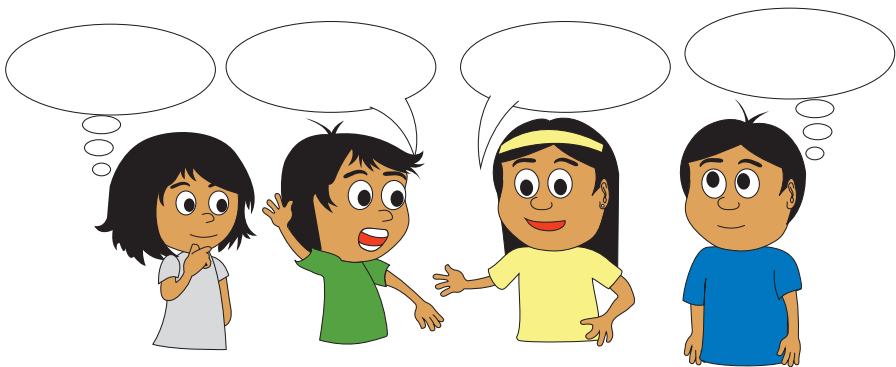
Responsibility: Having a responsibility means having a duty to do something; it also means being accountable for performing that duty.



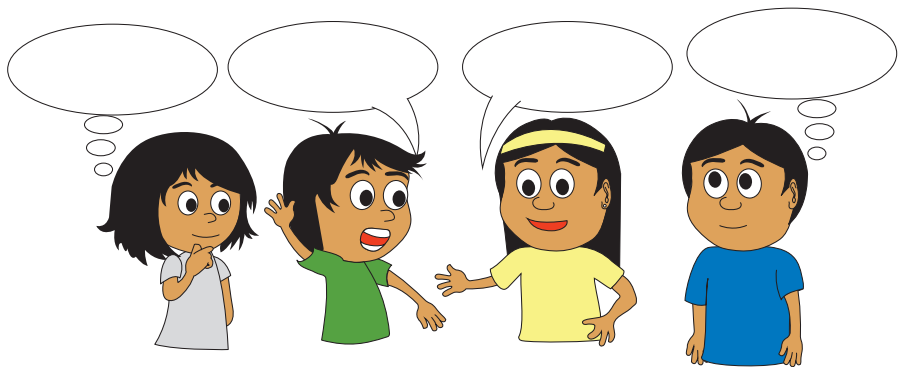
Netukulimk: Netukulimk is one of the most central values in Mi'kmaw life. Mi'kmaq practice sustainability by honouring all relations and living in balance with all creation. Mi'kmaq only ever take what they need. This allows them to support individual and community well-being without harming our diverse environment.



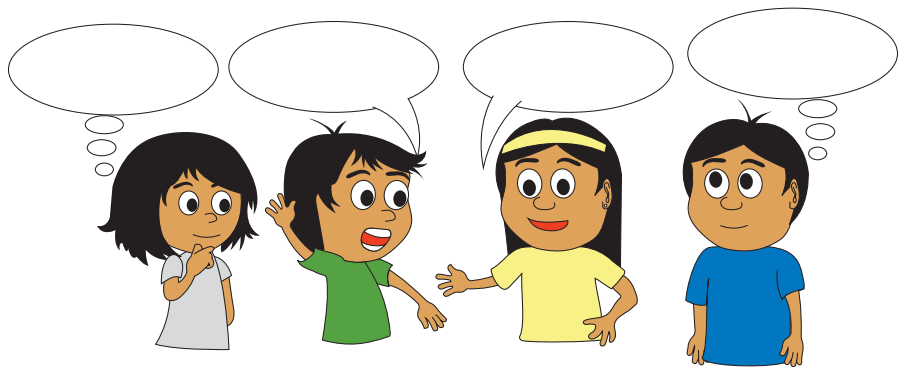
Negotiation: Negotiation is communication between different parties who are working together to reach an agreement or resolve an issue. Negotiation often requires compromise. Oftentimes, negotiation is used to reach consensus.



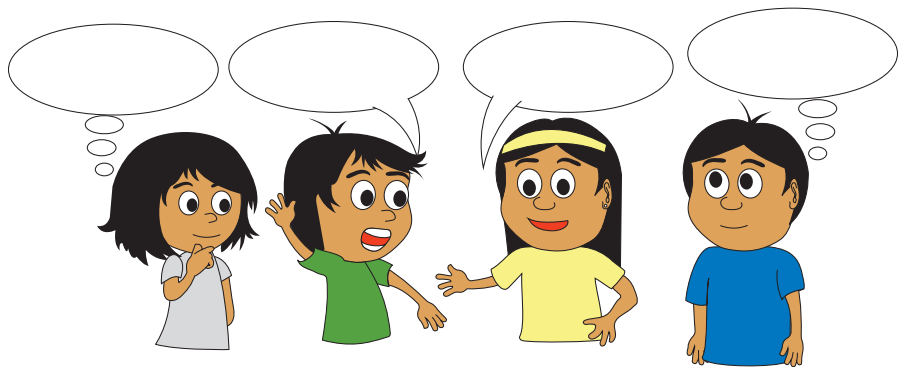
Peace: Peace is a state of living in harmony with all beings. Agreeing on peace with other nations or parties means that there is no violence or war.



Promise: A promise is an agreement to do something, or to not do something, no matter what. When we make promises, we assume that we will not break those promises.



Consensus: Consensus is a way for a community, or nation, to make decisions. This means that a decision is reached that everyone agrees with. To reach a decision by consensus, the decision cannot be made without everyone's approval.



Ratification: Ratification is the process of making an agreement official. When a treaty is ratified, all parties have signed it, and have agreed formally to its terms.