

# Grade 4 Social Studies Curriculum Links to Sustainability Education and Action

## Alberta: The Land, Histories and Stories

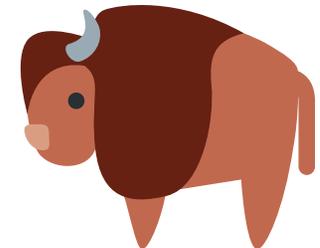
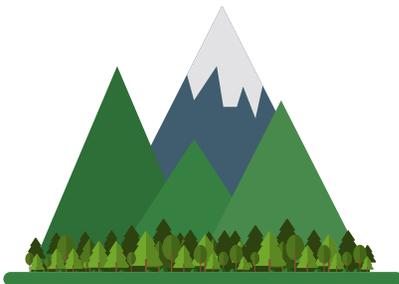
Grade 4 introduces specific geographic skills through an examination of Alberta and its cultural and geographic diversity. Linkages to literature and the continued development of historical thinking are reinforced through stories and legends. Archaeology and paleontology are also introduced in Grade 4 to further develop historical thinking skills.

### Links to Place and Nature

- What is the physical geography and ecology of my area?
- What are the special natural features and resources that characterize my local area? Alberta? How have these elements shaped my community? Alberta?
- What factors determine climate in my local area? In Alberta?
- What municipal, provincial and national parks exist in my area?
- Why are protected areas important?
- What is the geology and paleontological history of my area?
- What are the significant cultural features in my local area and why are they significant?
- What is a sustainable vs. unsustainable use of resources?

### Links to Indigenous Perspectives

- See [Learn Alberta grade 4 sample lesson plan \(1\)](#) for this unit.
- What is a promise and how does that apply to treaties?
- Why were treaties signed?
- Which treaty was signed in my area?
- How is storytelling important to Indigenous ways of knowing?
- What is the history of Indigenous peoples in my area? In Alberta?
- What is the Indigenous notion of reciprocity between humans and Mother Earth? How did Indigenous peoples rely on Mother Earth for their survival and well-being? How did they take care of Mother Earth?
- What landforms or historical sites are significant to Indigenous peoples in my area and why?



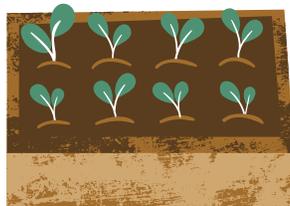
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## Alberta: The Land, Histories and Stories (cont'd)

Grade 4 introduces specific geographic skills through an examination of Alberta and its cultural and geographic diversity. Linkages to literature and the continued development of historical thinking are reinforced through stories and legends. Archaeology and paleontology are also introduced in Grade 4 to further develop historical thinking skills.

### Links to Climate Change

- How is climate changing as a result of human-induced global warming?
- How does climate change affect how we use the land and natural resources in Alberta (e.g. agriculture, timber production)?
- How might farmers need to adapt the type of crops that are grown because of climate change?
- How does climate change affect our forests? Our glaciers? Our water systems?
- How do different land uses and use of natural resources in Alberta either contribute to, or lessen the impact, of climate change?
- What role can natural areas play in fighting climate change?
- How is climate change affecting recreational activities in my area (e.g. skating, gardening, skiing)?



### Links to City of Calgary Environmental and Climate Strategies

- **Climate Resilience Strategy (2):** Climate change has become one of the defining issues of our time, given the effect communities across Canada and the world continue to experience, from more extreme heat waves to increased winter storms and flooding, to advanced invasive species and vector borne diseases. The amount and rate of climate change is posing new challenges, and climate science now allows communities to anticipate a range of new and more extreme weather conditions, and therefore take action before the worst impacts are incurred. Pages 65-72 of the Climate Resilience Strategy detail climate impacts anticipated within Calgary
- By taking actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we are reducing our contribution to climate change and being responsible citizens. In this way, we can help to reduce the severity of change that we experience. Visit [Calgary.ca/ClimateAction](https://calgary.ca/ClimateAction) (3) to learn more about what you can do to reduce your personal contribution to climate change. Visit [Calgary.ca/ClimateProgram](https://calgary.ca/ClimateProgram) (4) to learn more about what The City is doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions



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## References

(1) Alberta Education. (2020). Sample Lesson Plans: Social Studies. Retrieved from LearnAlberta  
<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/fnmilp/social.html>

(2) City of Calgary. (2018). Climate Resilience Strategy: Mitigation & Adaptation Action Plans [PDF]. Retrieved from  
<https://www.calgary.ca/content/dam/www/uep/esm/documents/esm-documents/climate-resilience-plan.pdf>

(3) City of Calgary. (2020). Actions you can take for the climate. Retrieved from <https://www.calgary.ca/uep/esm/climate-change/for-the-climate.html?redirect=/climateaction>

(4) City of Calgary. (2020). Calgary's Climate Program. Retrieved from <https://www.calgary.ca/uep/esm/energy-savings/climate-change.html?redirect=/climateprogram>

