

— Outlines —

Welcome to **Journey into Métis Culture** – Voyage dans la culture Métis – a series of experiences including assemblies, performances and workshops crafted by **Alyssa Katrine**. Join Alyssa in celebrating the resilience, diversity, and unity of the Métis people.



Explore Métis heritage through storytelling, music, hands-on activities and more – et en français aussi! Experience the vibrant journey through history and tradition with the lively rhythms of the fiddle and the rich symbolism of the Métis flag. For large groups seeking a concert-like atmosphere, assemblies are ideal. For smaller groups, workshops offer a more intimate, hands-on experience with opportunities for dialogue.

Workshop Experiences

Workshops allow for deeper exploration of the culture history and interactive activities enable students to critically engage with those topics.

Kindergarten - Grade 1 ————— 30'

This workshop introduces young learners to Métis heritage through interactive music, dance, and symbols. It aligns with the Ontario Kindergarten curriculum by enhancing social development and community awareness and supports the Grade 1 Social Studies focus on revitalising culture and language. Introducing Michif words and traditional dances like the Red River Jig help develop linguistic and physical skills. The use of Métis symbols such as the flag and cultural artifacts deepens understanding of traditions, making history tangible and accessible. Not only does the experience promote language and motor skills but also fosters early appreciation and respect for cultural diversity, nurturing emotional, social, and cultural learning from a young age.

Outline —————

- ▶ Personal intro, clap to the fiddle tune
- ▶ Story of Fiddle grandfather Teddy Boy
- ▶ Honouring her Métis grandmother Memère and indigenous agricultural wisdom with “The Three Sisters” tune
- ▶ Birth of Métis culture, Métis flag symbolism
- ▶ Transforming wildlife into song, tunes evoking nature
- ▶ Learn a few words in Michif with “Métis greeting song”



Workshop Experiences

Grades 2 - 4 ————— 40' - 60'

This workshop enriches students' understanding of Métis culture through hands-on activities and music, directly supporting the Grade 2 and 3 Social Studies curricula. By learning about Métis traditions, symbols, and language, students are given a concrete understanding of cultural diversity and historical context, crucial for meeting the curriculum's goal of exploring the life and traditions of various communities in Canada.



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- ▶ Birth of Métis culture, Métis flag symbolism
- ▶ Transforming wildlife into song, tunes evoking nature
- ▶ Learn a few words in Michif with “Métis greeting song”
- ▶ Introducing the Voyageurs, paddling song
- ▶ Artifact presentation (Métis sash, fur, beadwork)
- ▶ Dancing the Red River Jig
- ▶ Accompany the fiddle with the spoons just like you would at a traditional kitchen party
- ▶ Final reflection, “Tkaronto Reel”, embracing diversity and unity, tribute to our new home

Workshop Experiences

Grades 4 - 6 ————— 40' - 60'

This workshop offers an in-depth exploration of Métis cultural practices and their historical contexts, aligning with Social Studies curricula for these grades. The activities foster an understanding of the historical and contemporary contributions of the Métis people to Canada, addressing Social Studies objectives across Grades 4 to 6. The integration of music, language, and traditional crafts (like beadwork or the Métis sash) provides a comprehensive cultural education that is both informative and engaging.



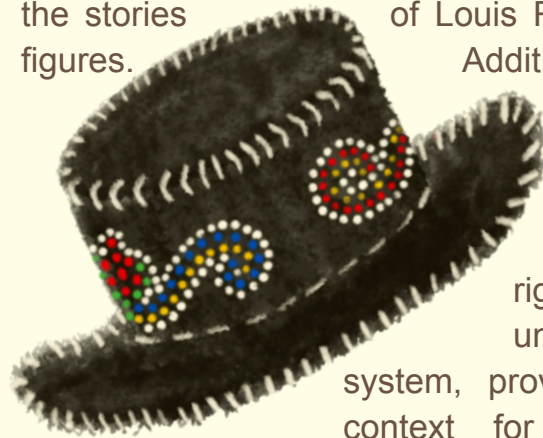
Outline —————

- ▶ Personal intro, clap to the fiddle tune
- ▶ Story of Fiddle grandfather Teddy Boy
- ▶ Honouring her Métis grandmother Memère and indigenous agricultural wisdom with “The Three Sisters” tune
- ▶ Birth of Métis culture, Métis flag symbolism
- ▶ Transforming wildlife into song, tunes evoking nature
- ▶ History of the fur trade, related fiddle tune
- ▶ Get into fiddle rhythms, clogging to the fiddle
- ▶ Learn a few words in Michif with “Métis greeting song”
- ▶ Presenting fur trade’s cultural artifacts: sash, fur, etc.
- ▶ Introducing the Voyageurs, paddling song
- ▶ Accompany the fiddle with the spoons just like you would at a traditional kitchen party
- ▶ Métis perspectives on truth, reconciliation through a song
- ▶ Dancing the Red River Jig
- ▶ Final reflection, “Tkaronto Reel”, embracing diversity and unity, tribute to our new home

Workshop Experiences

Grades 7 + ————— 60'

Designed for older students, this workshop delves into the complex history and rich culture of the Métis people. It aligns with the Grade 7 and 8 History curricula by addressing the challenges and resistance faced by the Métis, particularly through the stories of Louis Riel and other key figures.



Additionally, I share the experiences of my ancestors, who faced unfair treaties and land rights challenges under the Scrip system, providing a poignant context for Grade 7 - 8 students studying Canadian history. The workshop also explores significant cultural practices, contributing to a holistic understanding of Métis identity and resilience.

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- ▶ Personal intro, clap to the fiddle tune
- ▶ Story of Fiddle grandfather Teddy Boy
- ▶ Honouring her Métis grandmother Memère and indigenous agricultural wisdom with a tune
- ▶ Birth of Métis culture, Métis flag symbolism
- ▶ Transforming wildlife into song, tunes evoking nature
- ▶ History of the fur trade, related fiddle tune
- ▶ Get into fiddle rhythms, clogging to the fiddle
- ▶ Learn a bit of Michif with “Métis greeting song”
- ▶ Presenting fur trade’s cultural artifacts: sash, fur
- ▶ Optional finger weaving activity
- ▶ Métis traditional foods and medicines
- ▶ Métis Resistance: Louis Riel, the Red River events, etc.
- ▶ Scrip: Métis stolen land, Road Allowance People
- ▶ Accompany the fiddle with the (hand) spoons
- ▶ Métis perspectives on truth, reconciliation through a song
- ▶ Dancing the Red River Jig
- ▶ Final reflection, “Tkaronto Reel”, embracing diversity and unity, tribute to our new home

List of Other Topics

- ▶ Métis Identity through Art, Music: Creating Métis-inspired art, music, or crafts (finger weaving, beadwork) reflecting on cultural expression, its role in resilience.
- ▶ Louis Riel and Métis Leadership: In-depth discussion on the legacy of Louis Riel, Métis resistance, and their impact on Canada's political landscape.
- ▶ Land Rights and Treaties: A focus on the Scrip system, land dispossession, and how this history informs current Indigenous land rights issues.
- ▶ Métis Language revival, songs, greeting to engage with Michif, its significance in contemporary Métis culture.
- ▶ Métis Perspectives on truth, reconciliation, analyzing Métis experiences in the context of reconciliation efforts, discussing ways to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities.

Schedule, Signing up

Please schedule Alyssa for up to 3.5 hours of workshops with 3-4 classes per block of time.

Example of an awesome schedule here:

9:05-9:15	Announcement		11:50-12:40	Lunch
9:15-9:45	Set up time		12:45-1:45	G 7-8 Classes
9:45-10:15	Kindies		1:50-2:05	Recess
10:25-10:40	Recess		2:10-3:10	G 4-6 Classes
10:45-11:45	G 2-3 Classes		3:15-3:25	Dismissal

[Please email Alyssa here for pricing and booking](#)

