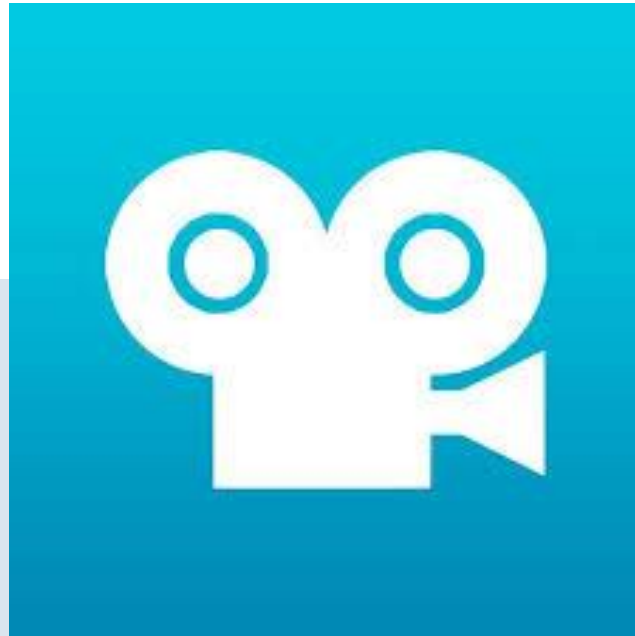


# Stop Motion Salish STEM activity

By: Ms. Tonya Lowe  
Teacher Librarian,  
Lake Trail  
Community School



[This Photo](#) by Unknown author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#).



[This Photo](#) by Unknown author is licensed under [CC BY-SA-NC](#).

# Gilakas'la Welcome

*I respectfully acknowledge that the land we gather and learn on is on the Unceded Traditional Territory of the K'ómoks First Nation – the Pentlatch, Eiksan, Sahtloot, and Sasitla - the traditional keepers of this land.*



image source: <https://komoks.ca/>

## **Group check-in -**

For a moment, we will quietly let our eyes flow around the blue-green circle 3 times.

Breathe in as you look at the blue portion.

And breathe out as you look at the green.

# Map of Coast Salish territories





**What do you see?**

**What makes you think that?**





**Each of these Coast Salish art pieces pays tribute to the spindle whorl.**

**What attributes or patterns do you notice?**

**A spindle whorl is used to spin fleece into yarn.**

It has a 20 cm disk (whorl) with a rod (spindle) up to 120 cm long through a hole in the middle.

The whorl added weight needed to maintain the spinning motion and to prevent the wool from falling off the rod during spinning.

**The whorl was often intricately carved from wood or stone with geometric, animal, or human designs. As the disk spun, the design would entrance the spinner, instilling special powers on the fabric.**



— Woman spinning yarn at the Coast Salish village of Musqueam. Charles F. Newcombe, December 5, 1915. Direct duplicate negative. PN 83 – Royal BC Museum/BC Archives.

Text: [Cedar Hill Long House blog](#)  
Historic photo: [University of Victoria](#)  
Whorl: [UBC Museum of Anthropology](#)



How does  
a spindle  
whorl  
work?







**The Coast Salish made wool using various plant fibers, goose down, and fur of the Salish Wool Dog.** Bred solely for the hair, woolly dogs were brushed and the hair collected. Wool blankets were currency for trading and a symbol of Salish ingenuity during pre-contact times.

**The spindle whorl was a tool of high cultural importance for Coast Salish peoples.** It allowed women to weave beautiful textiles of spiritual and social significance. It has become a common motif in contemporary Coast Salish art.



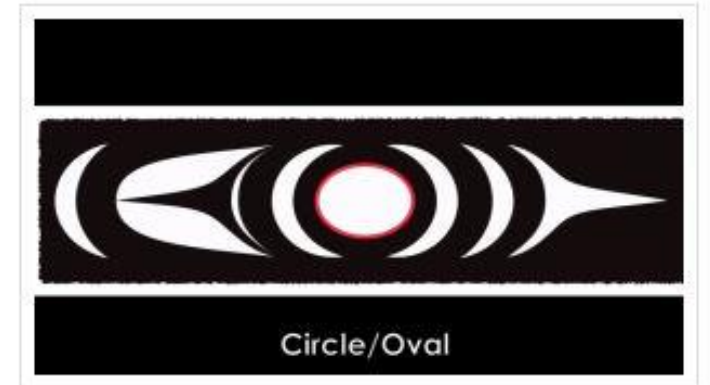
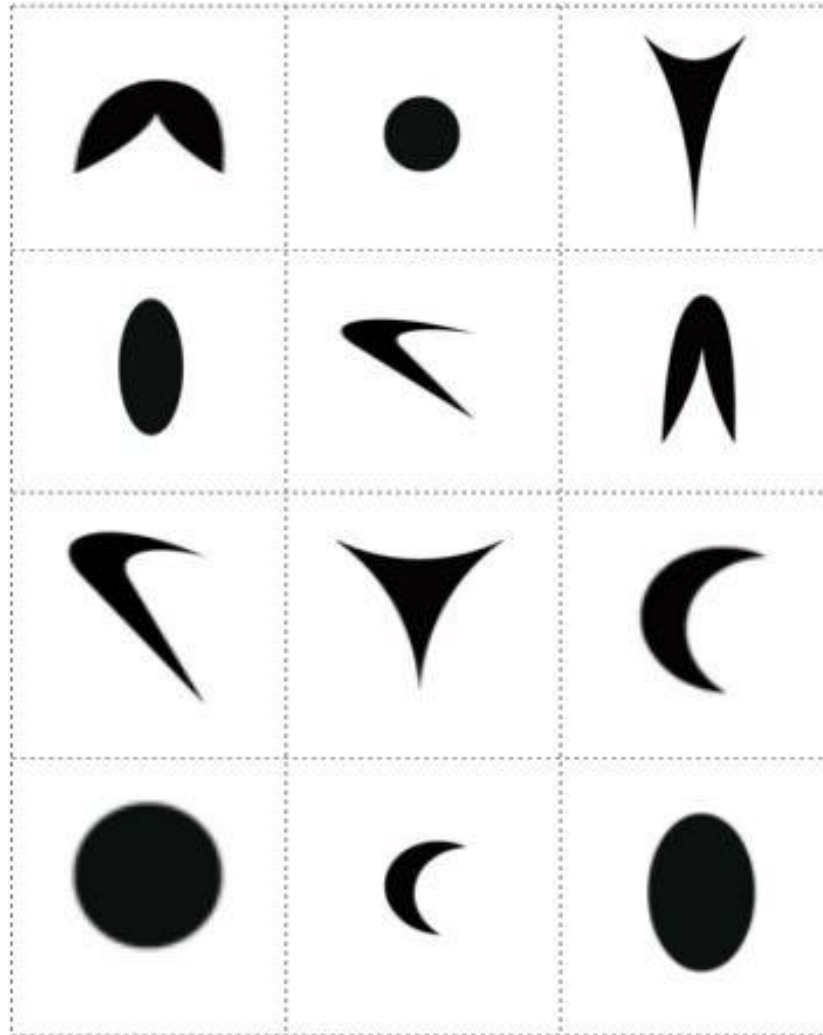


## Features of Coast Salish art:

- Minimalist
- Depict natural forms
- Identifiable features of creatures are exaggerated
- Meaning is often conveyed, like a story being told
- Design elements: shape, space, line, colour

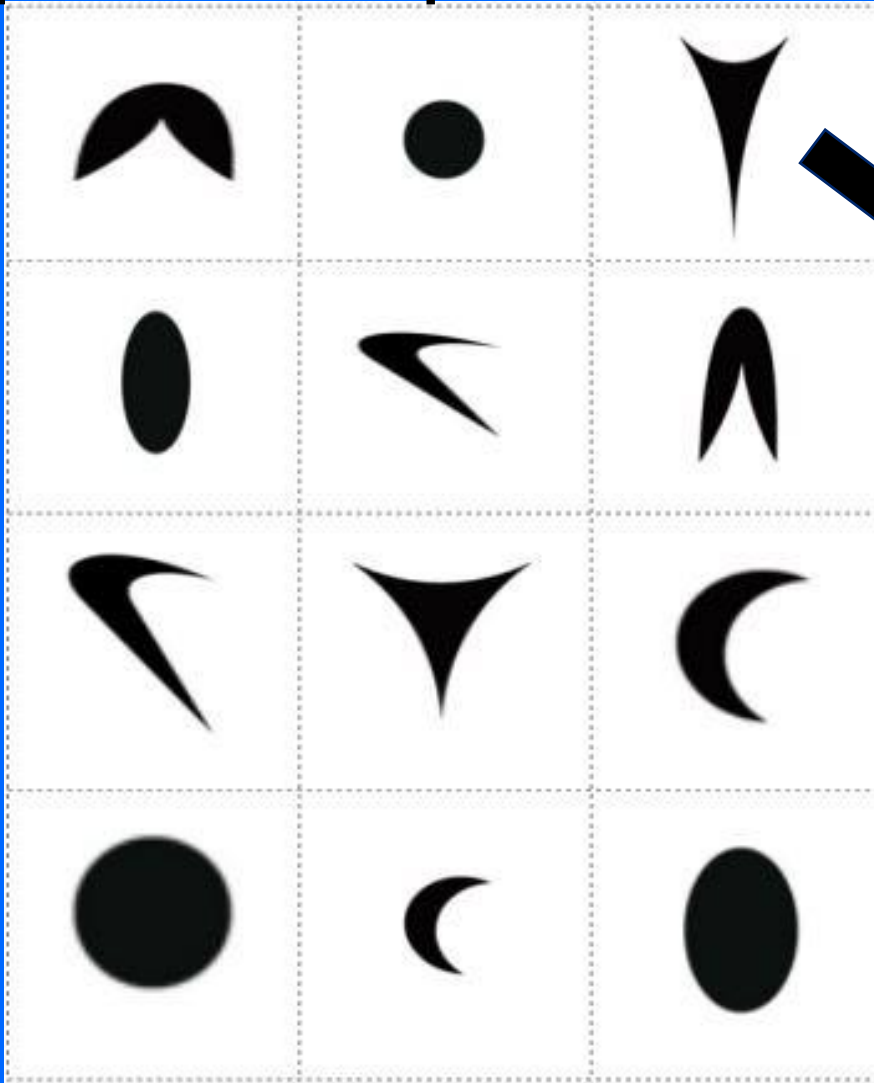
## Coast Salish design elements:

- CIRCLES
- CRESCENTS
- OVOIDS
- TRIGONS

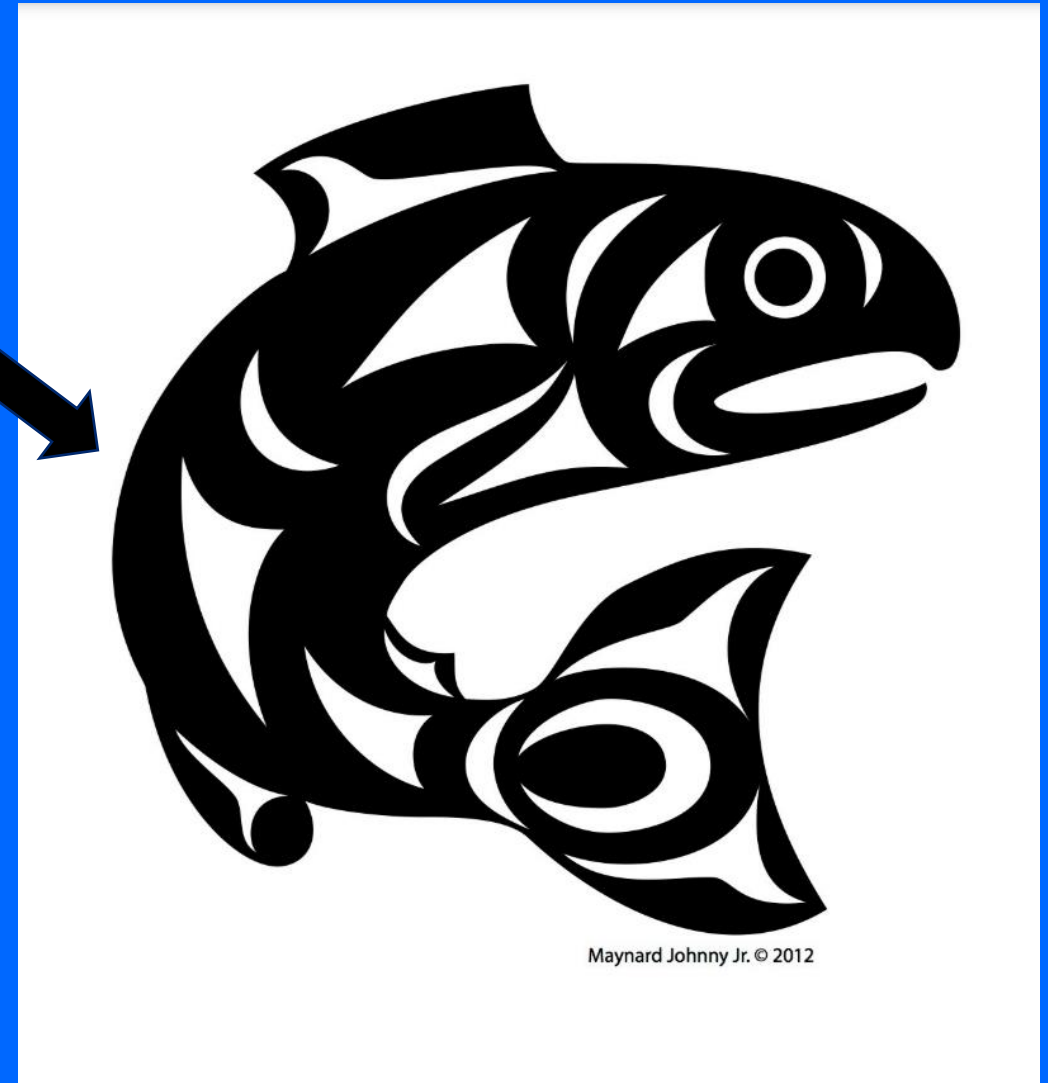




- Design elements are used in repetition and with negative space to make patterns and forms



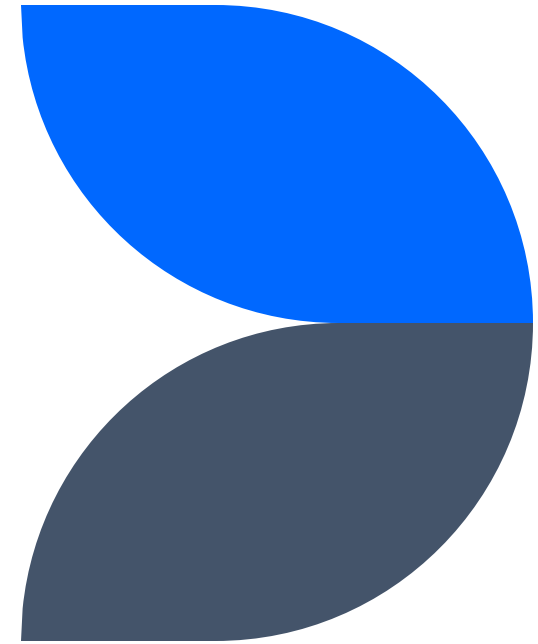
- Look for the shapes in the artwork...





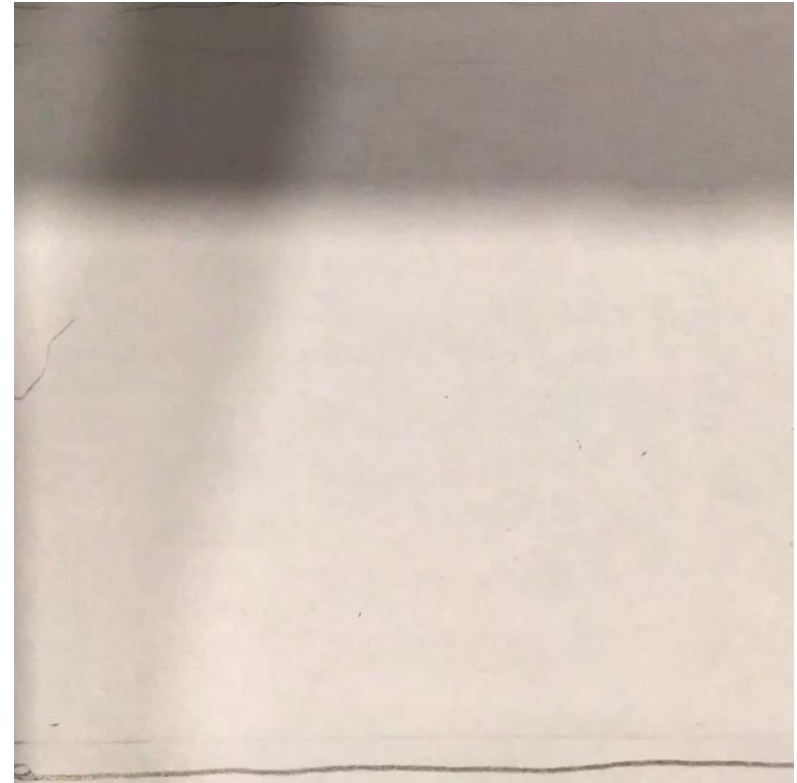
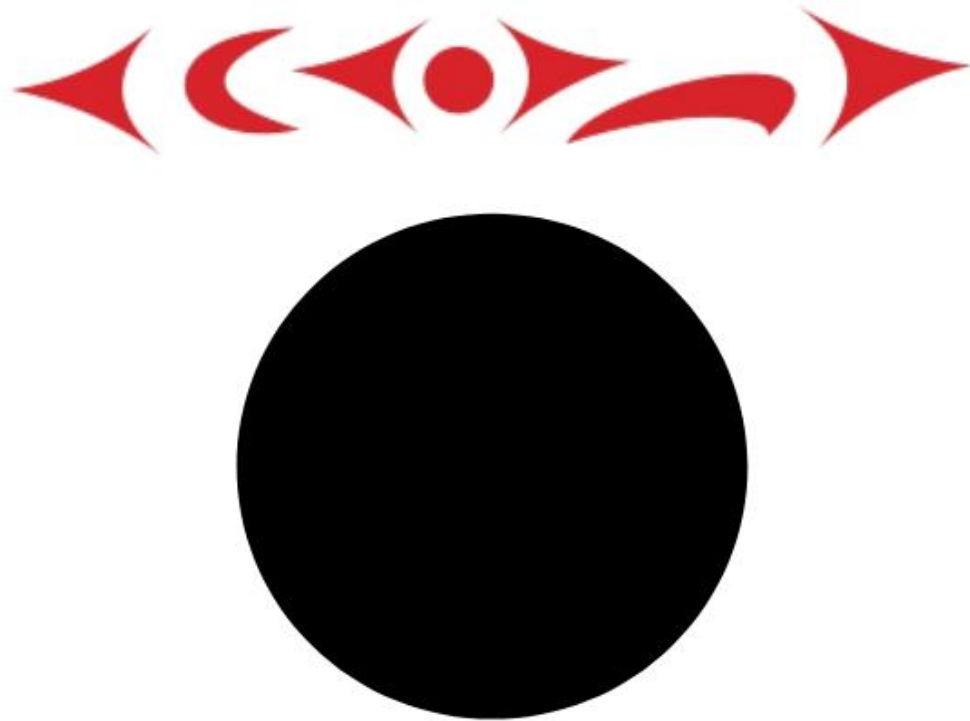
## Design a Coast Salish spindle whorl image

Use at least 3 of 6 design element shapes to create a repeating pattern in the outline on your page. Then draw + colour it.





# Draw + take photos of each step in an iPad app to make a Stop Motion film



**What do you  
know NOW  
that you didn't  
know before?**

**I  
WONDER  
...**

**NOW  
I'm thinking...**

**Turn & talk to a neighbour..**



**We often use our VISION  
to make sense of our world.**

**Artists watch and PROCESS  
the world through their artmaking.**

**ART helps these artists REVIVE  
their culture and SHARE it with us.**

**ART ALLOWS US ALL TO:**

- **Understand the world  
better than we did before**
- **Think deeper about  
the things around us**

# Gilakas'la

# Thank you

- [Salish Weave Collection School Program](#)
- [Salish Weave in the Classroom](#)

