

# CULTURE COMPARISON



**Time:** 1 class period for Focus and Teach/Model; 1 class period for Guided Practice; several class periods and/or homework nights for Independent Practice and Closure

## Instructional Goals:

- The student will use the PebbleGo Next States Studies and American Indian History online database to research two culture groups, such as tribal nations of the northeast and tribal nations of the Arctic.
- The student will take notes using a note-taking strategy and a graphic organizer.
- The student will analyze researched information to create a comparison chart highlighting the similarities and differences between the two culture groups, such as tribal nations of the northeast and tribal nations of the Arctic.

## Materials/Resources:

- PebbleGo Next online database
- Note-taking graphic organizer for each student, such as Culture Group Research Notes
- Comparison chart for each student, such as Culture Comparison Chart or a Venn diagram
- Folktale, picture book, short story, or poem from an indigenous culture of the United States or Canada, such as "One of Those Wonderful Nights" by Alooook Ipellie (available online by searching title and poet), or *Jingle Dancer* by Cynthia Leitich Smith

## Procedures/Lesson Activities:

### Focus

1. Read aloud a folktale, picture book, short story, or poem from an indigenous culture of the United States or Canada.

### Teach/Model

2. Discuss with the class some of the cultural references in the literary selection, such as the activities, the traditions, the gathering places, and the clothing.
3. Compare the cultural references from the literary work with your students' culture today. How are they the same and how are they different? (For example, discuss whether people in our culture enjoy music, dancing, dressing in special clothing, etc.)
4. Explain that indigenous cultures, like all cultures, have unique traditions and beliefs, but that there are many commonalities between them, as well.

## Guided Practice



5. As a class, brainstorm different aspects that make up a culture. Answers may include religion, language, history, family life, and government.
6. Using an example cultural group from PebbleGo Next, model locating the information listed in Step 4. Demonstrate a note-taking strategy, such as highlighting keywords and phrases, to record important information for your research notes.

## Independent Practice

7. Tell students they will research and compare two indigenous cultures. Show them the Culture Comparison Chart or a Venn diagram that they will complete after their research.
8. Students research the culture groups, using PebbleGo Next database.
9. Have students take notes on the categories brainstormed during Guided Practice, making sure to cite their source as they work. Students may record their information using a note-taking graphic organizer, such as the Culture Group Research Notes handout.
10. Monitor students to ensure they are using the note-taking strategy demonstrated during Guided Practice.

## Closure

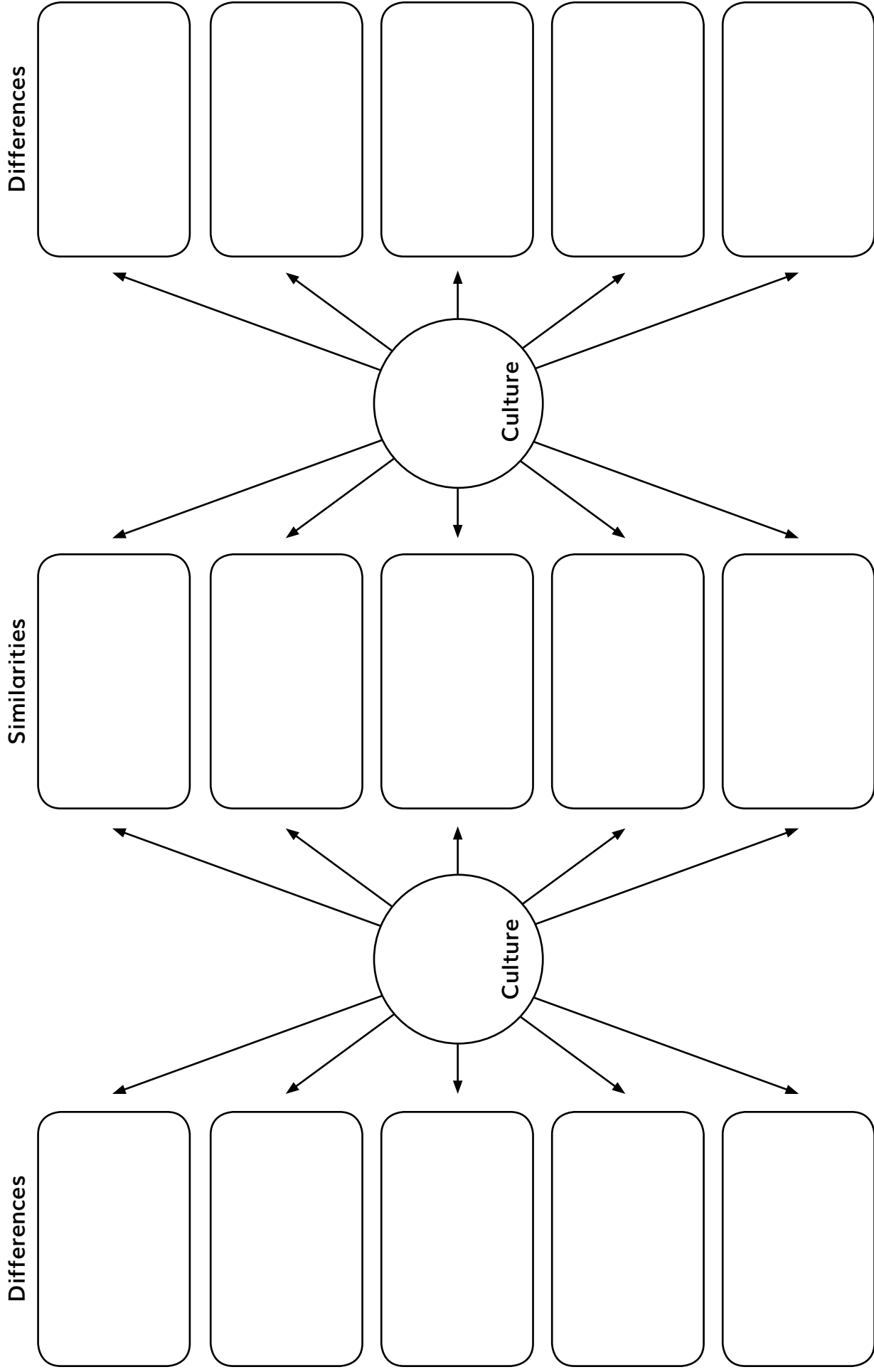
11. Students compare the culture groups, using the Culture Comparison Chart or a Venn diagram.

## Extend/Enrich

- Students may write a compare/contrast essay about the two culture groups, using their comparison chart as an outline.
- Imagining they are a child from one of the culture groups researched, students may write a narrative or journal entry from a day in the life of that child.

# Culture Comparison Chart

How are these cultures the same? How are they different?



# Culture Group Research Notes



Culture Group 1	Culture Group 2
<p>History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>	<p>History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
<p>Family Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>	<p>Family Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>	<p>Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
<p>Beliefs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>	<p>Beliefs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
<p>Traditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>	<p>Traditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
<p>Other Interesting Facts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>	<p>Other Interesting Facts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>

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