

Summary Report of the *Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development Survey*
Nevada Native Youth Community Project

Prepared by
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Overview of the Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development

The three-day-long *Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development* was held September 7–9, 2022, at Schurz Elementary School in Schurz, NV. It was funded by the Nevada Department of Education’s Native Youth Community Project (NYCP) and provided by a team of trainers from Jooba Consulting. Approximately 10 people participated in the training, including teachers and paraprofessionals.

According to session materials provided by the presenters, the first two days of the professional development consisted of classroom demonstrations and presentations on the Finger Poppin’ method for mastering math facts. The final day of the professional development featured presentations and discussions on six additional topics. These are reported in Table 1.

Table 1

Classroom Demonstration and Session Topics

<i>Session Topics</i>
1. <i>Basics of Finger Poppin’</i>
2. <i>Drawing</i>
3. <i>Teaching Native Americans – The Need for Culturally Relevant Instruction</i>
4. <i>Trauma</i>
5. <i>Project-Based Learning and Implementation</i>
6. <i>Assessment</i>
7. <i>Native American Books for the Classroom</i>

Participant Perceptions of the Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development

At the conclusion of the professional development, participants were asked to complete an electronic survey (Attachment A). There were six respondents, representing a response rate of approximately 60%. The respondents included five teachers and one paraprofessional. Attachment B contains all respondent comments. Due to the small sample size, the results should be interpreted with caution.

Four survey items pertained to the quality and content of five of the seven sessions.¹ These results are reported in Table 2. Overall, participant perceptions of the professional development were very favorable, with all agreeing, at least somewhat, to all of the 20 survey items relating to the quality and content of the five sessions to which the survey items pertained. For the *Basics of Finger Poppin’* and *Native American Books for the Classroom*, all *strongly agreed* that the information presented was relevant and interesting, that their knowledge of the session content increased as a result of their attending the session, that they would recommend the session to a colleague, and that they plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the session in their professional practice. Fewer respondents (50%–67%) selected *strongly agree* on these same items for the session on assessment.

Table 2

Participant Perceptions of the Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development

Topic	N Respondents	% Strongly Agree	% Somewhat Agree	% Somewhat Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
Session 1: Basics of Finger Poppin’					
Information relevant and interesting	6	100	0	0	0
Increased my knowledge of session content	6	100	0	0	0
Would recommend this session	6	100	0	0	0
Plan to apply knowledge and skills acquired into professional practice	6	100	0	0	0
Session 3: Teaching Native Americans – The Need for Culturally Relevant Instruction					
Information relevant and interesting	6	83	17	0	0
Increased my knowledge of session content	6	100	0	0	0
Would recommend this session	6	100	0	0	0
Plan to apply knowledge and skills acquired into professional practice	6	83	17	0	0
Session 5: Project-Based Learning and Implementation					
Information relevant and interesting	6	100	0	0	0
Increased my knowledge of session content	6	83	17	0	0
Would recommend this session	6	100	0	0	0

¹ Survey items pertaining to Sessions 2 and 4 were not approved by the Institutional Review Board in time for use due to additions to the proposed content.

Topic	N Respondents	% Strongly Agree	% Somewhat Agree	% Somewhat Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
Plan to apply knowledge and skills acquired into professional practice	5	80	20	0	0
Session 6: Assessment					
Information relevant and interesting	6	50	50	0	0
Increased my knowledge of session content	6	50	50	0	0
Would recommend this session	6	50	50	0	0
Plan to apply knowledge and skills acquired into professional practice	6	67	33	0	0
Session 7: Native American Books for the Classroom					
Information relevant and interesting	6	100	0	0	0
Increased my knowledge of session content	6	100	0	0	0
Would recommend this session	6	100	0	0	0
Plan to apply knowledge and skills acquired into professional practice	6	100	0	0	0

Participants were asked to list what they would use from each session in their professional practice. Responses were limited. The areas most frequently mentioned by participants included (a) using the Finger Poppin’ method to help students master multiplication facts, including kindergarteners and students with special needs; (b) using books and other reliable resources to provide culturally relevant instruction to their students; (c) implementing project-based learning; and (d) using exit tickets for assessments in varied ways.

Participants were also asked to rate the overall quality of the professional development. Results are reported in Table 3. Participant perceptions were high. All *strongly agreed* to all five survey items related to the quality of the professional development.

Table 3

Overall Participant Perceptions of the Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development

Item	N Respondents	% Strongly Agree	% Somewhat Agree	% Somewhat Disagree	% Strongly Disagree
Excellent quality	6	100	0	0	0
Relevant and interesting	6	100	0	0	0
Adequate time for discussion	6	100	0	0	0
Would recommend this professional development	6	100	0	0	0
Plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired	6	100	0	0	0

Participants were asked to provide commentary on topics they would like to learn more about. There were three responses to this item. One participant noted that they would like to learn more about the culture of their people, and the other two participants would like to learn more about project-based learning.

Participants were also asked to provide suggestions to improve the *content* and *format* of the professional development. There were no responses to these items.

One participant provided additional commentary on their experiences in this way:

It was very interesting.

Summary of the Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development

Due to the small sample size, the results presented should be interpreted with caution. Overall, the *Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development* was very well received by participants, with all agreeing, at least somewhat, to all of the 20 survey items relating to the quality and content of the five sessions to which the survey items pertained. All participants *strongly agreed* that the quality of the professional development was excellent, that the content was relevant and interesting, that there was adequate time for discussion, that they would recommend it, and that they plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired. Attendees offered limited commentary on the topics they learned about, topics they would like to learn more about, and their experiences during the professional development.

Introduction

Dear Participant,

RMC Research Corporation is conducting an evaluation of the Nevada Native Youth Community Project (NYCP). The project is designed to help prepare students for college and careers through intensive counseling and tutoring, parent and family engagement, and community outreach. The project is overseen by the Nevada Department of Education and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The purpose of the evaluation is to measure the value and effects of the project; results will be used to document impacts and improve the program.

The professional development in which you have participated is sponsored by the NYCP grant. This survey contains questions about your experiences with the professional development. There are no right or wrong answers to the questions on this survey. It is only about what you think is true. About 100 people are expected to take part in this study. Answers to the survey questions are completely confidential, and all responses are combined in our report with those from other participants. Individual answers will not be shared with anyone. No names are used in our report. Any information about you that is collected as part of this research study will not be used or shared in any other research studies. Your participation is voluntary, and you can withdraw your consent and stop participating in the study at any time without any negative consequences. Your decision to participate or not participate in this study will not affect your relationship with the school or the NYCP grant.

If you have any questions about the survey, please raise your hand, and the person giving the survey will help you. If at any time before, during, or after the study you have questions, please contact Dr. Elizabeth Bright, Principal Investigator at RMC Research Corporation, at (800) 762-5001, and she will be happy to answer any questions you have. If you have any questions regarding your rights as a participant in the study, you may contact Solutions IRB (the organization that oversees the protection of study participants) at 1-855-226-4472 or email participants@solutionsirb.com.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Please click on the "done" button at the end of the survey to submit your responses. We thank you for your participation.

1. I am currently in the following position:

- Elementary School Teacher (Grades Pre-K-6)
- Secondary School Teacher (Grades 7-12)
- Other (please specify)

2. For the session, Basics of Finger Poppin'... (Skip questions 2 and 3 if you did not participate in training on this topic.)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I found the information presented to be relevant and interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
my knowledge of the content presented increased as a result of my attending the session.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would recommend this session to a colleague.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during this session into my professional practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you do not plan to use the knowledge and skills from this session in your professional practice, please help us to better understand how the content might be more useful by telling us why you do not plan to use it.

3. Please list at least one thing you learned in this session that you will use in your professional practice.

4. For the session, *Teaching Native Americans - The Need for Culturally Relevant Instruction...* (Skip questions 4 and 5 if you did not participate in training on this topic.)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I found the information presented to be relevant and interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
my knowledge of the content presented increased as a result of my attending the session.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would recommend this session to a colleague.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during this session into my professional practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you do not plan to use the knowledge and skills from this session in your professional practice, please help us to better understand how the content might be more useful by telling us why you do not plan to use it.

5. Please list at least one thing you learned in this session that you will use in your professional practice.

6. For the session, *Background on Project-Based Learning and Implementation...* (Skip questions 6 and 7 if you did not participate in training on this topic.)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I found the information presented to be relevant and interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
my knowledge of the content presented increased as a result of my attending the session.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would recommend this session to a colleague.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during this session into my professional practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you do not plan to use the knowledge and skills from this session in your professional practice, please help us to better understand how the content might be more useful by telling us why you do not plan to use it.

7. Please list at least one thing you learned in this session that you will use in your professional practice.

8. For the session, *Assessment...* (Skip questions 8 and 9 if you did not participate in training on this topic.)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I found the information presented to be relevant and interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
my knowledge of the content presented increased as a result of my attending the session.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would recommend this session to a colleague.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during this session into my professional practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you do not plan to use the knowledge and skills from this session in your professional practice, please help us to better understand how the content might be more useful by telling us why you do not plan to use it.

9. Please list at least one thing you learned in this session that you will use in your professional practice.

10. For the session, *Native American Books for the Classroom...* (Skip questions 10 and 11 if you did not participate in training on this topic.)

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
I found the information presented to be relevant and interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
my knowledge of the content presented increased as a result of my attending the session.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would recommend this session to a colleague.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during this session into my professional practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you do not plan to use the knowledge and skills from this session in your professional practice, please help us to better understand how the content might be more useful by telling us why you do not plan to use it.

11. Please list at least one thing you learned in this session that you will use in your professional practice.

12. Overall..

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
the quality of the professional development was excellent.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
the content of the professional development was relevant and interesting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
enough time was allotted for discussion.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I would recommend this professional development to a colleague.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I plan to apply the knowledge and skills acquired during the professional development into my professional practice.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. I would like to learn more about:

14. I have the following suggestions for improvement of the content of the professional development:

15. I have the following suggestions for improvement of the format of the professional development:

16. Please provide any additional feedback in the box below.

Attachment B: Participant Comments on Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support Professional Development

3. Please list at least one thing you learned in the *Basics of Finger Poppin'* session that you will use in your professional practice.
 - Helping the kids
 - Applying movement and rhythm to skip counting as I teach kindergarten
 - How easy and fun multiplication practice can be.
 - How to use it with special needs children

5. Please list at least one thing you learned in the *Teaching Native Americans – The Need for Culturally Relevant Instruction* session that you will use in your professional practice.
 - Culture
 - The books
 - I can make this relevant even though I am not Indigenous myself.

7. Please list at least one thing you learned in the *Project-Based Learning and Implementation* session that you will use in your professional practice.
 - Helping the kids
 - I now think I can try one.
 - The elements of project based learning.

9. Please list at least one thing you learned in the *Assessment* session that you will use in your professional practice.
 - Knowledge
 - Different exit tickets.
 - How to implement exit tickets in more varied ways.

11. Please list at least one thing you learned in the *Native American Books for the Classroom* session that you will use in your professional practice.
 - Authors that are Native American
 - Read aloud books
 - Reliable resources

13. I would like to learn more about:
 - Culture of my people
 - PBL
 - Project and place based learning

14. I have the following suggestions for improvement of the *content* of the professional development:

There were no responses to this item

15. I have the following suggestions for improvement of the *format* of the professional development:

There were no responses to this item

**Attachment B: Participant Comments on Indigenous Pedagogy and Lesson Support
Professional Development**

16. Please provide any additional feedback in the box below.

- It was very interesting