

Unit 1 Lesson 9 - Ethnobotany

Since time immemorial, Pacific Northwest tribes have cultivated an intimate understanding of the plants around them. This lesson will take you on a journey through some of the diverse plant species that have played vital roles in the cultural, spiritual, and everyday lives of the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest. For this lesson, you will learn more about a tribe and how they've used plants over time.

- Use the [Native-Land.ca website](#) or [The Tribes of Washington](#) to learn who originally inhabited the area where we live.
 - [Native-Land.ca website](#): If you click on the name of a tribe it will link to resources and historical maps used. Links are located on the left bottom box labeled "Contact local nations to verify".

1. Which tribe(s) are in the area?

2. Choose one of the tribes and use the resources to learn more about how they have used plants over time.

- What are the most important species to them?
- In what ways have they incorporated plants into their daily lives, such as for food, shelter, clothing, or tools?
- What are other ways the tribe uses plants?
- How does the tribe view and value plants?
- How has the availability of those plants changed over time?

3. How does the tribe you are researching continue to incorporate traditional plant knowledge into their present practices and daily lives, considering the changes over time we learned about in the first lesson - History of WA Forests?

4. Why is ethnobotany important for working in the field of forestry or natural resources?