

At Dewdney Elementary, we are focused on connecting students with nature, learning about nature and interacting with nature. Grade 4 and 5 students are learning about pioneer life and how they made their clothing.

On February 20th, Kaleb's parent Nancy gave us all an engaging lesson about wool. She sheared her alpaca and llamas and brought the wool on for students to spin. EA Lyn prepared cd's and paint brushes so students would have the hands on experience of spinning wool...just like a pioneer...well without the cd's of course. After students spun some wool, Nancy brought in her spinning wheel and all the students had a turn. Then she demonstrated how to spin wool with her Navajo spindle whorl. The students were thrilled to see the hair turn into spun wool.



But our lesson didn't stop there....

After spinning the wool and making long multi-colored strands of llama and alpaca yarn, Judy Cathers taught us about whom the Salish people are and how they created beautiful articles out of the wool. Students understood the time, effort and uniqueness of this cultural craft shared by our Salish people. The students' journey of learning began with a fistful of animal hair and became lovely handcrafted keepsakes that they will treasure.

