

# Territorial Heritage Fair 2010- Anita Kopak



Top picture shows all 8 IQ. Bottom picture shows my chosen favorite IQ (Qanuqtuurungnarniq)

**Name of student:** Anita Kopak      **Grade:** 7

**Project Name:** Guiding Principles of Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit

**The Grade 7 Heritage Fair Project:**

Our class studied all of the 8 I.Q.

1. Skills and Knowledge
2. Welcoming others
3. Sharing and helping others
4. Being respectful
5. Taking care of the environment
6. Working together
7. Making decisions for the group and everyone agreeing
8. Adapting to change

I chose the one IQ that I was the most interested in. I chose **Qanuqtuurungnarniq**. I like it because my ancestors have had to go through a lot of changes and today, Inuit have to adapt to a changing world.

**Resources:**

Classroom discussions, Junior High Social Studies, Unit “Inuit”

### **What I found out as a result of my research:**

Things in life change all the time and we have to be able to adapt to these situations. Solving problems is how we improve things.

For thousands of years, the people who lived in what is now Nunavut, adapted to the environment by building homes from snow, skins, bones, rocks. They learned to use the environment for everything (clothing, food, tools, runners, weapons, pots, medicine). Inuit adapted to bright sun by inventing snowgoggles that prevented snow blindness. The Inuit adapted to the north by following the caribou, seal, whales, and birds. They were always moving and changing, looking for food. People in Nunavut now depend on store bought food, ski-doo's for transportation, guns for hunting, the health center when sick, and airplanes for traveling long distances. We are adapting to this new world by learning new skills, learning a new language, learning to live and share a community with many people, following new laws. Inuit have had to learn to use money and to be responsible with it.

### **Why I chose this project:**

My ancestors followed these IQ principles. I enjoy learning about the past. It helps me know who I am. It helps me know what it means to be Inuit.

## Adapting to Change

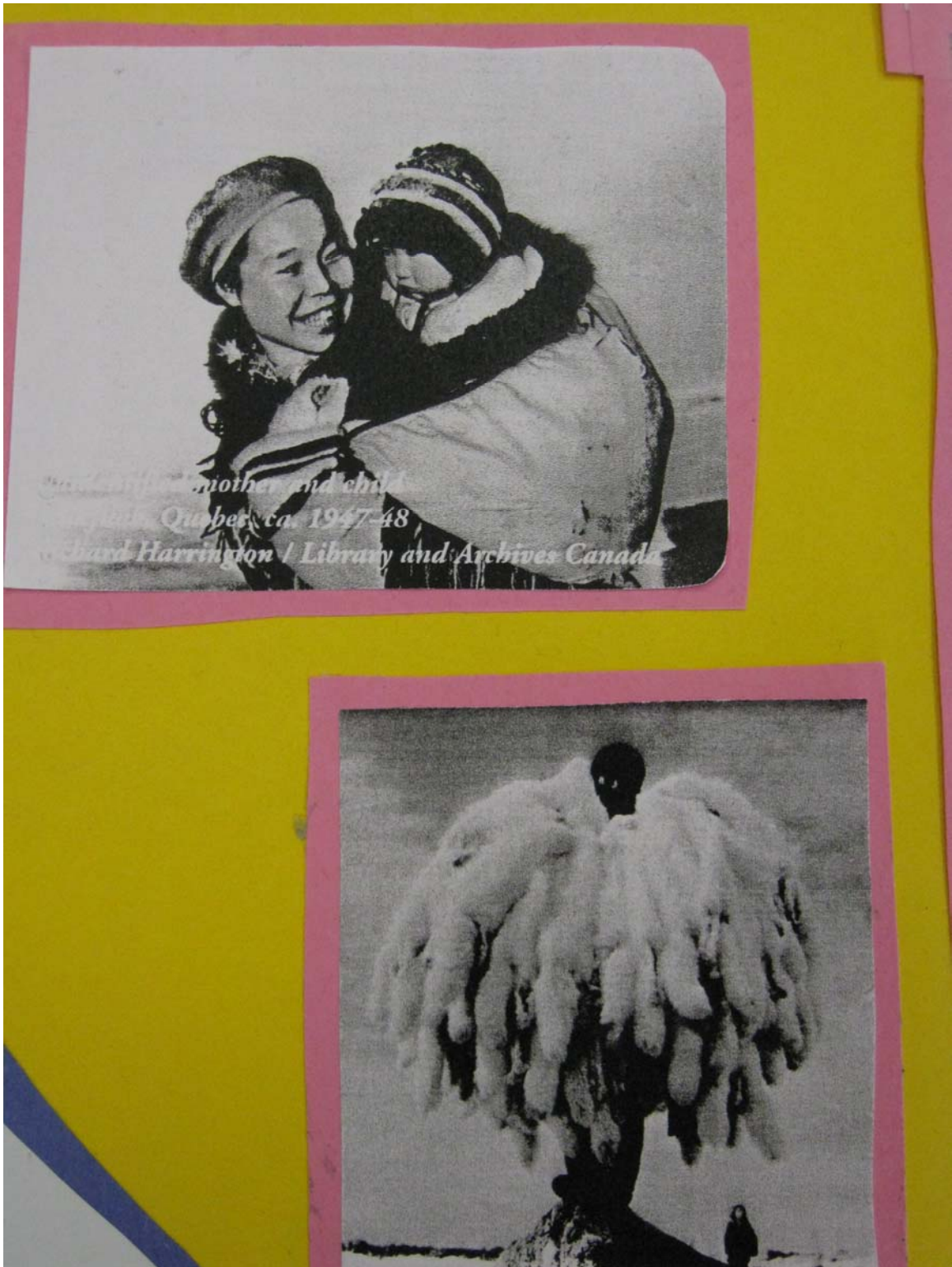
### Qanqtuunarniq

The history of the people living in the arctic is broken up into 4 parts because the people were always adapting to the arctic environment. The Pre-Dorset became the Dorset, the Dorset became the Thule and Thule are the descendants of today's Inuit.

All of the groups learned to live in a harsh environment. The Thule Culture adapted to a warmer climate by living in permanent settlements for about 200 years. They had an abundance of whales to hunt and they adapted to this by inventing the sakku (detachable harpoon heads) and avatait (floating sealskin bags). When the climate became cold again, and the whales and other animals were not abundant anymore, the people adapted by becoming nomadic again.



*Inuit adapted to an ever-changing environment by learning to live off the land any way they could to survive.*



*Canadian mother and child  
in Inuit, Quebec, ca. 1947-48  
Richard Harrington / Library and Archives Canada*

*Top picture shows how Inuit women adapted their clothing to hold a child. Bottom picture shows a man bringing his furs to the store to trade for goods.*

For thousands of years, the people who lived in what is now Nunavut, adapted to the environment by building homes from snow, skins, bones, rocks. They learned to use the environment for everything (clothing, food, tools, runners, weapons, pots, medicine). Inuit adapted to the bright sun by inventing snow goggles that prevented snow blindness. They adapted to the changing seasons and temperatures by watching the stars, watching the weather.

For centuries, Inuit adapted to living in the north by following the herds of caribou, seal, whales, and birds. They were always moving and changing, looking for food. They would live inland or along the coast depending on the seasons and the movement of the animals, fish and birds.

Inuit adapted to not having a written language by developing a strong oral language and by remembering their past through storytelling and legends.

Women adapted their coats to fit their children, by having a large loose back. This allowed them to still carry out their daily chores while keeping the young child warm, safe and occupied.

## Today

Today, people have adapted to a changing world by learning to live together in a permanent community.



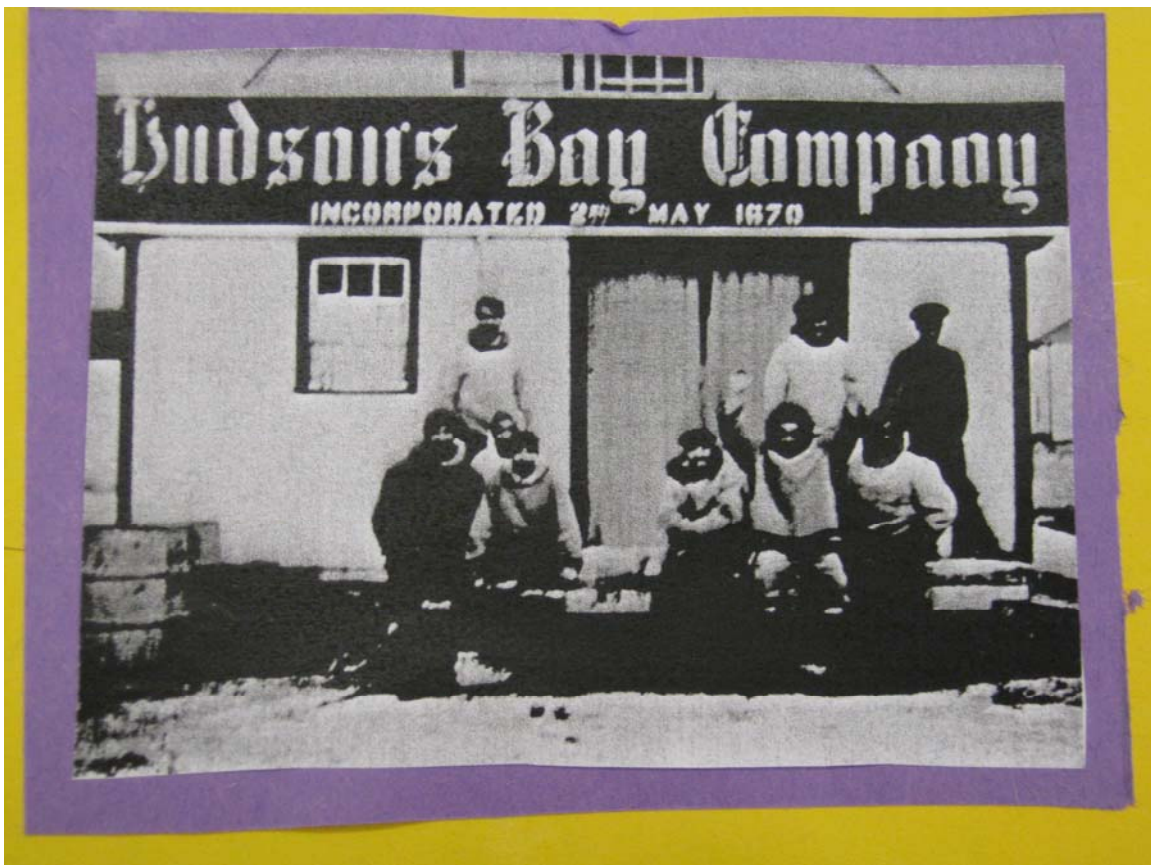
*This picture shows how Inuit have had to adapt to living in a community. “So many houses, so many buildings!!!!”*

People in Nunavut now depend on store bought food, ski doos for transportation, guns for hunting, the health center when sick, and airplanes for traveling long distances.



*Inuit ladies getting used to the changing world. They are wearing southern clothes, not traditional furs.*

We are adapting to this new world by learning new skills, learning a new language, learning to live and share a community with many people. Inuit have had to learn to use money and to be responsible with it.



*Hudson's Bay stores brought so many changes to the north. Elders are still adapting to these changes. By remembering what our elders have gone through, young people can learn to have the same courage to adapt to our changing world.*

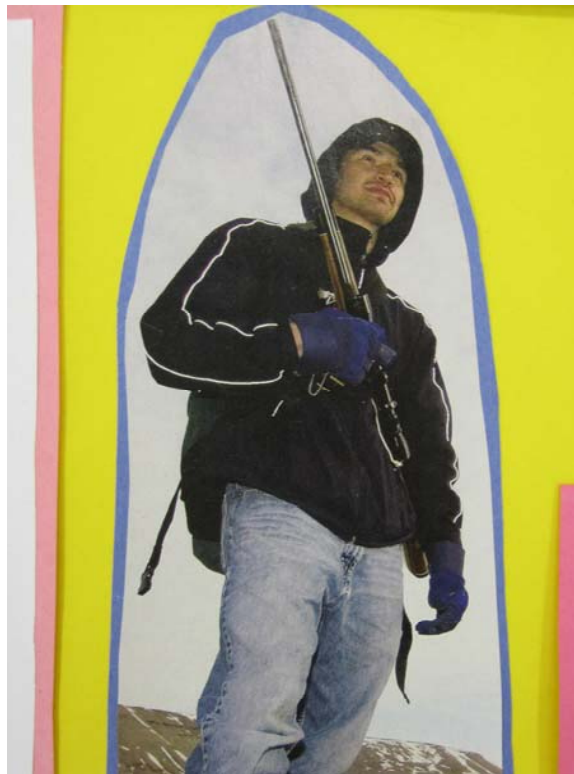
**Qanuqtuurungnarniq: Being resourceful to solve problems.**

Things in life change all the time and we have to be able to adapt to these situations. We can't always do things the same ways.



*A young Inuit man adapting to a modern world.*

We need to find new uses for things, and new ways to use things. Things are always changing and we have to change too. This is how we solve everyday problems. Change can make our lives better.



*A young Inuit hunter using a gun. This is very different from traditional hunting.*

We have to be creative, flexible and we have to adapt. Lots of times change is good. Solving problems is how we improve things.