

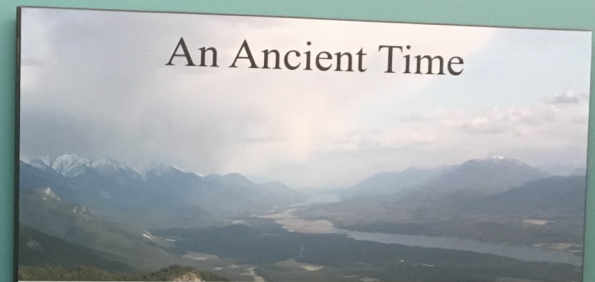
Grade 1



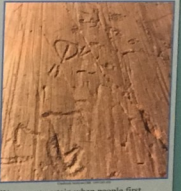

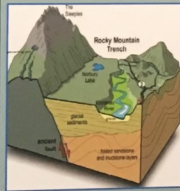
Our Natural History This Place We Call Home

We live in an area of the world that is rich in wildlife and natural resources. Around every corner, across every stream and over every mountain we encounter a vast array of life. We hear the cry of a red-tailed hawk flying majestically above us. We hear the splash of the Kokanee as it leaps from the clear water of a mountain lake. We taste the sweetness of saskatoon and huckleberries. We feel the smooth surface of a river rock as we hold it in our hands. We smell the pine forests that surround and cradle us. We encourage you to get to know this place that we call home.

An Ancient Time



Cranbrook is located in the Rocky Mountain Trench, which was formed around 55 million years ago and is sometimes called the "Valley of a Thousand Peaks".



The Rocky Mountain Trench is a huge, 1000 mile long rift valley that lays between the Rocky Mountains on the east and the Columbia, Cassiar and Omineca Mountains on the west. The Trench stretches from the British Columbia - Yukon border into Montana, and was formed as a product of faulting, erosion and deposits by rivers and glaciers during the Cenozoic period.

In the course of one major glacial advance, the Rocky Mountain Trench was filled completely with ice. Only the highest peaks of the Purcell Mountains were left exposed. During the most recent glacial advance, torrents of melting water flowed through the Rocky Mountain Trench forming a lake that covered the Cranbrook basin on the north side of Mount Baker. The white silt banks and cliffs and thick gravel deposits that we see today are a result of deposits formed as the lake drained.

We are not certain when people first arrived in this area. Archaeological studies suggest that as far back as 10,000 years ago, a hunter-gatherer tribe migrated to this area. This petroglyph site is near Cranbrook.

Scavenger Hunt:

- The Cranbrook Museum features various displays about local history, natural history, and Ktunaxa history. While exploring the museum, the students will complete a curriculum based scavenger hunt which includes names of local plants and animals, natural environment characteristics, human-built characteristics, living and non-living things, and knowledge of First Peoples.
- The class will be broken up into groups to promote co-operative participation. A parent volunteer, teacher, or teacher's aid will be needed to lead each group.