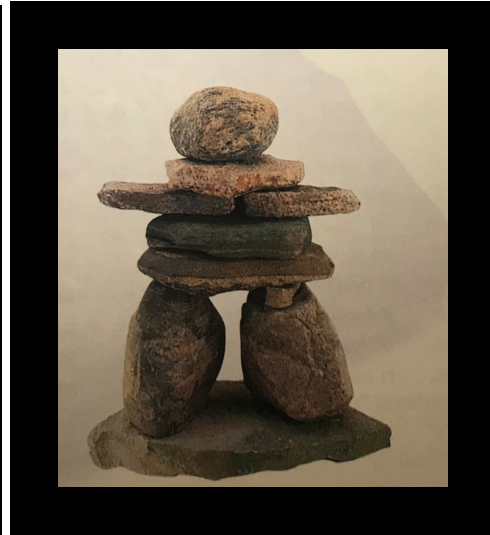


## Art Activity: Week 11

# INUKSUK: Beautiful Stone Figures of North America



## History



For centuries, the Inuit people have built Inuksuk's for direction. Over time the Inuksuk has become the symbol of hope and friendship. It's a symbol of the human spirit. It recognizes our ability to connect with others, where we might not succeed on our own. It reminds us we belong to something, greater than ourselves.



from Pintrest

[Watch Mrs. Yutkins making a Inunnguaq](#)

[How to draw a Inuksuk from up north](#) Drawn by a young artist named Paul.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Inuksuk Book by Mary Wallace details how the first peoples of the Arctic North American lands made inuksuit stone structures to communicate ways to survive. These stone works of art would be found throughout the land in North America. Like a human messenger, these stone structures' helped the people, know the way to travel, where to find food, where there was a safe place, where to find shelter and acted as a message center. Each inuksuit has a different purpose depending upon its stone structural design. The stone design we will focus on is the **Inunnguaq** or the one that looks like a human.

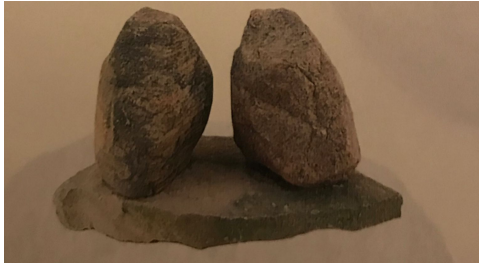
**PURPOSE:** Students will learn about the tradition surrounding the Inunnguaq stone structures made by North Americas' first people by creating their own mini Inunnguaq.

**MATERIALS:**

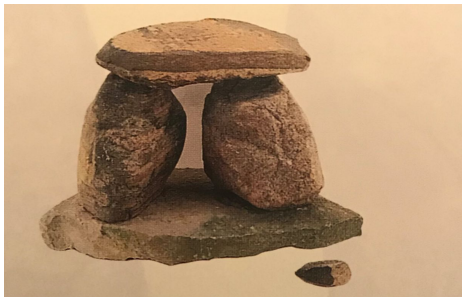
1. 3 Fat rocks: 2 oval, 1 round (legs and head)
2. 5 Flat stones: 2 large, 3 small (body, arms, and shoulder)
3. A few very small stones to act as balancing wedges

**PROCEDURES:** *Photos and directions come from The Inuksuk Book by Mary Wallace*

1. Place the two largest and fattest stones on the ground or on a flat stone.



2. Balance the large flat stone on top of the "leg" stones.



3. Place the next largest flat stone on top.



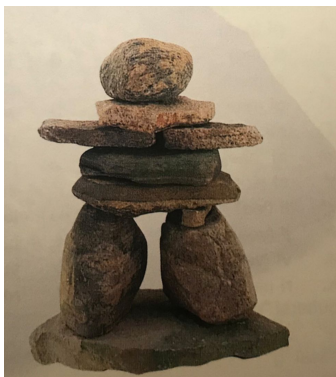
4. Choose two small flat stones for the arms.



5. Place the flat shoulder stone on top of the arm stones. The weight will keep the arm stones in place.



6. Choose a small round stone for the head.



7. Your stone person or Inunnguaq is finished, take a photo of it and post it to our art gallery. If it falls apart, no worries just rebuild it and rebalance it. It will take practice building a strong, sturdy and well-balanced Inunnguaq. Take your time and do your best.

**Upload your pictures to our art gallery:**

<https://padlet.com/yutkinsc1/vudv098ghdclv6fy>

[MERSD elementary art gallery](#)

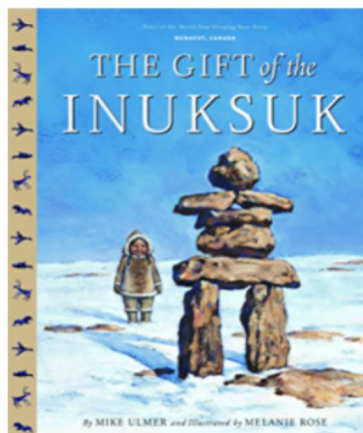
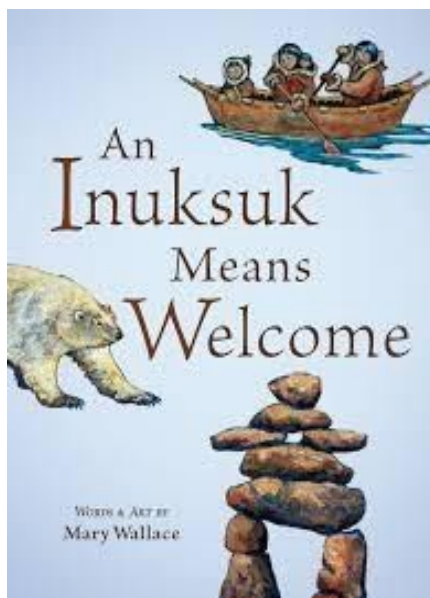
**ART EXTENSIONS:**

Place your stone person in the garden. Take photos in different locations outside, or all different times of day. Draw it realistically or with plenty of imagination. Draw your Inunnguaq as a giant in a landscape, draw it in the foreground, and the Northern Lights in the background, or draw your Inunnguaq in a winter landscape, sitting by the pool, maybe dressed as Santa?

What other ways can you make an Inunnguaq? What about making one out of recycled materials?

**CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS:**

**Reading:** Younger Children may enjoy books, *An Inuksuk Means Welcome* and *The Inuksuk Book* , by Mary Wallace.



**The Gift Of The Inuksuk  
(Tales of the World)**

› **Michael Ulmer**



Mrs. Yutkins' Garden Inuksuk