

JAPANESE-CANADIAN INTERNMENT CAMPS

ELEMENTARY SOCIAL STUDIES



11255 Okanagan Centre Rd. W.
Lake Country, BC V4V 2J7

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW:

1. Students will learn about the history of Japanese immigrants in Canada and the forced displacement of Japanese-Canadians during World War II.
2. Activity #1: Students will identify on a map the locations of the various camps, ending with a discussion on the impacts of the internment.
3. Activity #2: Students will research players from the Vancouver Asahi baseball team and create baseball cards to be traded among their classmates.

BIG IDEA: Individuals have rights & responsibilities as global citizens; Canada's policies & treatment of minority peoples have negative & positive legacies; Immigration & multiculturalism continue to shape Canadian society & identity.

COMPETENCY:

Inquiry processes, significance of place, historical perspectives, ethical judgement

CONTENT:

Rights & responsibilities of individuals regionally & globally; past discriminatory government policies & actions...internments; human rights & responses to discrimination in Canadian society

WHAT WILL WE KNOW:

- History of Japanese immigration to Canada
 - Sentiment towards Japanese
- Impact of WWII & internment of Japanese-Canadians

FURTHER INQUIRY:

Field Trip Suggestions

1. Lake Country Museum and Archives



We respectfully acknowledge that the land on which the Lake Country Museum is situated, where this lesson was developed, is on the unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) Peoples.

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Lake Country Heritage and Cultural Society

11255 Okanagan Centre Road West

Lake Country, BC V4V 2J7

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Japanese Internment

<p>Learning Objective(s)</p>	<p>By learning about the Japanese-Canadian internment camps during World War II, students will learn about Canada’s policies and treatment of minority groups. They will also learn about Canada’s geography through a mapping activity.</p>
<p>Suggested Grades</p>	<p>Elementary</p>
<p>ACTIVITY</p>	
<p>Materials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map activity sheet, internment camp names sheet(provided) • Baseball card activity sheets (provided) • Baseball card outline (linked below) • Pens, pencils, markers, crayons, etc...
<p><u>Activity #1</u> Mapping</p>	<p>After learning about the history of Japanese-Canadians and the internment camps during WWII, hand out the blank maps and list of to your students. Roughly identify for them where the protected zone covers. Then, have them try to identify where the internment camps were located.</p> <p><u>Debrief</u></p> <p>Once students have filled out their maps, go over the correct locations and have students correct any mistakes. You may want to make use of a digital map which can be found here. Some questions for you to include in your debrief may be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which internment camps could have sent labourers to Lake Country? • How might Japanese-Canadians who were sent to internment camps or road camps feel about those who were sent to self-supporting camps? • Why would internees wish to be given a labour permit to work at a farm? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How close are the camps to other towns? How would the quality of life be different on a farm vs. in a camp? • What message does interning Japanese-Canadians send to others about Japanese people? <p><i>Note:</i> Self-Supporting Camps were camps for Japanese-Canadians who were able to financially support themselves for at minimum one year, i.e. the internees funded the camps with their own funds rather than working to financially support the camp. Approx. 3000 Japanese-Canadians chose this route as it permitted them to keep families together.</p>
<p><u>Activity #2</u> Vancouver Asahi Baseball Team</p>	<p>The Asahi was a Japanese Canadian baseball club in Vancouver that formed in 1914. One of the city’s most dominant amateur teams, the Asahi used skill and tactics to win multiple league titles in Vancouver and along the Northwest Coast. In 1942, the team was disbanded when its members were among the 22,000 Japanese Canadians who were</p>

	<p>interned by the federal government. The Asahi were inducted into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in 2003 and the British Columbia Sports Hall of Fame in 2005. Click here to view the Heritage Minutes video about the baseball team. You can also have students explore the digital exhibit, on the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame Museum website.</p> <p>You could also mention that Kelowna had its own Japanese baseball team, the Okanagan Allstars (see attached newspaper clipping).</p> <p>Have students look up the different players from the Asahi team and create baseball cards for them. The BC Sports Hall of Fame has a list of each player. You could provide them with printed profiles if students do not have access to a computer.</p> <p>A free template for students to create their baseball cards can be found here.</p> <p>The two with the most information available are Mickey Kitagawa and Eddie Kitagawa who formed the core of the Asahi and whose dates and location of births come up with a simple Google search. For older ages, we suggest incorporating a research component.</p> <p>End the activity by having students trade cards with each other to learn about players they may not have researched. You can also do a share out by having students share facts about their baseball player.</p>
<p>Historical Context</p>	<p>The first Japanese settler in B.C. was a man named Manzo Nagano who arrived in 1877. Between 1897 and 1901 fifteen thousand people from Japan arrived in Canada and from 1906-1907, a second wave of ten thousand arrived to settle in B.C.</p> <p>The first Japanese immigrant to arrive in the Okanagan was Eijiro Koyama who was hired to work at Coldstream Ranch in 1904. In 1907 he was promoted to foreman of a crew of 40 men and was sent to Vancouver to recruit 60 more. Most of the people he recruited were also Japanese immigrants; single men who were looking for work to support their families in Japan. In 1908, Koyama became a legal Canadian citizen in Vernon, BC. Koyama went back to Japan in 1912 where he met his bride, Fumi. They were married and returned to Coldstream Ranch shortly after. They had many children together who would come and work on the farm with their dad. Eijiro passed away on January 17th, 1956 and was buried in Winfield.</p> <p>The immigration of wives and children to accompany the men hired for ranch work led to a small community of Japanese settlers who were able to set down roots. A population boom occurred in Lake Country throughout World War I and the years following. The Okanagan Centre School opened in the 1930s, welcoming the children of Japanese immigrants into its classrooms alongside white students.</p> <p>In British Columbia, race intersected with class more closely and the barriers between language and culture created an increase in discrimination. Anti-Japanese resentment grew and in 1919 it boiled over after a, since disproven, story was published in a local newspaper</p>

	<p>alleging that Coldstream Ranch may be sold to Japanese investors. Some individuals suggested that the Okanagan land should never be sold or rented to Japanese settlers, but Japanese farm labor persisted.</p> <p>Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, a ‘protected area’ was established along the coast of British Columbia which prohibited anyone with Japanese ancestry from living in that area. On March 4th, 1942, over 22,000 Japanese-Canadians were expelled from their homes. For many, their first stop was Hastings Park Racetrack in Vancouver (now PNE grounds). People were then transferred to either one of ten internment camps across B.C. or to farms further east. Those who opposed their transfers were sent to one of two prisoner of war camps located in Ontario. While they were interned, many had their belongings, including their homes, sold without their knowledge or consent.</p> <p>While Japanese-Canadians living outside of the protected zone were not forcefully relocated, anti-Japanese sentiment grew in Canada, including the Okanagan. Japanese-Canadians were required to register and report to police, subjected to a bi-weekly check-in, and had a nighttime curfew imposed upon them. Japanese schools and gatherings were forbidden, and many Japanese-Canadian students were dismissed from the Cadet Corps at Kelowna High School.</p> <p>Younger men who were interned could apply for labour permits to work on road camps or on farms in the Okanagan. During the war, Okanagan produce was in high demand and interned Japanese-Canadians were a crucial part in harvesting good and working in packing houses.</p> <p>Japanese-Canadians continued to be restricted from the ‘protected zone’ following the end of the war until 1949 when the prohibition of the sale of land to Japanese people was dropped. No Japanese-Canadian was ever charged with treason during this period. It was not until 1988 that the Canadian government, under Prime Minister Mulroney, apologized to Japanese-Canadians, admitting that the actions by the government were motivated by racial discrimination and that the Japanese-Canadians posed no real threat to Canadian security. After negotiations with survivors of the internment, the government then signed a \$300 million compensation package to compensate Japanese-Canadians for their losses.</p> <p>This activity was developed using <i>A Century of Community</i>, written by the families of Japanese-Canadians living in Lake Country.</p>
<p>Further Inquiry</p>	<p><u><i>Field Trip Suggestions:</i></u></p> <p>Lake Country Museum & Archives:</p> <p>The Lake Country Museum & Archives has many different displays that help to shape the narrative of the stories and history of the Okanagan. The museum’s website also has many great resources and more stories that can help lend to many lessons.</p> <p>https://www.lakecountrymuseum.com/</p>

Name:

Block:

Date:

Japanese Internment Camps Mapping Assignment

Instructions: Include all the following locations and use the checklist to guide you. You only need to include the bolded word on your map.



Japanese Internment Camps:

- Tashme Internment Camp
- Slocan City** Extension Internment Camp
- Greenwood** Internment Camp
- New Denver** Internment Camp
- Kaslo** Internment Camp
- Lemon Creek** Internment Camp
- Popoff** Internment Camp
- Roseberry** Internment Camp
- Sandon** Internment Camp
- Bay Farm** Internment Camp



Self-Supporting Camps:

- East Lillooet** Self-Supporting Internment Site
- Bridge River** Self-Supporting Camp
- Minto City** Self-Supporting Camp
- McGillivray Falls** Self-Supporting Camps
- Christina Lake** Self-Supporting Camps

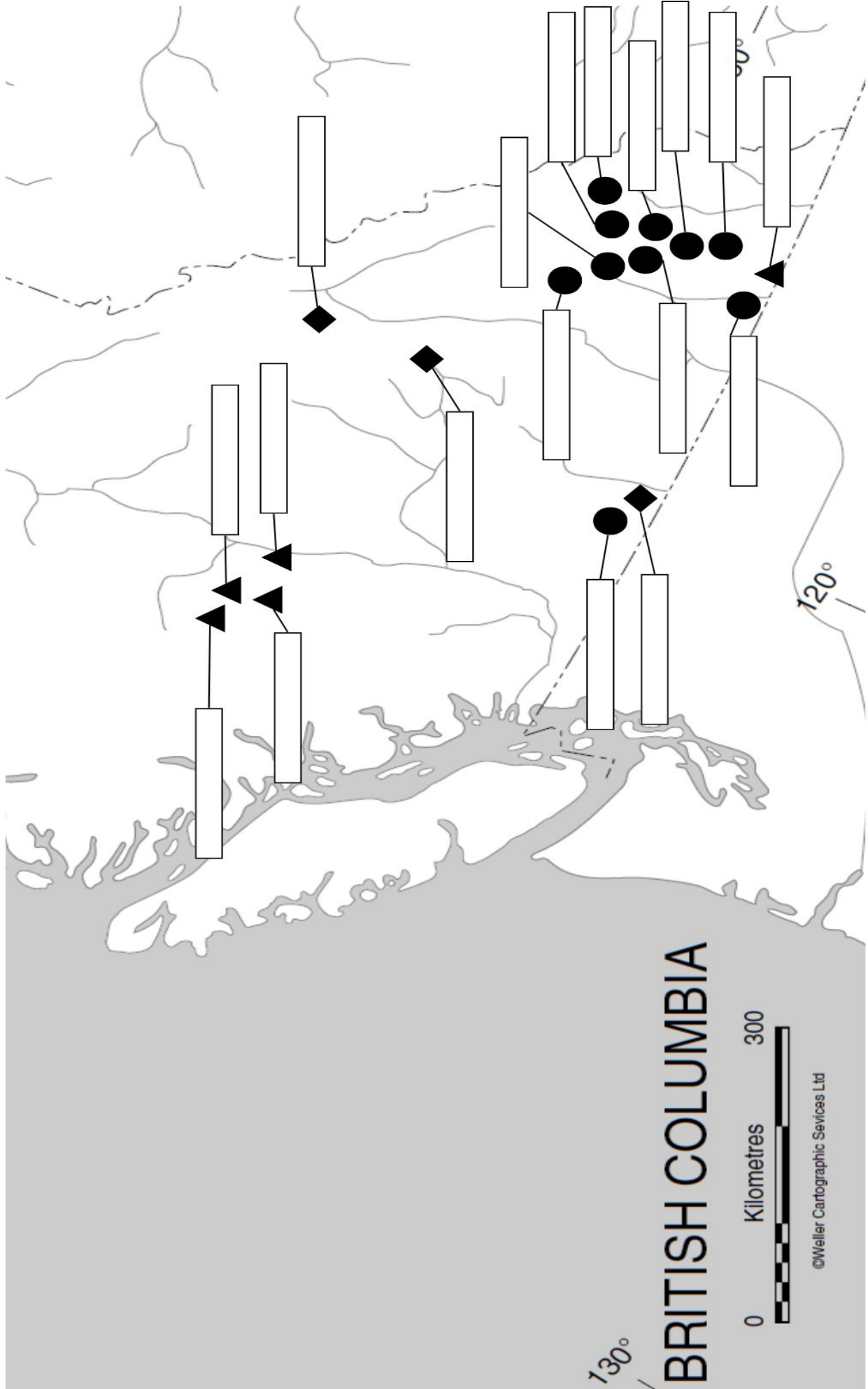


Road Camps:

- Yellowhead **Blue River** Road Camp
- Revelstoke-Sicamous** Road Camp
- Hope-Princeton** Road Camp

Other:

- Exclusion Zone** (shade in red)

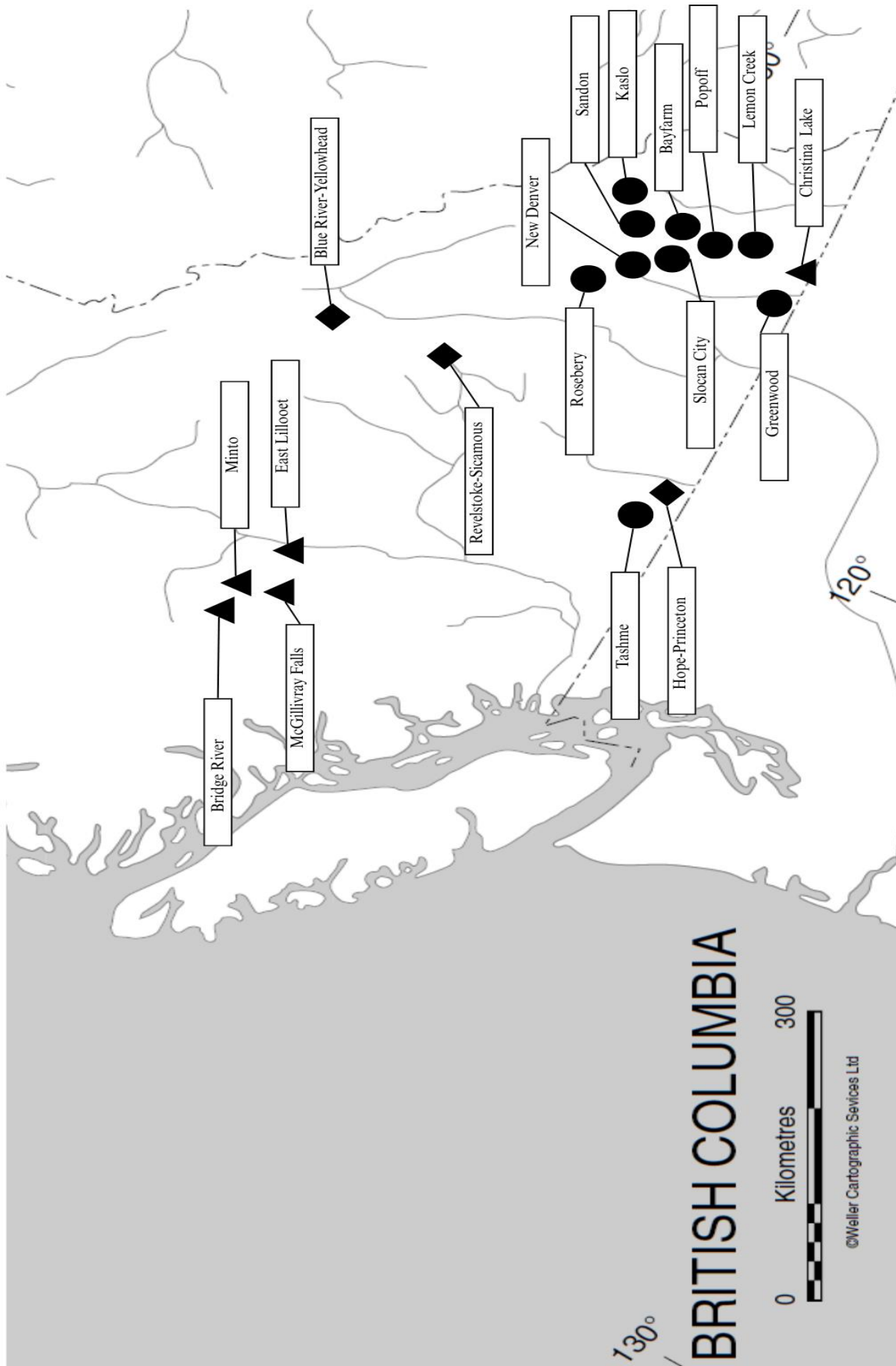


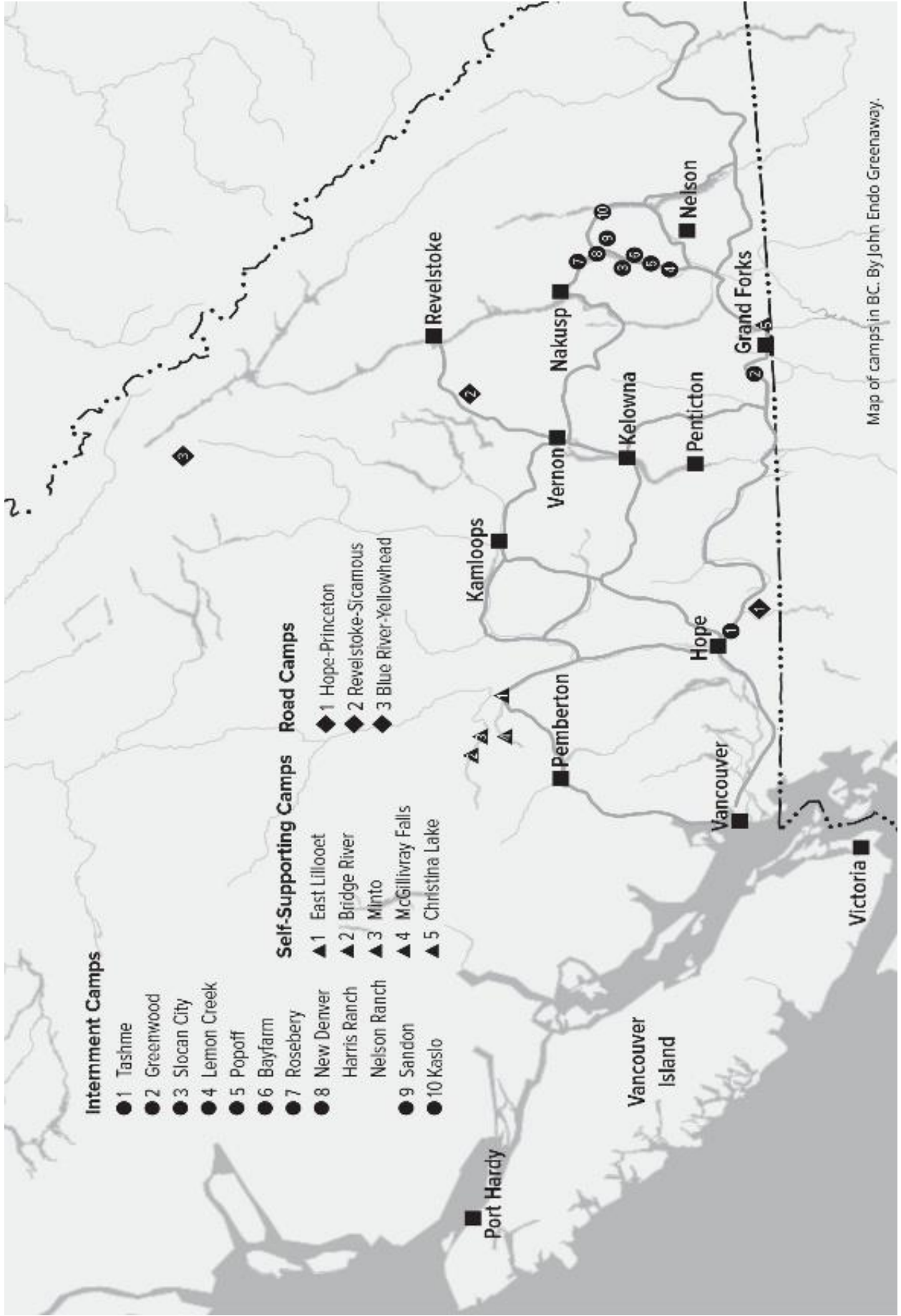
130°

BRITISH COLUMBIA

0 Kilometres 300

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Map of camps in BC. By John Endo Greenaway.

Name:

Date:

Baseball Cards of the Vancouver Asahi Activity

Create a baseball card for one player on the Vancouver Asahi.

For each player you must find their:

- Name
- Date of Birth (DOB) or date they moved to Canada
- Hometown
- Family
- Famous for (you can also include their position on the team for this fact)
- Something interesting about them

When you are done, colour and cut out your baseball card. Write your name on the back and hand it into your teacher.

TEACHER NOTE: paste the template here, have students fill out their card templates and then cut out their cards. The above checklist is helpful if you want to scaffold the assignment and have them start gathering information before giving them the “good copy” template to make their cards.

[Baseball Card Template FREEBIE by Teaching Little Meteors | TPT](#)

COAST JAPANESE BALL TEAM BEATS VALLEY ALL-STARS

Kelowna Fixture Results In 8-3
Win For Snappy Asahi
Brigade From Vancouver

Opening up with a steady barrage of hits in the first inning during which time they scored five runs, the Vancouver Asahi, snappy Coast Japanese baseball team, defeated the Okanagan Valley All Stars, 8-3, in a nice exhibition at the Kelowna Athletic Park on Thursday afternoon of last week.

The Vancouver team were brought in to help round off Kelowna's regatta day, the expenses of the Japanese being borne by a group of their Kelowna fellow countrymen.

The All Stars' management placed Hammond, Penticton pitcher, on mound duty in the opening of the game, but the visitors seemed to encounter no difficulty with his offerings and hits came like hot cakes. This post-side hurler did not receive any very strong support in the field in addition and a couple of walks paved the way for a clean 100 runs.

However, during the next few innings the Southern chapter righted things considerably and the ball game tightened up with the result that the visitors went scoreless for the next few stanzas.

Up against the fine pitching of Nishihara, post-side hurler for the Asahi, the All Stars' big hitters could not seem to get going and although they collected a few hits, the Japanese were right on to every ball.

Urquhart Takes Mound

In the fifth inning the Vernon battery of Howard Urquhart and Elmer Crawford replaced the Penticton pair of Lefty Hammond and Watkins.

In the eighth versus Cousin, of the ball playing Peachland family, collected a beautiful home run off Nishihara, but on galloping around the bases he forgot to touch the second sack and the run was disallowed. However, Elmer Crawford swelled the All Stars' total in the final when he scored on Hacker's double after the Vernon man had himself collected a two-cracker hit.

For all round ball playing ability the Vancouver Japanese are a hard team to beat. They did not miss a chance in the field and although they were slightly put off by the fast, curving balls offered by Urquhart, they seemed able to collect hits whenever necessary.

Five runs on the All Stars aggregation hailed from Penticton and the rest were recruited from Kelowna, Peachland, and Vernon.

Batteries: Vancouver Asahi, Nishihara and Yasui; All Stars, Hammond and Watkins, Urquhart and Crawford.