

Guide's Own – Inuksuk Theme

OPENING READING: There are two things to aim at in life, first, to get what you want, and after that to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind achieve the second.

Or: “There are always two choices, two paths to take. One is easy. And its only reward is that it’s easy.” (*Making Every Day Count, Daily Readings for Young People*)

SONG: On My Honour

POEM: **Choice of four poems by Robert Service** – see the attached file.

The first one is "The Lone Trail" - it seems to develop the theme of finding your own way through life, and the trail part ties in well with the "trail-marker" aspect of the Inuksuk.

The second one, “Call of the Wild” is possibly the best. It fits well with the northern theme. The main aspects of this poem would be meeting challenges and doing your own thing (being yourself). If the whole poem is too long, the last two verses are good on their own.

The third poem - "The Choice" ties in with the aspect of making decisions about our lives (what values to follow, and so on). However, the end is a bit depressing, so it would probably be best to use only the first verse, which would make it pretty short.

The fourth (and final) poem - "Dauntless Quest" works on the "doing our best" and "making a difference" aspects.

** Which poem you choose will depend on what aspect you wish to emphasize in the ceremony. **

BUILDING A PERSON

An inuksuk is a sculpture of stones that have been stacked and balanced to look like a person. Like people, each inuksuk is unique, and has its own qualities and strengths. Inuksuit were traditionally built in Canada’s arctic as signposts, indicating directions for travelers. They can also be symbols of significant events, or to represent a feeling such as respect or welcome. Our inuksuk will commemorate the event of our camp, as well as representing the strength and direction we receive from Guiding.

Build Inuksuk as each part is read:

Everything needs a strong foundation to succeed. These two legs will form the foundation of our Inuksuk. Just as Lord and Lady BP were the foundation of Guiding.

The Body is our Promise and Law, although not exactly the same around the world, the message is the same and it keeps us upright and proud to be a Guide and Girl Scout. At the heart of our inuksuk is a trefoil, representing our Promise. It is heartwarming to be able to

travel to strange countries and know that if you wear your trefoil pin, you will be recognized as a friend to other members of this wonderful organization. You know that you can trust that person and that she will help you if needed

Our arms are showing some of the many directions where guiding can be found, currently in 152 member countries of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. We have sisters in all these countries around the world.

Our head is held up proudly, each one unique and different. But each one holds the same ideals, vision and hope for the future of Guiding around the world.

Each of us should do something in our lives to make us stand out, something good and kind, a service to others, a helping hand, being always prepared to step in when needed, something to make someone else feel good. We may not always be noticed like this Inuksuk but we know inside ourselves that we have done something good.

SONG: O'Siem - by Susan Aglukark - if you have a CD of her songs it would be nice playing in the background

CLOSING READING:

An inuksuk stands in a place long after the people who created it have moved on. In the same way, our actions and the effect they have will remain long after we leave. If we always “Do our Best”, we can leave each day behind us knowing that the world is a slightly better place because we were here.

CLOSING SONG: If the ceremony is held at the end of camp, or in the evening, it might be nice to sing, “Softly Falls the Light of Day” (or whatever the proper name is – it is in the Campfire Activities book)

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