

A graphic consisting of numerous thin, black lines radiating outwards from a central point, creating a sunburst or starburst effect. The lines are of varying lengths and angles, creating a dynamic, energetic feel.

THE
**GREATEST
CANADIAN**

October 17th – November 29th, 2004 on CBC Television

RESOURCE GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS



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TOP TEN GREAT REASONS WHY YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN CBC'S THE GREATEST CANADIAN

- 10 Great way to launch a new educational year, to learn about each other and who we are as Canadians.
- 9 Opportunity to be a part of a current, lively national discussion of the meaning of "greatness" in a Canadian context.
- 8 Easy to integrate into pre-existing learning objectives on broad themes like Leadership, Heroism, Greatness, Diversity and Overcoming Obstacles.
- 7 Excellent way to foster local pride, connect with other organizations and increase awareness of hometown heroes. Is your town the birthplace of a Greatest Canadian or the place where a Great Canadian made a mark? Perhaps your school named after a Great Canadian. Now is a perfect time to celebrate their contribution to your town and our country.
- 6 Materials can be tailored to suit all students from Grade 6 to senior high school.
- 5 All activities promote cross-curricular discussion and are suitable for all subject areas. Do you teach in French? Teaching materials and much of the series website are available in French at www.cbc.ca/grandscanadiens/enseignants.
- 4 The debate is portable. Students can discuss greatness and Canadian heroes with peers, students in other grades, and their family.
- 3 Worksheets make it simple to select activities you believe are most useful for your students.
- 2 There are great prizes to be won for your school. Visit www.cbc.ca/greatest in October to see details.
- 1 Last, but not least, it's FUN!



TEACHING WITH THE GREATEST CANADIAN

Whether you teach math, social science, language arts or all three, THE GREATEST CANADIAN can be integrated into various subjects. In addition to the worksheets, here are just a few ideas to get you thinking about how you can bring **The Greatest Canadian** into your classroom:

Geography – Where do the Greatest Canadians come from? What role did their hometown, province or territory play in their lives? How might their regional origins have affected their upbringing? What impact did they have on various parts of Canada? The world?

History/Social Studies - When were they born? During what time period did they live their lives? What events shaped them? What impact did they have on Canadian, local and world history?

Language Arts – What did they write? How can we express our thoughts and ideas or feelings about greatness in a Canadian context? Consider having your students use role-play, poetry, narrative, essays, media reports to discuss and debate various themes including leadership, heroism, Canadian values and greatness.

ESL - Some teachers have already found that the debate is a wonderful tool to stimulate discussion among the newest of Canadians. What a superb vehicle to help new Canadians find out more about their new country, its history, geography and values! Consider what fresh perspective Canada's newest citizens bring to this discussion. Ask them to compare and contrast great people from their birth country with Great Canadians.

Science/Math - Many of the Great Canadians may have interests and experience in this field. This would be an excellent opportunity to show how Canadian discoveries in math and science contribute to our country and the world.

Physical Education – Some of the Greatest Canadians may be athletes. All of them offer practical insight into themes of leadership, perseverance and challenge that are central in this subject area. The study of their sports and careers is a close fit with physical education programming.

Art - Are some candidates for the title of Greatest Canadian artists? If not, why might artists not be represented? Do they have other professions but also express themselves through paintings, photography or sculpture? Consider having students study Great Canadian art or create their own masterpieces.

Special Education – The contest nature of the series will be appealing to students of varying abilities. What is essential here is that all students can declare their personal views and join in the debate.

Second Language Studies - Teaching materials and much of the series website are available in French at www.cbc.ca/grandscanadiens/enseignants. While the series will be presented in English only, the discussion and analysis can take place in any language. Students and teachers might role-play some of the nominees and have the rest of the class pose questions or make statements.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A GREAT CANADIAN? OPENING QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- The Oxford Canadian Dictionary defines great (in reference to persons) as “remarkable in ability, character, achievement, etc.” Is this definition specific enough to help identify a Greatest Canadian? What do your students identify as the characteristics of greatness?
- Can a great Canadian be measured by the same standards as a great American or great Briton? Is greatness harder for Canadians? Consider the following statement from author Charles Taylor: “More than most peoples, Canadians are prejudiced in favour of the ordinary: it is a function of our history, our climate and our geography. In a harsh land, we still honour all those pioneering virtues which impose restraint and engender mediocrity.”
- Is a legacy a critical component of greatness? Do we need the perspective of history to assess the ultimate greatness of an individual? Can we fairly compare the impact of a living Canadian to that of an historical figure?

WHAT'S NEXT

That's up to you! Beginning October 17th, watch **The Greatest Canadian** on CBC Television and CBC Newsworld (check local listings or visit www.cbc.ca/greatest for the broadcast schedule). Use this teacher's guide or develop your own ideas of how to discuss “greatness” and celebrate some of our national heroes. Be sure to share your cool and unique ideas with us. We would love to hear from you.

E-mail us at: greatestcanadian@cbc.ca.

THE GREATEST CANADIAN ON CBC TELEVISION

Top 50 Revealed	Sunday, October 17 th , 2004, 8pm
Specials on each of the Top Ten Great Canadians	Mondays and Wednesdays, 8pm October 18 th to November 22 nd , 2004 (Tuesdays & Thursdays on CBC Newsworld)
The Final Pitch	Sunday, November 28 th , 2004, 8pm
Finale: Who is the Greatest Canadian?	Monday, November 29 th , 2004, 8pm



HELP WANTED: GREATEST CANADIAN!

Before voting for your Greatest Canadian, it might be useful to consider what this title actually demands. What are the skills, attitudes and experiences required for such a lofty title? Think about the qualities that might be needed for this “job” and then write a Help Wanted ad that would be suitable. Before starting this exercise, review some sample want ads from your local paper to get the correct flavour and style of a “want ad”.

To Consider:

Do you know anyone who might be a good candidate?

In the future, would you be a likely candidate?

WORKPLACE To place an ad call (416)

710 General Help Wanted

**HELP WANTED:
GREATEST CANADIAN!!**

Description of Job Title:

Qualifications Needed:

Suggested Experience:

Personal Qualities and Attributes:

Rewards/Remuneration:

Heartfelt thanks and respect of a grateful nation!



THE GREATEST CANADIAN OPENING SHOW (First broadcast Oct. 17, 2004)

The Top 50 Great Canadians as nominated by the public in Spring 2004 are revealed on October 17th, 2004. As you view the opening show in **The Greatest Canadian** series, use this helpful summary sheet to record some of the key information presented.

Before viewing the opening show on October 17th, my prediction for the Top Ten Great Canadians is:

1. _____	2. _____
3. _____	4. _____
5. _____	6. _____
7. _____	8. _____
9. _____	10. _____

The Actual Top Ten Great Canadians Revealed on October 17th, 2004

Name	Field of Activity	My Questions/Comments

To Consider:

Which nominees on the Top 50 most surprised you? Why?

At this point, which nominee do you think is most deserving of the title Greatest Canadian? Why?

How open are you to changing your opinion? Explain.

How will you convince friends and family to vote for your choice?



THE TOP TEN GREAT CANADIANS

After October 17th, 2004 you will know whom Canadians nominated as the Top Ten Great Canadians! View www.cbc.ca/greatest to recheck the list. Which of the Top Ten do you think deserves to be named The Greatest Canadian? In which order should the rest come? Why?

Here is your chance to rank the Top Ten nominees and suggest your reasons for their selection. There is no right or wrong answer. It is simply a question of which Canadians are "greatest" in your opinion. This might not be as easy as it seems. Think carefully, perhaps listen to others or seek advice from friends, teachers, family and friends. (You might even invite your family members to try the exercise.)

Your Ranking	Name of Greatest Canadian	My Reason for this position	Questions I still have
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

To Consider:

Do you think your ranking of the Top Ten will change?

Why? Why not?



THE GREATEST CANADIAN PROFILE SHEET

Use this sheet as you view each Greatest Canadian episode and record some interesting facts. Make 10 copies of this profile sheet and complete it for each of the Top Ten. Compare and contrast the 10 Great Canadians. Do they have a lot in common? Or are they remarkably different? What do you think might account for these similarities and/or differences? Consider arguments for and against each Canadian being named the Greatest and organize a debate in your class.

Greatest Canadian Nominee: _____

Advocate for this Great Canadian: _____

Nominee Birth Date: _____ Birthplace: _____

Date of Death (If applicable) _____

Key Points About Early Years: _____

Major Field of Activity: _____

Major Influences: _____

Major Achievements: _____

Did this Great Canadian face any obstacles? _____

Did he/she overcome them? If so, how? _____

What are some important details of his/her personal life? (i.e. education, employment, travel, family, children)

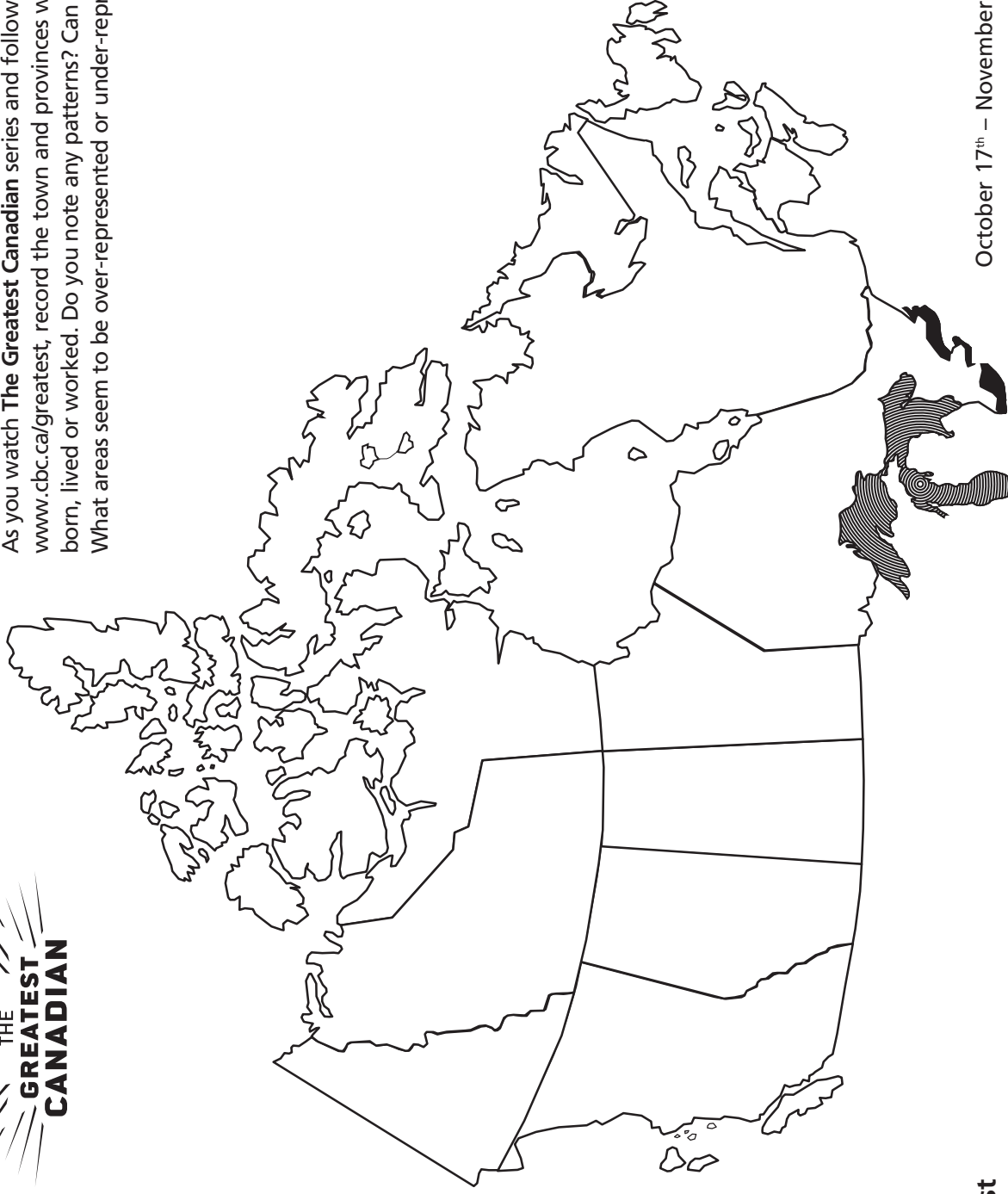
What are some of the Advocate's arguments in support of this Great Canadian? _____

What's your view? _____



GREAT CANADIANS ACROSS CANADA

As you watch **The Greatest Canadian** series and follow the results on www.cbc.ca/greatest, record the town and provinces where these individuals were born, lived or worked. Do you note any patterns? Can you explain these patterns? What areas seem to be over-represented or under-represented? Why?





GREATEST CANADIAN WORD WEB

Use the word web below to complete a map of the major features, experiences, achievements and qualities of one of the Great Canadians profiled in **The Greatest Canadian** series or on the Top 100 list at www.cbc.ca/greatest. Place the name of the individual in the centre and use the lines to add points of information. Feel free to add other lines or even illustrations to summarize the person. Make several copies of this sheet if you intend to do word webs for other candidates for the title of The Greatest Canadian. Compare your results with those of a friend or family member. Use your mind map as a visual representation or "set of notes" to help you orally explain your choice for The Greatest Canadian.





GREATEST CANADIAN HISTORICAL HOCKEY CARD

Create a historical hockey card (really just a short bio!) of your Greatest Canadian. Place a picture or drawing, simple background facts, and perhaps a good quote by or about your choice. When you are finished, you can show it to friends and family, make copies and pass them on others as you try to get support for your choice. Maybe even add your card to a poster wall of similar Hockey Cards. (Feel free to use this form or make a larger format of one of your own designs!)

THE GREATEST CANADIAN

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THE GREATEST CANADIAN

Name:

Birthplace:

Date of Birth:

Death:

Important Life Events:

Most Important Achievement:

My Final Comment:



GREAT CANADIAN REPORTING

The lives of our Great Canadians were generally quite eventful. Think about an important event in the life of one of the Great Canadians and re-tell it as if you were a news reporter. You might be a print, radio, web or television reporter, depending on the time period. (Hint: Sir John A. Macdonald never did a television interview.)

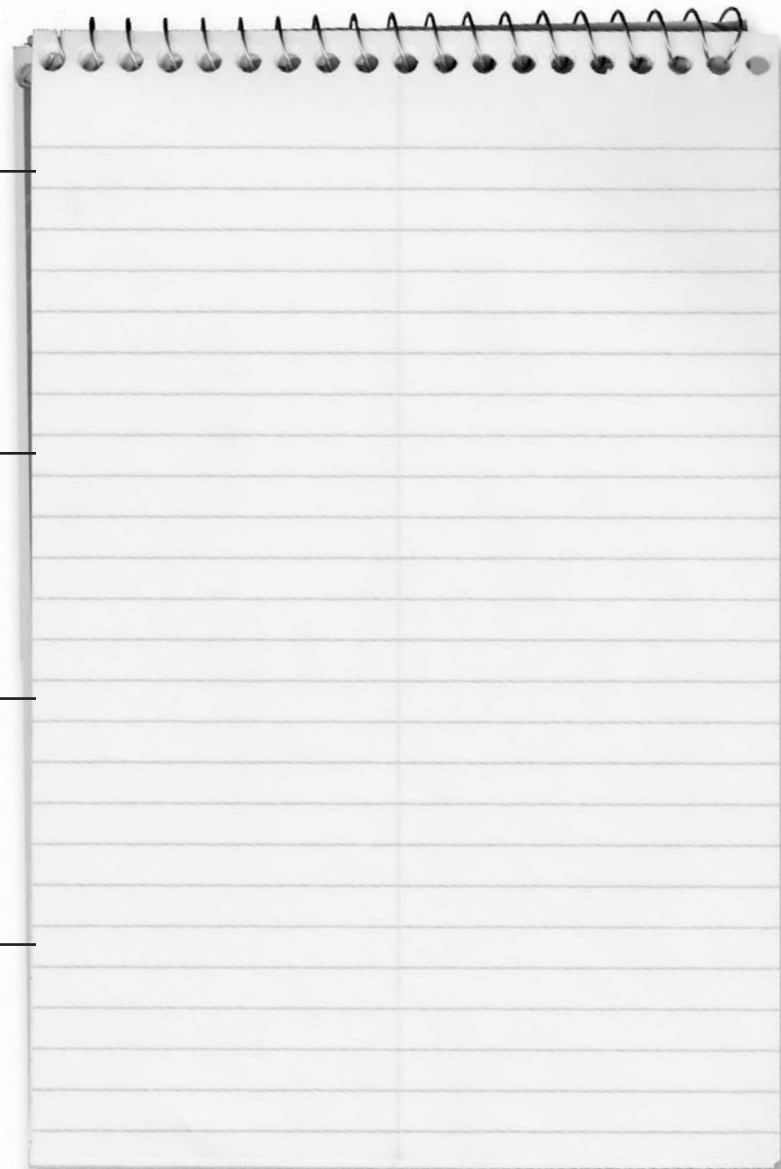
After completing some brief research, and perhaps reviewing some Great Canadians profiles available on www.cbc.ca/greatest, write a short news story (consider even a TV or radio script!) about an event in their lives. You may wish to complete this exercise with a peer or a small group. When you have written and reviewed your work, perform it for your class and/or family. Perhaps even record it and create your own classroom broadcast!

Research Notes

Major Points for Report

Format of Report

Personnel and Duties





GREATEST CANADIAN WORD SEARCH

At first glance, this may look like the Great Canadian Letter Jumble. But look closely and you will find the names of 30 Great Canadians. How many you can find? To get you started, we have found one Great Canadian for you. For added challenge, consider timing yourself and your friends. Make copies and try them at home. Can you find more than your friends and parents?



- Agnes MacPhail
- Avril Lavigne
- Barbara Frum
- Calixa Lavallee
- Crowfoot
- Emily Carr
- Frederick Banting
- Isaac Brock
- Jeanne Mance
- Joey Smallwood
- John A Macdonald
- John Diefenbaker
- John Polanyi
- Lester Pearson
- Lord Stanley of Preston
- Louis Riel
- Lucy Maud Montgomery
- Margaret Atwood
- Mary Ann Shadd
- Nellie McClung
- Oscar Peterson
- Pierre Elliott Trudeau
- Roberta Bondar
- Romeo Dallaire
- Sandford Fleming
- Tecumseh
- ~~Terry Fox~~
- Tommy Douglas
- Wayne Gretzky
- Yousuf Karsh



GREAT CANADIAN DEBATE

On November 29, 2004, Canadians will have decided who they feel should claim the title of The Greatest Canadian. Whoever is chosen, it is unlikely that the choice will be unanimous. Canadians may well be discussing the results for some time after this exciting event. Organize a debate in your class. Prepare brief arguments for or against the person selected as The Greatest Canadian. After developing your arguments, divide into two sides to discuss and debate the final winner. Remember that, in the end, the debate about what makes someone great may be more important than the actual voting results.

Before the Debate

Arguments for the Final Selection

Arguments Against the Final Selection

During the Debate

Ideas Raised For the Final Selection

Ideas Raised Against the Final Selection

To Consider:

Now that you have fully debated the selection of The Greatest Canadian, do you support or oppose the decision? Why? Why not?

What arguments did you or your classmates think were important?

Were these also mentioned in the broadcast? What arguments were different? Why?

Who was the winner of your class's Greatest Canadian debate?

Was this different from the choice Canadians picked? Why?



OTHER GREAT ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Here are just a few more arrows for your pedagogical quiver! Each Greatest Canadian activity is followed with an indication of the grade levels that might be most suitable. Junior (J), Intermediate (I), Senior (S) indicates the recommended levels – but you know your students best. The only thing that is required is that you and your students have fun!

Be sure let us know what Greatest Canadian activities your students are enjoying along the way! Our production teams are always looking for interesting and exciting stories for the final episodes. Send us an email at greatestcanadian@cbc.ca.

Poster or Web Page Challenge J/I/S

Students could create posters or web pages promoting their favourite Great Canadian or perhaps simply highlighting the Top Ten. Posters could be mounted in a display in the LRC or other public display area.

Editorials/Letters to the Editor/Columnists I/S

Encourage students to write opinion columns, editorials or letters-to-the-editor in support of their Greatest Canadian. Or have them write responses to the selection of the Top Ten Greatest Canadians. Have the results sent to local papers or published in school publications.

Speech Writer I/S

Invite students to prepare speeches that advocate one person as the Greatest Canadian. They may draw their suggestions from the Top 10, the Top 50 or others listed on www.cbc.ca/greatest.

Web Quest J/I/S

Use our website (www.cbc.ca/greatest) or CBC's Digital Archives (www.cbc.ca/archives) as a launch pad for internet- based research on great Canadians. Other sites include: Dictionary of Canadian Biography (www.biographi.ca); and Memorable Canadians (www.nlc-bnc.ca/8/2).

Greatest Canadian Book Display J/I/S

Showcase books by or about Great Canadians in your library. Have students offer a brief book talk about their favourites. Or start a Greatest Canadian Book Club and post recommended readings in your class.

Greatest Canadian Party J/I/S

Organize a Greatest Canadian party. Students can dress up as Great Canadians. They could make short declarations or be asked to find out about as many other Great Canadians as possible. Consider suitable Canadian food, music, and decorations.

Check out portraits of the Top Ten Great Canadians in the Portrait Gallery of Canada's *Groundbreakers* series at www.portraits.gc.ca (after the list is revealed in October) !

For even more resources, weblinks and activities, visit www.cbc.ca/greatest/forteachers.



**Starting October 17th, watch The Greatest Canadian
on CBC Television**

Catch the repeat broadcasts on CBC Newsworld

For more information and to view
a complete broadcast schedule,
visit www.cbc.ca/greatest

Even after the series concludes, you can continue to use this guide for
great discussions about Great Canadians. **The Greatest Canadian** will be available for
schools use on video and DVD. To purchase a license for **The Greatest Canadian**

series for school use, contact CBC Educational Sales

at: 416-205-6384 or 1-866-999-3072

cbc_education@cbc.ca www.cbceds.ca



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