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Curriculum Units by Fellows of the National Initiative
2025 Volume III: Graphic Narratives as Teaching Tools

Dine Alchini Ba'hani through Graphical Novel Storytelling: Clan Edition

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This unit is a project base-learning approach, students will have to go out and explore through inquiry. Through inquiry students will develop their concept about what they are seeking. Students will seek information that is deeply rooted and hold meaning. This concept is what I want my students to understand and carry forward. Ke (relation/family), not many young Dine know the meaning, they think it is just the clan we share or a most of us do not know the stories behind the clan. Through “Graphic Narratives as Teaching Tools,” led by Dr. Marta Figlerowicz has taught me a great deal on how I can use Graphic Narratives in my classroom. This topic unit students will inquire information about their clans(s). They will be given the tools like pencil, notebook, sketchbook and device to take notes. Students will be given examples of what a graphic/comic should look like and use that information to do rough sketches. Students will analyze how to interpret their information they gather and create a graphic novel/comic book. Students learn how to become storytellers through this unit, they will learn to question their culture. Most important through this unit, students will revitalize a culture through Graphic Narratives.

(Developed for Social Studies, grade 5)

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