**Elder Quote/Belief:**   "Yesterday we had a dance in the store. Oh boy it surely was fun. Lots of room and everybody was down there.  They broom danced, and square danced, it was fun.  And Steve Vlasoff came to the store and let all the kids go home and go to bed and the older fellows were dancing".   -Arlene Totemoff, Chenega Diaries.

**Grade Level:  Pre K-2**

**Overview**:   The Chugach people had many traditional celebrations throughout the year. We will learn about the past and present celebrations in the Chugach Region.

**Standards:**

| AK Cultural: | AK Content Science: | CRCC: |
|---|---|---|
| **A6** Live a life in accordance with the cultural values and traditions of the local community and integrate them into their everyday behavior | **F2** Develop an understanding that some individuals, cultures, and societies use other beliefs and methods in addition to scientific methods to describe and understand the world. | **CE1** Students should have knowledge of traditional and contemporary Sugpiaq/Alutiiq song, dance and performance. |

**Lesson Goal:**  Students know the meaning of celebration and traditional celebrations held in the Chugach Region.

**Lesson Objective(s):** Students will learn about the past and present celebrations, their purposes and meanings.

**Vocabulary Words:**            Sugt'stun Dialects

| English: | Prince William Sound: | Lower Cook Inlet: | Eyak: |
|---|---|---|---|
| Celebrate | nunaneqsak | | |
| I'm dancing | agngua<u>h</u>tua | agngua<u>h</u>tua | Dance- gah<br>Dancer- ixgah<br>To dance-  i-ga |
| Respect | | | |

**Materials/Resources Needed**
Book: *Looking Both Ways*
YouTube on Tamamta Katulluta: The Gathering  https://youtu.be/FRyHIMe9oIM
YouTube on Native Village of Eyak Sobriety Celebration
  ➢  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mP5XWZuwsQs

**Teacher Preparation:**
• Invite an Elder or Recognized Expert who can share their experiences with a traditional celebration.

- Locate and review the books and videos.

**Opening:** Who can tell me what a celebration is?  Have you seen or participated in a celebration? A celebration is to observe a special occasion with festivities. There are many different types of celebrations, for instance birthday parties, Fourth of July parades, Christmas, Easter, Ice Worm Festival, etc.  Can you name some other celebrations?

In this lesson, we will learn about traditional and historical celebrations in the Chugach Region. Traditionally the celebrations were a way of showing respect to the animal who gave its life for our survival and it was important to share food, telling of stories, singing and dancing with finest regalia! We will hear about our ancestors traditional Hunting and Bladder Festivals.  Both celebrations were traditionally held to show respect for animals and teach the importance of sharing your catch with others and making sure not to waste anything.  Every part of the animal was utilized.

**Activities:**
**Class I:**
1. Introduce the Elder or Recognized Expert, if available and have them share their TEK with the students on traditional celebrations.
2. Have a discussion with the students on whether they know the meaning of celebration and ask the students;
    a. What celebrations they have participated in?
    b. What about celebrations that happen in our community?
3. Show the short videos of Tamamta Katurlluta and NVE sobriety celebrations.
4. Read from *Looking Both Ways* page 199 and 200 about Traditional Ceremonies and read about the two ceremonies Bladder Festival and Hunting Festival that were held in the past.
5. We will review two traditional festivals that were held in the past, the Bladder and Hunting festivals and a present day festival the annual Native Village of Eyak Sobriety Celebration.

**Assessment:**
- Students can correctly pronounce the Sugt'stun/ Eyak words regarding celebrations.
- Students can describe what a traditional celebration is and what it may encompass.
- Students can explain the reason why a traditional bladder festival was celebrated.