

Responsibilities to the Land

1. Here are three quotes from First Nations leaders about our responsibilities to the land. As you read them, annotate the quotes by highlighting key words. Add comments and questions in the margins.

As long as the sun shines, the rivers are flowing and the grasses are green we will remember our sacred responsibilities to the lands as our relatives.

Chief Peguis, 1817.

Man did not weave the web of life – he is merely a strand in it. What ever he does to the web, he does to himself.

Chief Seattle, Susomich, 1854

Our responsibilities are reminders to ensure the health and well-being of the seven generations that are coming.

Oren Lyons, Ondondaga-Seneca, 2007

2. Find another quote that expresses a First Peoples perspective about our relationship with the land. Give the source of your quote.

3. What is your point of view? Add your own words that express something about our relationship with the land.