
BETTY WILSON, Tla'amin Nation

A Tla'amin Perspective on Math

This talk will discuss how Indigenous knowledge is infused with math. Math was involved in building housing, canoes, tools, clothing, and weaving baskets. Each item was not only functional, but also an art form. For example, baby baskets were designed to be beautiful and only certain parts of the root were used to make sure when the cedar was dry, the basket was shiny. The talk will involve presentation of pictures of baskets, fish traps and other items that make use of mathematical knowledge, where repeating patterns are part of the structural and aesthetic design of the object.