

Berries of Interior Alaska

A Thematic Teaching Unit prepared by the Iditarod Area School District in McGrath, Alaska.



NOTES TO THE TEACHER

This Thematic Teaching Unit is divided as described above with separate sets of lessons for elementary and for middle school. The lessons in both sections may use many of the same resources and materials which are to be found in Resources.

The Elementary unit is further divided by grade levels K-1, 2-3 and 4-5, with daily objectives and activities intended to last over a two-week period.

The Middle School section is designed for a three-week period (50 min. periods) OR two weeks with block scheduling with 2 hrs. or afternoon suggested for berry picking activities during berry picking season. There are 8 sets of lessons with suggested activities, and more activities included in Resources to be used at the teacher's discretion

The following berries are studied in this unit. The first seven are described in the *Anvik Resource Book* and are those used in the original lessons. Others were added as they are commonly found and used in the villages. One poisonous berry, the baneberry, has also been added as it might be confused with other berries. All of the berries are described in most of the plant/berry identification books. Many have varying local names, some of which are indicated in parenthesis on the next page.

Berries of Interior Alaska

1. Blueberry



2. High Bush Cranberry



3. Lowbush Cranberry (winterberry, redberry)



4. Raspberry



5. Rosehips (rose berry)



6. Cloudberry (salmon berry)



7. Crowberry (blackberry)



8. Red Currant



9. Bunchberry (Canadian or dwarf dogwood)



10. Black Currant (highbush blackberry)



11. Nagoon Berry (dewberry, wineberry)



12. Bearberry (kinnikinnick)



13. Bog Cranberry



14. Baneberry POISONOUS

