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The Ancestral Science Podcast explores scientific topics through conversations between Knowledge Keepers and Scientists, while *experiencing* the origins and depth of science on and with “the Land”. Join us as science COMES ALIVE when knowledges are shared alongside ancestor plants, rocks, animals, and rivers, creating connections between personal, Indigenous, and global science.

The Ancestral Science podcast is a place for *everyone* to see themselves in science, to be inspired by the SCIENCE that is all around them and expand the definitions of both *ancestor* and *science*.

SEASON 3: Episode 16 & 17 with **Melissa ROBERTS & Emily KERTON** “Lessons from Three Deer, Raining Acorns, & Laughter as Medicine”

We recorded in the midst of a chinook and cold front on an early winter afternoon here on the Lands of the Blackfoot Confederacy, Tsuut’ina Nation, Îethka Nakoda First Nation, and more recently the Otipemisiwak Métis.

The Ancestral Science Podcast thought we needed some Auntie Laughs, so we reconnected with **Melissa Roberts** and **Emily Kerton**, Indigenous educators weaving knowledges and Land-based science into the Ontario curriculum.

In part 1 of 2, we discuss the difference between outdoor experiential knowledge/Land-based knowledge/and Indigenous knowledges, the reverence of silence and slowing down, protocols of Indigenous knowledges within education, the "ridiculous rigor" of Indigenous Science through oral stories, and not needing validation of global science to tell us about the health benefits of smudging.

In part 2, the Ancestral Science Podcast reconnected with Melissa Roberts and Emily Kerton, to learn about the importance patience & humility within education and knowledge, bird goggles, "suspension of disbelief", sacrificing your ego, "the third deer", falling acorns, and how NOT to use the facilitREES. Remember to tuned to the end for an absolute TREAT in the form of "a trifecta of poop stories" that will surly induce facial and stomach laughter cramps, as well as a hilarious LIGHTNING ROUND!

As well, these times can be difficult, but remember that all is interconnected, so send your Prayers and Positive Energy to Minnesota.

From experience, we all know that LAUGHTER is MEDICINE...so grab a no-spill sippy cup with some tea or coffee, light a smudge if you can, and learn from and laugh alongside the Aunties- Melissa Roberts and Emily Kerton.

Remember, you can support the pod and rock some unique Indigenous Science merch at www.relationalsciencecircle.com/shop, all proceeds go towards Knowledge Keeper honoraria, following protocols, and keeping the pod going.

Please like, share, follow, and rate the pod, it goes a long way to share this knowledge.

Thanks to Emil Starlight (@mikadikadzi_redfoot) of [Limelight Multimedia](#) for editing, videography, and editing as well as support from [Bespoke Productions Hub](#).

Intro composed and performed by [Walter White Bear](#), Sharon Ann Foster, and Emil Starlight.

Questions for the Pod? Email us at relational.science@gmail.com

SHOWNOTES:

Here are some links and resources from Emily and Melissa:

How to begin relationships with community?

-Find a local Friendship Centre, also check out “[National Association of Friendship Centres](#)”

-offer tobacco, begin relationships with the Land.

-ask questions but don't take space to put extra work onto Indigenous People

-when beginning relationships with community, do some work first, check out “[First Nation Elder Protocol](#)” and as the community/person/relative you want to speak with.

Melissa and Emily spoke about the [Kingfisher Lake Outdoor Education Centre](#)

Difference between **Land-based learning** and **Outdoor Education**:

<https://en.ccunesco.ca/idealab/indigenous-land-based-education>

Scholarly article about the **benefits of Land-based learning**:

<https://yellowheadinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/YI-Land-Based-Education-Special-Report-2.2023-1.pdf>

Ontario Elementary Teachers' Federation- **resource for Indigenous and non-Indigenous teachers**:

https://etfofntmi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/EWS_Book_LandBased-Learning-FINAL_Oct20_CC.pdf

Robin Wall Kimmerer's new Circle called “**Plant Baby Plant.**”

<https://plantbabyplant.com/>

Check out anything by Robin Wall Kimmerer (books, podcasts, articles, videos...), she is awesome!

Want more Indigenous Science Resources? Check out [Relational Science Circle](#).

Want to learn more about Indigenous Science, Indigenous Science/Mathematics Teacher PD sessions, or have an idea for a guest or topic for the Ancestral Science Podcast, email relational.science@gmail.com

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