

Chinook Prayer Ceremony

We call upon the earth, our planet home, with its beautiful depths and soaring heights, its vitality and abundance of life, and together we ask that it

--Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the mountains, the high green valleys and meadows filled with wild Flowers, the deserts, the snows that never melt, the summits of intense silence, and we ask that they

--Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the waterways that rim the earth, horizon to horizon, that flow in our rivers and streams, that fall upon our garden fields, and we ask that they

--Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the forests, the great trees reaching strongly to the sky with earth in their Roots and the heavens in their branches, the fir and the pine and the cedar, and we ask

--Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon the creatures of the fields and forests and deserts and tundra under the seas, our brothers and sisters, and we ask them to

--Teach us, and show us the way.

We call upon all those who have lived on this earth, our ancestors and our friends, who dreamed the best for future generations, and upon whose lives our lives are built, and with thanksgiving, we call upon them to

--Teach us, and show us the way.

And lastly, we call upon all that we hold most sacred, the presence and power of the Great Spirit of love and truth, which flows through all the universe, to be with us to

--Teach us, and show us the way.

Adapted from *Poets of the Spirit: Native American Inspiration*, Don Compton, ed.