Anishnaabemowin

Miinwa
Anishnaabe zheyaawin
Our Language, Our Culture

Hamilton Regional Indian Center
Preserving Our Gift OJIBWA

GORDON SHAWANDA
The Hamilton Native Learning Centre gratefully acknowledges the generous support for this project from the Aboriginal Language Initiative (ALI) co-sponsored by Heritage Canada, The Assembly of First Nations and the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians.

Miigwech also to The Hamilton Regional Indian Centre for their contribution of space and staff.
DEDICATION

Noojmootoodaa Enweyang
(Let us nourish the way we speak)

This page is dedicated to Native children whose language was stolen. Children were severely punished for speaking their own language or practising their culture. The Residential School era is gone. Dejectedly, Ojibwa language was largely destroyed and the intergenerational effects are still showing. Our children need to know where they are coming from. Since the beginning of time First Nations language has been our first language. Our language may be buried deep in the recesses of our being. But it is there. It will not die. It exists in nature. This book may help guide and direct our future leaders in maintaining our identity and culture. Many of our students will become the teachers and researchers of the lost generation.

G. Zhaawande
Anishnaabemowin  
(Ojibwe Language)

These lessons are suitable for first grade and up and to first time adult beginners. Students will develop listening and speaking skills. This booklet was written to assist students who wish to learn the Anishnaabe language. The author does not claim that the students will learn the Anishnaabe language solely from this written material. It is a tool which may help the students learn when used with other materials.

In the traditional way, the whole-curriculum is taught the Anishnaabe way. The aspiration of the medicine wheel teachings brings together the wholistic approach of the language including the life cycle. This brings the Native language as being a culturally based program.

Anishnaabe is a term used by a people to define who they are and to identify themselves collectively or individually to other people. The term also refers to the language they speak. The Anishnaabe are commonly referred to as the Algonquin, a group of people who historically lived in a large portion of Turtle Island, the new World, specifically, the eastern and mid-western area of North America.

In and around the Great Lakes area, these Anishnaabe people became to be commonly known as the people of the Three Fires, and today these people are called odawa (Ottawa), ojibway (Chippewa - Ojibwe) or boodwewaagomii (Potawatomi). There are many other groups that are separately identified by today’s knowledge base and these groups also speak or spoke a form of Anishnaabe. According to Voegelin and Voegelin, the languages linguistically related to the versions of Anishnaabe that are spoken in the Great Lakes area are; from the east, the Micmac and the Abenaki; to the south, the Seminole and the Shawnee; to the west the Peigen and the Saulteau; and to the North, the Cree. Much like the differences in the Indo-European languages, so the same can be said of the Algonquin languages, that is, all these groups speak or spoke a version of Anishnaabe.
Preface

This book has been prepared for students of the Ojibwe Language and community education programs. Many thanks to all elders, teachers, past and present, who have gathered and shared information so our children can keep the language alive and blossoming.

We do recognize the need of fluent speakers or learners from other Ojibwe Nations to change and/or add words to keep in step to your way of speaking. We realize there are differences in dialects and we welcome any corrections. This project gave me an opportunity to research the language, and feel the movement of our Ancestors’ sacred knowledge prodding me to compile this information and to share with Our People.

G. Zhaawande
## CONSONANT-VOWEL SYLLABLE CHART

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*Indicates that the syllable either does not exist or is quite scarce.*
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwe

Theme 1  Introduction
Well Being
Months of the Year
The Four Directions

Theme 2  Fall
Weather
Numbers
The Four Seasons

Theme 3  Special Holidays
Days of the Week
Food
The Four Elements

Theme 4  Nature
Forest animals
Birds
The Four Elements (Medicine Wheel – Four Elements)

Theme 5  Revue Lessons
From 1 - 4

Theme 6  Where are you going?
How ?
Relatives
People
Theme 7  Buildings
Furniture
Tools - Parts of a house
Transportation

Theme 8  Time
Heavens - Sky world
Geography
Places

Theme 9  Table Gestures
Vegetables
Fruits
Trees

Theme 10  Revue Lessons
From 6 - 9

Theme 11  Winter
Winter Clothes
Occupation (workers)
How much?

Theme 12  Body Parts
Ailments
Feelings - Where
The Four Stages Of Life (Medicine Wheel – Life Cycle)
Theme 13  Interrogatives
Names
Speaker Elder - Traditional Teachings

Theme 14  Descriptive Words
Command
Verbs
Pronouns

Theme 15  Revue Lessons
From 11 - 14

Theme 16  Pow Wow
Colours
Food - Mijim
Action (verbs) - Enankid

Theme 17  Diminutive
Locative
Pejorative
Verbs

Theme 18  Let’s Sing - Ngamdaa
Numbers
Pre-Verbs
Preposition

Additional Material:
Ngamdaa (Let’s Sing) – Oh Canada

Niibwiwin (Married Life) – A Short Play
Preserving Our Language Ojibwa

2 Hours / Week For 18 weeks

**Theme 1 - Conversing Ojibwe**

Aambe maajtaadaa wii-nishnaabemyiing – Le’s start speaking Indian.
Aanii, Hello, Boozhoo, Greetings
Niksaan...ndizhnikaaaz - my name is ...Alex ...
Wiikwemkong - ndoonjbaa - I am from ..................
Odawa ndaaw - I am ..................
Giiin dash aanish ezhnikaazyan? How about you what is your name?

Zhaabadiis ndizhnikaaaz My name is John.
Aapiish enjbaayaan Zhaabadiis Where are you from John?
Hamilton geni ndoonjbaa. I am from Hamilton.
Aapiish enjinaakiiyin? Where did you work?
Shaangegamigoong ndoon jinaakii. I work at the Restaurant.

Kiin dash aapiish gwodji Wiikwemkong enjinaakiiyen?
How about you where abouts do you work in Wiikwemikong?
Zhoonyaagamgong Wiikwemkong shkwanganing ndoon jinaaki.
I work at the bank in Wiikwemikong reserve.
Zhoonyaagamgong? - At the bank?
Enh, Zhoonyaagamgong. Yes, at the bank.
Zhoonyaas naa gda wiwe? Do you lend money?
Kaa.- No.

Niksaan - Alex /Alexander Zhaabadiis - John/Johnny
**Commands**

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<tr>
<td>Nmadbin</td>
<td>Sit down</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bzaanmadbin</td>
<td>Sit still</td>
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<tr>
<td>Naaniibwin</td>
<td>Stand up</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bzaangaabwin</td>
<td>Stand still</td>
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<td>Miptoon</td>
<td>Run</td>
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<td>Run fast</td>
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<td>Sing</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Speak</td>
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<td>Gindan</td>
<td>Read it</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binkenin</td>
<td>Put your arm up</td>
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<td>Tisan</td>
<td>Paint it</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zhibiigan</td>
<td>Write</td>
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Miinshin mzhigan - Give me the book.

Bi-ninmawshin mzhigan - Hand me the book.

Bininan - Hand it over.

Daapnan mzhigan - Take the book.

Bi-ninmawshin zhibilganaatik - Hand me the pencil.

Naahaaw baa maampii miinwa kawaabmin - O.K., I will see you later.
Fiero system syllable, recited in each lesson

**Well being**

Q. Aanlish naa? How are you?
A. Milgo aanwi (Pretty good in spite of everything)
A. Nishin (Good)

Q. Aanlish ezhi bmaadziyan? How is life treating you?
A. Mino-bmaadiz go - I’m fine
A. Gmaa go - So So

Q. Aaniish ezhi-yaayan? - How are you feeling?
A. Nmino zhayaa go - I feel good
Ndaakwaas- I am sick
Aakozi - He is sick
Baapi - He is smiling
Nnagam - I am singing.

_In Ojibwe, most of the time, the subject appears at the end of the sentence:_

Oodenang zhaawag Kwewag
To town (they’re going) the women.
The women are going to town.
Months of the Year

Spirit Moon - January
Bear Moon - February
Snowcrust Moon - March
Maple Sugar Moon - April
Sucker Moon - May
Blooming Moon - June
Berry Moon - July
Grain Moon - August
Leaves Changing Colour Moon - September
Falling Leaves Moon - October
Freezing Moon - November
Little Spirit Moon - December

Giisook

Mnidoo Giizis
Mkwa Giizis
Naabidin Giizis
Ziisbakdoke Giizis
Nmebine Giizis
Waabgonii Giizis
Miin Giizis
Mnoomni Giizis
Waabbagga Giizis
Bnaakwi Giizis
Baashkaakodin Giizis
Mnidoo Giisoonhs

Cultural Component
Students will be taught to construct a Medicine Wheel reinforcing the language and various teachings. They will recognize and understand the vocabulary and language associated with Nishnaabewaadziwin teachings of the Medicine Wheel - Beliefs and Values.

The Four Directions - Nikeying
North - Giiwednong
East - Waabnong
South - Zhaawnong
West - Epngishmok

The Four Colours - Enaandek
White - Waabshkaa
Red - Mskwaaw
Yellow - Zaawaa
Black - Mkadewaa

Weweni Ganawendandaa Nishnaabemowin – Let's take care of our Language
Miigwech – Thank you
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (week 2)

Theme 2 - FALL

What happens in fall - Dgwaagi eshwebak
It is fall - Dgwaagi
Fall fair - Jils- Gilzhgat
Halloween - Tasenhwang
Leaves - Niibishan
Leaves fall - Niibishan dagodeg
Pumpkin - Kosmaan
He’s hunting - Bbaa - giliwse (ndawenjge)
Let’s go hunting - Aambe bbaa giliwse daa
Gun - Baashkizigan
Clean the gun - Biintoon baashkizigan
I am shooting at the animal - Nbaashkizwaaw wesiinh
Deer meat, venison - Waawaashkesh wiiyaas
Picking Apples - Pkibjigeng
Bring the apples - Biizh mshiimnag
Apple tree - Mshiimnaatig
Birchbark picking - Wiigwaaske
Canoe (birch bark) - Wiigwaasi-jilimaan

Weather – Ezhwebak
It is mild - Aabwaa
It is fine day - Mno-gilzhgat
It is a hot day - Gshaate
It is raining - Gmiwan
It is cool - Tkeyaa
It is cloudy - Ngwaankot
Wind (shifts) Gwekaanmat
Moonlight - Gilzhgaate
Mixture of rain and snow - Gnigbiisaaw
East wind - Waabnaanmat
South wind - Zhaaw naawan
North wind - Gliwedin, Gliwednawan
West wind - Epgnishwaanmat
Nasty weather - Niiskaadat
It is windy - Noodin
It is stormy - Nchiwat
Wan - Fog
What is happening outside - Aaniish ezhwebak gojiing / kwajijing
It is foggy outside - Wan Kwajijing /gojiing
It is windy - Kchi noodin
Numbers - *Gindaaswinak*

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*Number Four, Niiwin is very symbolic in the Native culture. Many things in the ceremony are done in fours and this number has therefore always had special significance in Indian life.*

Niiwin - Four
Niiweg - Four pieces of cloth
Niiwwaad - Be four in number
Niiwnoon - Be four (in number) things
Niiwing - Four times
Niiwgon - Four days
Niganaasnok - Morning star (One that leads the light)

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**The Four Seasons - *Ngokiinoonwin***

- Winter - Bboon
- Spring - Mnnooimi
- Summer - Niibin
- Fall - Dgwaagik

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**The Four Sacred Plants**

*Kchi-Mshkiki*
- Sweetgrass - Wilingashk
- Tobacco - Semaa
- Cedar - Gilzhik
- Sage - Mshkodewashk
**Enchiwaad - How many**

**Bezhig Eta - One only**

- gookoosh - pig
- bneshiinh - bird
- kwe - woman
- nini - man
- kwezens - little girl
- pin - potatoe
- sab - fish net
- jidmoo - squirrel
- mdaamin - corn
- aamoo - bee
- baapaase - woodpecker
- moose - caterpillerr
- daabaan - car
- mskomin - raspberry
- mooz - moose
- mskodiismin - bean
- mjikaawan - glove

**Washme Bezhig - More than one**

- gookooshag - pigs
- bneshiinyag - birds
- kwewag - women
- ninwag - men
- kwezensag - little girls
- piniig - potatoes
- sabiig - fish nets
- jidmoog - squirrels
- mdaamnag - more then one corn
- aamoog - bees
- baapaaseg - more then one woodpecker
- mooseg - caterpillars
- daabaanag - cars
- miskomnag - raspberries
- moozoog - more then one moose
- mskodiisminag - beans
- mjikaawanag – gloves

**Niishin Aasagaabwiiteadying - It is good to support each other**

**Miigwech – Thank you**
### Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 3)

**Theme: 3 - Special Days**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Days</th>
<th>Kchi-Twaa Giizhgadoon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Years</td>
<td>Nimkodaading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birthday</td>
<td>Dbishkaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King's Day (January 6)</td>
<td>Gima Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>Bngwi-Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good Friday</td>
<td>Mkadeke-Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter</td>
<td>Baakwang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Nilba Namaang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halloween (All Souls Day)</td>
<td>Tasenhwang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers day</td>
<td>Gashi Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fathers day</td>
<td>Noos Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans day</td>
<td>Zhimaagnishi Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days of the Week</th>
<th>Giizhgadoon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Name-Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Shkwaa-Name-Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Niizh-Giizhat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Zoozep-Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Spinganwang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Jiibaatoo - Giizhgat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Maanii - Giizghgat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Food**
Sugar
Syrup
Maple Syrup
Vinegar
Rice
Molasses
Bread
Pepper
Salt
Mide
Tea
Meat
Pork
Beef
Venison
Salt Pork
Chicken

**Miijim**
Zlisbaakot
Ziiwaagmide
Ninaatigo-Ziiwgmide
Ziiwaaboo
Waabi-mnoomin
Mkade-ziiwgmide
Bkwezhigan
Waasgang
Ziitaagan
Oil (lard)
Niibiishaaboo
Wiilyaas
Gookoosh
Bzhikii-wiilyaas
Waawaashkesh-wiilyaas
Ziitaagni-gookoosh
Baakaakwenh

**Feelings**

**Enmaniwang**
Dizzy
Drunk
I am Hungry
I am Sleeping
He/She is Surprise
He/she is angry
I am angry
I am sleepy
He/she is sweating

Gliwshkwe
Giiwshkwebiid
Nbakde
Nibaa
Maamkaadendam
Nshkaadizi
Nshkaadis
Ngiiikiimgosh
Bwezo
Other sayings - *Aanind kidwinan*

Here - Maampii
Here - Daar’aa
Not here - Gaay eyaasii
Late - Wiika
Early - Wiiba
Yes - Enh
Small - Goaching, Goachin
Let’s go outside - Ambe goyijihing
Bring the stove outside - Biidoon gzhaabkizgan kwajjim (barbecue)
Just kidding - Nishaa gnaa ndikid
Later - Baamaa
Long ago - Zhaazhi
Suddenly - Geskana
One each - Bebezhig
Like/similar - Dbishkoo
Same - Naasaab
Just now - Bijiinag
A variety - Nooj
White snow - Waabshkizi goon
Sweat lodge - Bwezo gamig

**Cultural Component**
The Four Elements - *Wenji-Enji*

See Medicine Wheel

Each are part of the physical world. All require equal respect because of their gift of life.

Biinchigdeda – Let’s clean up (the environment).

**MIIGWECHE – THANK YOU**
The Four Directions – The Four Grandfathers – Mishoomsag

The Four Seasons

The Four Elements

The Four Sacred Plants

North

Winter – Bboon
Air – Noodin
Sweetgrass – Wiigashk

West

Fall – Dgwaagi
Water – Biish
Sage – Mshkodewashk

Epngishmok

Spring – Mnokmi
Fire – Shkode
Tobacco – Semaal

East

Summer – Niibin
Earth – Aki
Cedar – Giizhik

Zhaawnong

South
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 4)

Theme 4 – Nature

All things in life - Kina Gego
A community of people - Ngo Odenaw
Relatives - Nawendwin
Elements - cause and effects - Wenji-Enji
Wild Edibles - Begjigeng
Totems - Dodeman
Four Aspects of man - Ngo Bemaadis
Animals - Wesilnihk
Bird - Bneshiinh
Birds - Bneshiinhk
Weather - Ezhwebak
Winds - Enaanmook
Directions - Nikeying
Circle - Waa ay iiaa
Action words - Eshchaget Bemaadzid
Natives people - Anishnaabek

Wild Animals – Wesilnihk

Bear - Mkwawa
Wolf - Ma’lingan
Fox - Waagosh
Rabbit - Waabooz(oonh)
Squirrel - Jidmoonh
Raccoon - Esban
Muskrat - Zhashk(oonh)
Turtle – Mshiikenh
Frog - Makkii
Mole - Nepaajnikese
Skunk - Zhgaak
Beaver - Amik
Groundhog - Kokjiish
Porcupine - Gaak
Mink - Zhaangwesh
Weasel - Zhngos
Lynx - Bziwi
Fisher - Jiig
Otter - Ngig
Marten - Waabzhish
Wild cat, Tiger - Bgoji - Gaazhak

Moose - Moozo
Moose call - Moozboodaajgan
Deer - Waawaashkesh
Monkey - Ndamaakmishiinh
Elephant - Jejilbdaklinh
Lion - Mshibzhii
Hippopotamus - Bgoji-Gookoosh
Buffalo - Bgoji - Bzhiki
**Domestic Animals - Ookaanak**

Cat - GaazhaK  
Kitten - Gaazhgenhs  
Dog - Nimosh  
Horse - Bezgoogzhii  
Cow - Bzhiki  
Sheep - Maashtaanish  
Goat - Mshaabooz  
Pig - Gookoosh  
Chicken or Hen - Baakaakwenh  
Turkey - Mzise  
Duck - Zhiishiib(enh)  
Rooster - Naabese  
Goose - Pishkisi  
Mouse - Waabganoojiinh(s)  
Donkey - Memaangshenh

**Birds - Bneshiinhsak**

Bird - Bneshiinh (singular)  
Eagle - Mgizi  
Barn owl - Gaakaapshiinh  
Blackbird - Signaak  
Crane - Mooshkas  
Crow - Aandek /Aandekshkwenh  
Goose (wild) - Nka  
Humming bird - Naanooshkaan  
Loon - Maang  
Owl - Gookookoo  
Partridge - Bne  
Robin - Pichi  
Seagull - Gyaashk  
Woodpecker - Baapaase  
Bat - Pashkwaanaajiinh  
Wild pigeon - Miiimii  
Whippoorwill - Waawoone, Gookoolii  
Turkey - Mzise

**Fish - Giigoonhik**

Fish - Giigoonh  
Sucker - Nmebin (Nmebnenh)  
Trout - Nmegos  
Whitefish - Tikmeg  
Pickerel - Ogaa  
Pike - Gnoozhe  
Bass - Shigan  
Insect - Mniidooshenhs  
Spider - Esbikenh  
Butterfly – Memengwans

**Seven Grandfathers Teachings: by Eddie Benton**

Nbwaakaawin  
Zaadidwin  
Mnaadendiiwin  
Aakdehewin  
Gwekwaadziwin  
Dbasendizwin  
Debwewin  

Wisdom  
Love  
Respect  
Bravery  
Honesty  
Humility  
Truth
CLASS ACTIVITY PRACTICE SENTENCES

Wiikjitooodaa wi nishnaabemying - Let’s try speaking Ojibwe.
Eplichi-maamwii-yaang - While we’re all together.
Aaniish enakiiyin? What are you doing?
Ngii naadin miijim - I went after food.
Anngwaamsin zhooshkwaadeyin - Be careful when you skate.
Aapiish nmama - Where is my mother?
Ngashi nbaa - My mother is sleeping.
Mashkikiinini ge bi-zhaa - The doctor came.
Nishin wiidookaazod - It is good he helps.
Ngii biba mshiiminikem jiinaago - I picked apples yesterday.
Ngii mino bbao yaa - I had a pleasant trip (outing).
Nga pskaabii waabong - I will return tomorrow.
Naamidjik - They, who are dancing.
Gaawii ngii kenmaasii wa gwiizens naamid - I don’t know the boy that is dancing.
Bangii piniig ngii-mwaag - I ate a little bit of potatoes.
Gegwa zhitchgeke wi - Don’t do that.
Bnaaswe oodenaang zhaa, geyii go gwisang zhaawan - Frank is going to town, so is his son.
Chaaalea gii-ni-giiwe - Charlie went home.
Aaniish pii Chaaalea gaa-ni-giiwed - When did Charlie go home?
Ndini-maajaa jibwaa dibikak - I’m leaving before it gets dark.
Zhigaagoong ngii bbao oodeto - I went sight seeing in Chicago.
Mkwag ngii waabmaag damnoowad - I saw the bears play.
Bkwaakode kaaning - At the baseball field.
Zhigaak ngii waabma - I saw a skunk.
Aaniish eshnikaaazod gdabinoojiiyim? - What is the name of your child?
Aambe paamsedaa Shki-niigish - Let’s go for walk young boy.
Baa maampii kawaabmin - See you later.
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 5)

Week 5 Review

Review.................................................................. Aanj miinwaa

To Review - is to look at again, to examine with care

The Purpose - is to observe and listen to students. To teach students to recognize and use words associated with the themes that have been taught, to use phrases and words taught.

Review Lessons:

Themes 1 - 4

1. Introduction
2. Fall
3. Special Holidays
4. Nature

Miigwech Thank you
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 6)

**Theme 6 Where are You Going?**

Aapiish eshaayin? - Where are you going?
Oodenaang ndishaah - I am going to town.
Aapiish eshaaying - Where are we going? (Incl.)
Zhooshkwadegamigoong - We are going to the arena. (Incl.)
Aapiish maaba eshaad? - Where is this person going?
Namegamigoong maaba zhaa - This person is going to the church.
Aapiish gwondag eshaawad? Where are these people going?
Aakozigamigoong gwondag zhaawag - These people are going to the hospital.
Ndishaah - I am going.
Ndishaami (n) - We are going. (Excl.)
Gdishami (n) - We are going. (Incl.)
Zhaa - He/She is going.
Zhaawag - They are going.
Ngii zhaa - I went.
Ngii zhaami (n) - We went. (Excl.)
Kii zhaami (n) - We went. (Excl.)
Nongo - Today
Kizheb - Morning
Naakwe - It is noon.
Shkwa-naakwe - It is afternoon.
Naakshi - It is night.
Shki naakshi - It is evening.
Aabta dibikad - It is midnight.
Waabaang - Tomorrow
Waabang Naakshig - Tomorrow night.
Waabang Kizheb - Tomorrow morning
Aapiish eshaayin waabang naakshig? - Where are you going tomorrow night?
**How? - Aaniish ezhchiged/ Aaniish endoodang?**

anj miinwa - (do it) all over again
baabgwaadam /bgwaadam - for no reason; without apparent cause
bebkaan - in different ways
bekaa - quietly
bekish - at the same time
bkaan - differently
dbishko - in the same way
debnaak - carelessly
geskana - suddenly
gshkonwaaj - without warning; suddenly
gyak - correct, straight, good, right
maandaa - miraculously
gtwe - despite everything (do it)
kaar wiikaa - never
maandaa - beforehand; in advance
maamwi - together
maanoo - let it be
memeshkod - take turns
myaaw - exactly
naanben - belatedly
naanidaa - coincidentally; (it turns out that....)
naasaab - in the same way
nengaaj - take it easy
nishaa - do something for nothing: do it in fun
njida - purposely
weweni - carefully; well
Relative - Nawendwin

Father - Noos, nbapa
Mother - Gashi, nmama
Parents - Gitziimak
Grandfather - Mishoomis
Grandmother - Nookmis
Son - Gwis
Daughter Daanis
Uncle - Zhishenh
Aunt - Zigos
Niece - Nshimis
Nephew - Ningnis

Brother - Nwilaakanenh
Sister - Nwilda(g)oonh
My sister - Ndawemaa
Older sister - Missenh
Cousin - Wiitaawis
Grandchild - Nooshenh
Younger brother or sister - (n)shiime
Step-son - Doozhman
Oldest boy in the Family - Mjiikweis
Oldest girl in the Family - Mjiikweelis

People - Bemaadzijik

Baby - Binoojiqhns
Child - Binoojiqhnh
Children - Biinoojiqhnhik
Boy - Gwiwzhensh
Young boy - Shki-nilgish
Girl - Kwezehsh
Young girl - Shki-nilkwenhs, Shki-nilkwe
Man - nini
Young man-Shkinwenhs, Shkinwe
Woman - Kwe
Someone - Wayaa
People (mankind) - Bemaadzijik

Indian - Nishnaabe
Indian Woman - Nishnaabe kwe
White man - Zhaagaash
White woman - Zhaagaashii kwe
Half breed - Aabtawziinh
French man - Wemtigoozh( i )
French woman - Wemtigoozhii kwe
Foreigner - Megwenh
Foreign woman - Megwenh kwe
Soldier - Zhimaagnish
Sailor - Naabkwanshinh
Queen - Kchi-Gimaa- Kwe
Conversational Practice

1. bliidoon wi  
2. maanda na  
3. kaa, ooshti wi  

Bring that.  
This?  
No, the other one

1. daashti bin madabin  
2. maampii na  
3. enh, mii zhewe  

You, sit closer to me.  
Here?  
Yes, there.

1. kiin, oodi oonaaniibowin  
2. zhinda na  
3. kaa, ooshti oodi nowanch  
4. maampii na.  

You stand over there.  
Here?  
No, over more.  
Here.

1. kaa, ozaam waasa, daashti banggii bizhaan  
2. maampii  
3. enh, mii zhewe  

No too far, come towards me a little.  
Here?  
Yes, there.

1. bliish owa akik  
2. niin aanii dash  
3. bliish owa gda nin  
4. ahaaw dash  

Bring that pail  
Me, why?  
Bring it I said.  
Okay then.

Aapiish ogaa- binjibaaying ? - Where did we come from?

Noojmotoodaa Enweyang Naahaaw - O.K.
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 7)

Theme 7: - Buildings

Zhigewin
Zaakmoo-gamik - wiigwaamensing
Biitoo-shkwaandem
Biitoosbak
Wiigwaam
Endaanhg
Name-gamik
Kinoomaage-gamik
Giigdoo-gamik
Zhooshkwaadwe-gamik
Daawe-gamik
Shangge-gamik
Gbeshii-gamik
Niimidii-gamik
Tkwonweninigamig
Zhoonyaagamig
Aakzii-gamik
Giwnaadzii
Gimaa gamik
Ookaan gamik
Bkwaakode-kaan
Daabaan gamik
Daabaanke gamik
Taasoo garpik
Desgaard
Bitookaan
Ngaasmoon gamik

Buildings
Toilet, Outhouse
Storm door
Attic
House
Home
Church
School
Hall (Meeting Place)
Arena
Store
Restaurant
Hotel, Motel
Dance Hall
Police Station
Bank
Hospital
Psychiatric Hospital
Band office
Barn, Stable
Baseball field
Garage at home
Gas station, Garage
Shed, Store house
Veranda
Porch
Tent
### Furniture - *Wiigwaaming-Dbendaaswin*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waaskonenjgan</td>
<td>Lamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gziibiignige-mkaksak</td>
<td>Washing machine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mzinchigan</td>
<td>Picture, Painting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aabdaako- pabwin</td>
<td>Bench</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiichiibaaksenh</td>
<td>Rocking chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dbagliswaan</td>
<td>Clock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zegaachgan</td>
<td>Ornament, nick nack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nbaagan</td>
<td>Bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pishmoowin</td>
<td>Mattress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waaboowaan</td>
<td>Blanket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doopwin</td>
<td>Table</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gzhaabkisgan</td>
<td>Stove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pabwin</td>
<td>Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taaswin</td>
<td>Cupboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mkomii-taaswin</td>
<td>Refrigerator or Freezer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Parts of a House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pakwaan</td>
<td>Roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waasetchigan</td>
<td>Window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shkwaandem</td>
<td>Door</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naamsag</td>
<td>Basement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwaandwagan</td>
<td>Stairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aasmaatig</td>
<td>Wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aachkingan(an)</td>
<td>Room(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiibaakwe-gamig</td>
<td>Kitchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mchisag</td>
<td>Floor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transportation

Daabaan          Car
Mbaasijigan      Airplane
Shkode-Daabaan   Train
Shkode-Daabaan-Miikaan Railway
Jiimaan          Boat
Biimkowebshkigan Bicycle
Miikan           Road
Miikaanhs        Path
Aazhgan          Bridge and Dock
Aankoosenh       Bob-Sleigh
Zhooshkjije-Daabaan Sled
Detbisenh-Daabaan Wagon

Conversational Practice

Aaniish aankwat enaandek?  What color is the sky?
Giizhigoowande.            It is light blue color (sky colored).
Aaniish maanda enaandek?   What color is this?
 Weniish iwe.               Which one?
Wesiinh wa                 That is a creature.
Aazhgan nnaaghadoon.      Follow the bridge.
Gidaaki ni-zhaan.          Go up the hill.
Aambe paamsedaa.           Lets go for walk.
Bliskan gbiskawaagan.      Put on your coat.
Ahaaw.                    O.K.
Niigaan Naabidaa.          Let's look ahead.
Chi-Apiitendâagwak Anishnaabemowin. Ojibwe language is very valuable.
Aanpiish maaba gaa-ndinad nepaajnikese? Where did you get this mole?
### Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 8)

**Theme 8 Time**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Time</strong></th>
<th><strong>Aaniish pii</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mno-pii</td>
<td>Just in time, just the right time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naagaj</td>
<td>Later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baamaa</td>
<td>Later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gmaapij</td>
<td>Later on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gmaapii</td>
<td>In a while</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naan'godnong</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plichin</td>
<td>From time to time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aapiichin</td>
<td>From time to time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naanoomya</td>
<td>Recently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gchi-zhaa-zhi</td>
<td>Long ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dbikat</td>
<td>Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dbikong</td>
<td>Last night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aabtaadbikat</td>
<td>Midnight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biidaaban</td>
<td>Dawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waaseyaaban</td>
<td>Sunrise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kizhep</td>
<td>Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kizhebaawgat</td>
<td>It is morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giizhagat</td>
<td>Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gbe-giizhik</td>
<td>All day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endso-giizhagak</td>
<td>Every day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naakwe</td>
<td>Noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naakwengat</td>
<td>It is noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naakshi</td>
<td>Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pngishma</td>
<td>Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nongo, Noongo, Nongwa</td>
<td>Now, Today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiinaago</td>
<td>Yesterday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waabang</td>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was-naago</td>
<td>Day before yesterday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was-waabang</td>
<td>Day after tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dbahgisiswan</td>
<td>Clock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaniish ensodbaganeg?</td>
<td>What time is it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaniish epilhaag?</td>
<td>What time is it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaniish epilhaag Odenaang zhaa yin?</td>
<td>How long does it take you to get to town?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nizhagon Nswi dbahgisiswan pilcha</td>
<td>It takes two days three hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Heavens- (On high )

Sun
Moon
Star
Cloud
Northern Lights
Snow blanket
Blanket
It is thundering
Little Thunder
There is lightning
Is that a plane flying high up?
No. That is a bird.
I am climbing high up
Upstairs

Shpiming (Giizhgong)

Giizis
Dbik Giizis
Nang(oonhs)
Aankot
Waasnoode
Goon waaboowaan
Waabooyaan, Gozhewin
Nimkiikaa
Nimkiins
Waasmowok Nimkiik
Mbassjigan na wa bmibzod shpiming?
Kaa. Bneshiinh waa
Ndokodaazii Shpiming
Shpimsagong

Geography

Ocean
Lake
Bay
River
Prairie
Land
Field of garden
Rock
Cape
Island
Mountain
Ground
Cliff
Beach
Grass
Hay
Ashes
Stone (s)
Up the hill
Down the hill
Stream, creek
Spring - Water

Enkamgaak

Kchigami
Zaagigan
Wiikwet
Ziibi
Mshkodé
Aki
Kitigan
Aazhbik
Neyaash
Mnis
Zhew
Mtakmik
Giishkaapkaa
Jiigbik
Miishkoonhsan
Miishkoon
Pangwi
Sin (iiin)
Gidaaki
Niisaaki
Ziibiinhs
Tkibi
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Places</th>
<th>Dnakiwinan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blind River</td>
<td>Giibilingwe-Zibing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birch Island</td>
<td>Waagaaskingaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Croker</td>
<td>Neyaashingaming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>Zhigaagoong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French River</td>
<td>Wemitigoozhi-zibi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden River</td>
<td>Kitigaan-Zibing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoulin Island</td>
<td>Mnidoo Mnissing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mindemoya</td>
<td>Mndimooyenh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississauga</td>
<td>Msiwe zaagaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraviantown</td>
<td>Bngoonaang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stoney Point</td>
<td>Aushooadaana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudbury</td>
<td>Nsowaakmak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sucker Creek</td>
<td>Nmebini - zibiins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walpole Island</td>
<td>Bkejwanong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Bay</td>
<td>Mchigiiing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wkwemikong</td>
<td>Wiikwemkong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montreal</td>
<td>Moonyaang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Shore</td>
<td>Gidaajwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Shore</td>
<td>Niisaajwan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niagara Falls</td>
<td>Niisaajwaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Bay</td>
<td>Giwedino - wiikwed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sault Ste. Marie</td>
<td>Bogting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Kchi-Mookmaan- kiing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas</td>
<td>Kchi-Gaaming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aambe bibaa oodetoodaa giibilingwe-zibing- Le’ts go to town at Blind River.

Aapidji go minowaazhenoon waaskonendjiganan dibkak odi - The lights are very colourful at night over there.
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 9)

Theme 9 - Table Gestures

Bininan - Hand it over.
Bininan bkwezhigan - Hand me the bread.
Bininan ziiltaagan - Hand me the salt.
Bininan menwaamig - Hand me the soda/soft drink.
Bininan ezaawmingaan - Hand me the Orange.

Bgidnana - Put it down.
Bgidnana zaasgokwaan - Put the frying pan down.
Bgidnana mookmaan - Put the knife down.
Bgidnana bdaakjiigan - Put the fork down.
Bgidnana wiyaas - Put the meat down.

Daapnan emkwaan - Pick up the spoon.
Daapnan waasgang - Pick up the pepper.
Daapnan Zisbaakwad - Pick up the sugar.
Daapnan Waawanoon - Pick up the eggs.
Daapnan Zhoommen - Pick up the grapes.

Naadin miijim - Get the food.
Naadin zaawaa bmide - Get the butter.
Naadin doodooshaaboo - Get the milk.
Naadin niibiishaaboo - Get the tea.
Minikwe - He/she is drinking.
Minikwewag - They are drinking.
Minikwedaa - Let's drink.
Kaminikwenaa - We will drink it.
Aanish pii ge-wiisiniyiing? - When will we eat?
Mnopogoz maabaa mshilimin - This apple tastes delicious.
Mnopogwad bkwezhgan - The bread tastes delicious.
Minikwegamigoong ndishaa, nboob nwiimikwen.
I am going to the hotel to have some soup.
**Vegetables - Netaawging**
- Jiisan - Turnips
- Zhgaangwish - Onion
- Kch-nilibish - Cabbage
- Piniik - Potatoes
- Mdaamnak - Corn
- Mdaamin - Corn
- Jiisens - Carrot
- Pin - Potatoes
- Mskaalisim - Bean
- Mnijilimin - Peas
- Mskijoils - Beet
- Bookdoonzh - Pear

**Trees - Mtigook**
- Jiibik - Root
- Mtigwaaki - Forest
- Msan - Stove wood
- Bzagaak (ok) - Lumber
- Ninaatik - Maple
- Wiigwass - Birch
- Mtigmish - Oak
- Mtigminak - Acorns
- Niip - Elm
- Mshilmaatik - Apple tree
- Zaat - Poplar
- Zhingop - Balsam
- Gizhiik - Cedar
- Zhngwaak - Pine
- Mshkiigwaatik - Tamarack
- Gaa(w)aandak - Spruce
- Wiigbimish - Basswood
- Wiigop - Inner bark of Basswood

**Fruit - Maanwang**
- Mshiimin - Apple
- Bgesaanak - Plums
- Miinkaanaan - Seeds
- Wiigwaasiminan - Cherries
- Deminan - Strawberries
- Miinan - Blueberries
- Mskomnag - Raspberries
- Mshkiligmnan - Cranberries
- Zi iwbak - Rhubarb
- Zhoomnan - Grapes
- Saswemnan - Chokecherries
- Bagaanag - Nuts

**Plants and Herbs - Ezaagkiik (Miinwaa) Mshkiki**
- Nimkiibak - Poison Ivy
- Gziibzhewah - Poison Oak
- Ninwish - Milk Weed
- Ezaa(w)aabgoniiik - Mustard Weed
- Zadebwe - Burdock
- Esgkamdek - Indian made tonic
- Bzagwaakminak - Wild Sugar plums
- Wiiken - Sweet Flag
- Zaawjiiibkenhs - Golden Thread
- Wiinsiibak - Wintergreen
**Animate**
Animate nouns: A class of nouns including all living things, and other things that are classified as living. *Inanimate nouns: A class of nouns which include all things not classified as living.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One person / thing</th>
<th>Ojibwe</th>
<th>Ojibwa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shapes</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is round</td>
<td>Waawyezi</td>
<td>Waawyeyaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is square</td>
<td>Kakdezi</td>
<td>Kakdeyaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is tall</td>
<td>Gnwaakzi</td>
<td>Gnwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Textures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is smooth</td>
<td>Zhooshkzi</td>
<td>Zhooshkwaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is heavy</td>
<td>Gzigoni</td>
<td>Gzigon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is light</td>
<td>Naangzi</td>
<td>Naangan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One person / thing</td>
<td>Maaba</td>
<td>Maanda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One object / one</td>
<td>Mтик - Tree</td>
<td>Msan - Stove Wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** In some dialects, there are some differences in the classifications of nouns. For example: while **“emkwaan”** is inanimate for some speakers, it is animate for others.

The teacher will explain how the First People distinguish between things which are alive and things which are not alive. These are reasons for classifying things as living and non-living. First Nations People have always lived in class connection with nature and their way of speaking reflects this feeling that there is life in the world around us.
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 10)

Week 10 Review

Review..................................................Aanj miinwaa

To Review - is to look again, to examine with care.
The Purpose - is to observe and listen to students. To teach students to
recognize and use words associated with the theme that have been
taught, to use phrases and words taught.

Review Lessons:

Themes 6 - 9

1. Winter
2. Buildings
3. Time
4. Table Gestures
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 11)

Theme 11 - Winter

What happens in winter - Bboon eshwebak
It is winter - Bboon
It is cold - Ksinaa
It is snowing - Zookpo
It is snowing hard - Kchi-zookpo
The snow is white - Waabshkizi goon
It is hailing - Mkomisbiisa
It is slippery - Zhooshkwaa
There is snow - Gnookaal
Crusted snow - Naabdlin
It is icy - Mkomilkaa
Snow plowing - Jiizhaagnegeng
Be snow on the ground - Goongkaag
Lot of snow on the ground - Ggwetaanaagnagaag
Be deep snow - Shpaagnagaag
Little dog likes the taste of snow - Nimoons minpwaan goonan
Christmas - Niiba – namaang
Who am I? - Wenesh niin?
Long white bearded old man - Gi chi waabshki miish-doongn kiwenziiinh
New Years - Nimkodaading
Skate - Zhooshkwaaade
Sleigh - Aankooseh
Children are sliding outside - Binoojiinyag zhooshkjiwewog gojilng / kwaajilng
They're playing - Damnawog

Winter Clothing - Gwiwnam

Coat - Biiskawaangan
Hat - Wilkwaan
Pants - Miiknoot
Socks - Mdaas(an)
Shoes - Mkiizin (an)
Dress - Miigooden
Petitcoat, slip - Biitoogooodaan
Shawl - Mooshen
Shirt, blouse - Bagweyaan
Underwear - Bito gwiwan
Undershirt - Bito bagweyan

Underpants - Bito miiknoot
Diaper - Aanhzyaan
Girdle - Ziiinpiizwi
Suspenders - Nakmaanan
Belt - Kchipzowin
Apron - Pizwin
Mitts, gloves - Mjikaawnak
Scarf - Naabkawaagan
Pocket - Biindaagan
Snowshoes - Aagmak
Overshoes - Bito mkiznan
Occupations (workers) - Enkijik

Chief - Gimaar
Police - Tkonwe Nini
Nurse - Aakzii Kwe
Doctor - Mshkikii Nini
Dentist - Wiibdaake Nini
Denturist - Wiibdaakaajganke Nini
Teacher - Eknoomaaget
Pupil - Eskoonwit
Secretary - Zhiblge Nini Kwe
Typist - Mezaakziget
Photographer - Mezaazget
Musician - Mdewezech Nini
Artist - Meznibiget
Baker - Bekwezhganket
Road Worker - Miiknaake Nini
Road Superintendent - Miiknaake Gimaar
Carpenter - Mookdaasoo Nini
Electrician - Enaabiigniget
Painter - Ezhoosgaget
Stone Mason - E naabkinget
Farmer - Ktige nini
Storekeeper - Daawe nini
Barber - Moozhwe Nini
Shoemaker - Mkiznike Nini
Priest - Mekdekonye
Nun, Sister - Name Kwe
Brother - Name Nini
Undertaker, Funeral Director - Jilbaye Nini

How much? - Aaniish mnik?

Ninety thousand - Zhaangsimdanching mdaaswaak
Half of something - Aabta
Half a bagful - Aabtooshkin
A long time - Gnezh
A little - B nghiishen
One whole year - Ngo-b boon
For three years - Nso-b boon
For one night - Ngo-d bik
For ten days - Mdaasgon
For half a day - Ngo-naawkwe
Twice - Niizhiing

Two each - Neniizh
Six each - Nen’ godwaaswi
A handful - B bwaakninj
Naaning - Five Times
Ten times - Mdaaching

Ngi-zhoosaggowaa aankoosenh - I painted the sleigh
Wenesh niin? - Who am I?
Aapji gwa nda- gaachlinh - I am very small
Bemaadzijig ngosgoog - People are afraid of me
Nepaajnikese niin - I am a mole
Aambe enji-niimidind - Let’s go to the dance
Ka Minwendaagozimi - We will have fun
Ka Chi baa baapmi - We will laugh and laugh
Wegnesh ge baaptoom - What will we laugh at?
Bsangwaabgaad - Dance with one’s eyes shut
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 12)

Theme 12 - Body Parts

Body parts - Wiiwying

Palm - Nagaak-ninch  Head - Ndip, Shtigwaan
Fist - Pkwaak ninch  Face - Dengwe
Finger - Ninjilhs   Forehead - Gatig
Elbow - Dooskon    Nose - Jaanhsh
Breast, Chest - Kaakan  Eye - Shkiinhzhik
Leg (s) - Kaat, Kaadan  Mouth - Doon
Foot, feet - Zit, zidan  Tooth, Teeth - Wiibit, wiibdan
Back - Bakon            Neck - Kwegan
Hip - Noogan             Shoulder - Dinmaangan
Knee(s) - Gidik, Gidigook  Arm (s) - Nik(an)
Ankle - Bakwaakgonnaagan  Hand - Ninch
Toe - Zidens              Stomach - Masat
Sole - Nagaakzit           Heart - Deh
Skin - Nagay              Intestines - Nagzhlin
Heel - Doondan            Tendon-Snew - Jiitak
Ear(s) - Tawag, Tawgan    Veins - Dooskweyaabiin
Chin - Daamkan            Blood - Mskwi
Tongue - Denniw            Bone (s) - Kan(an)
Hair - Miinjizan,          Fingernails, toenails - Shkanhsh,
Brain - Wiinendip        Shkazhiik
Throat - Gondaagan        Thumb - Gich ninch
Body - Wiiyaw
Ailments - Naapnewin (Aakziwin)
Paralysed - Nbwiliwi
Crippled - Maanjmizi
Numb - Gikmanzi
Lame - Chaashin
Deaf - Ggilipshe
Sprained ankle - Gzaggoneshin
Broken arm - Booknikeshin
Broken leg - Booggaaddeshin
Dislocated arm - Gdisnikeshin
Scabs, sores - Migii
Measles - Mskozhe
Blistered foot - Bgozdeshin
Bleeding nose - Mskwilwjaane
Heart trouble - Dewaapne
Convulsions, seizures - Daapshkaa
Headache - Dewkwe
Toothache - Wiliibaapne
Eardache - Tawgaapne
Fever - Gzhizwaapne
Cough - Sosdam
Hoarse - Gbiskwe
Rash, pimples - Mookse
Wart - Jiichiigom
Diarrhea - Zhaapkaawzi
Dizzy - Gliwskwe
Faint - Nkaamdam
Blurry vision - Bzwaabi
Cross - eyed - Biimdwawaabi
(Blimaabi)
Blind - Gkilblingwe
Aakozi wa nini - That man is sick.
Nebaa megwaa gwiizens, aakozi - The boy is asleep now he is sick.

Feelings - Enmanjiwang
I am not feeling well - Kaawii nmino
- zhayaasii
I am sick (ill) - Ndaakwaṣ
I am cold - Nblingech
I am thirsty - Ngaasknaabaagwe
I am full - Ndepsinii
I am lazy - Ngitim
I am tired - Nda yekos
I am sleepy - Ngii kiimgosh
I am happy - Ngi chi nendam
I am overjoyed - Nmaamikwedam
I am sad - Nmaanaadendam
I am surprised - Nmaamkaadendam
I am contented - Nmilnwendam
I am in a hurry - Nwewiibendam
I am sorry - Ngiiisaadendam
I am afraid - Nzeqis
I am timid, cowardly - Nzaagdehe
I am timid, shy - Nzaaagwenim
I am hungry - Nbakde
I love you baby - Zaagin bebii
**Aabish/Aapiish (Where)**

In the East - Waabnong
Half way: at the middle (of a line) - Aabtooy'ing
On the other side - Aagway'ing
On the other side - Aazhwiy'ing
Inside - Biinjiiy'ing
In the middle - Blitwiy'ing
At the end, at the back - Eshkwey'ing
On both sides - Eyedwiy'ing
Across the way - Gaamy'ing
All around - Gaataay'ing
For a long time - Gbey'ing
At a very beautiful place - Ggwetaany'ing
All the way around - Ggiilwtaay'ing
On top of something - Gijiy'ing
Close by; right next to - Jigy'ing
In the middle of an area - Naawyi'ing
Underneath - Naamyi'ing
Below - Niisyi'ing
In a certain direction - Nikey'ing
Along side, beside - Shawey'ing
Below - Dbashish
Above - Shpiming
Ahead, in front - Niigaan
At the end, in the back - Shkweyaang

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**Cultural Component**

**The Four Stages Of Life - Ngo benaadziwin**

See Medicine Wheel

Baby, children ............................................. Shki -binoojihns, binoojiinh
Young adult ................................................ Gwiilwzenhs, Shki-wenhs Shki-nilgish (M)
................................................................. Kwezenhs, Shki-niikwenhs, Shki-niikwe(F)
Adult, Adulthood ......................................... Ntaawgi, Shki-kikaa, Kchi-plitzl
Elder, Old age ................................................ Kchi Nishnaabek

Naandwedidaa - Healing one another
Medicine Wheel
Life Cycle

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE
NGO BENAADZIWIN

Giiwednong
North

Elder, old age – Kehi-Nishnaabek

Adult, adulthood

Baby, children

Ntaawgi, Shk-kikaa, Kehi-piitzi

Shki-binoojiihn, binoojiinh

Epngishmok
West

Waabnong
East

Gwiiwzenhs, Shkin-wenhs, Shki-niigish (M)
Kwezenhs, Shki-niikwenks, Shk-niikwe (F)

Zhaawnong
South
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 13)

Theme 13

Interrogatives
Aaniish naa? - How are you?
Aapiish endaayin? - Where do you live?
Aaniish ensobboongiziyin? - How old are you?
Wenesh eyaaman? - What do you have?
Aaniish enakiyin? - What are you doing?
Aapiish ezhaaayin? - Where are you going?
Aaniish ezhwebziyin? - What is the matter with you?
Aaniish ezhi-gizhagag gojiing? - What is the day like?
Aaniish enkamgak? - What is happening?
Wenesh ezhi-webak? - What is happening?
Aapiish ezhaaayin? - Where are you going?
Aapiish gaabinjibaayin? - Where did you come from?
Aapiish gazhaaayin?- Where did you go?
Skoonamgong na gdlizhaa? Are you going to school?
Enh, skoonamgong ndizhaa – Yes, I am going to the school.
Kaa, gaawii skoonamgong ndizhaasii – No, I am not going to school.
Aapiish gwiikwejwenz ezaad?- Where is your friend going?
Maani endaad zhaa. - She is going to Mary’s place.
Enda’aan – My home my place
Endaayaan - Your home, your place
Endaayaan zhaadaa - Let’s go to your place
Endaad zhaadaa. – Let’s go to his/her place.
Aapiish Zoozep yaad? - Where is Joseph?
Endaad go yaa. - He is at home.
Aapiish yaayan? - Where are you?
Daawegamong nda’aa. - I am at the store.
Enji-nilimidig - Where the dance takes place
Enji-nilimidig na gwii zhaa? - Do you want to go to the dance?
Enh, enji niimidig nwii zhaa. – Yes, I want to go to the dance.
Giin dash? Gwii zhaa na gegii? - And you? Do you want to go too?
Enh, nwii-zhaa go genii. - Yes, I want to go too.
Wii-zhaa na go geyii Maani? - Does Mary want to go too?
Enh, wii zhaa go geyii. - Yes, she wants to go too.
Daawegamong ndizhaa. - I am going to the store.
Geni go. - Me too.
Aabiish wa kwe ezhaaad? - Where is the lady going?
Enji-nilimidig go geyii zhaa. - She is also going to the dance.
Baamaapii enji niimidigwii zhaa. - He wants to go to the dance late.
Baamaa da bidligoshin. - He will arrive later.
Names - Noozwinan
Aanaa - Ann, Anna
Aazhnii - Angeline
Bezhniik - Virginia
Chaalea - Charlie
Maanii - Mary
Maagniiit - Margaret
Bnaaswe - Frank
Niksaan - Alex, Alexander
Sosnaa - Susan
Zhaabadiis - John, Johnny
Zhenyep - Genevieve
Zoozep - Joseph

Fiero consonant-vowel-syllable chart - recite each session

Elder Visit

Traditional Teachings:

Our Elders are one of the greatest resources. They affirm the beliefs and the helping caring ways of our people. They are the keepers knowledge and they give guidance in spiritual matters preserving the philosophies and languages of our people. In respect, we must always remember to thank the Creator for what we have received. Below, an Elder is thanking all the people after a fund-raising dinner for supporting a community program.

Gchi miigwech Mnidoo ndinaa, nogoog gi-maamwii-wilinsiyeng.
Gchi miigwech gdigoom naadmowyaang miinwa aasgaab-witiwiyan
Gchi miigwech gdigoom gii bi-zhaayeg gii- biwiidoomiyaang
Gchi miigwech gdigoom glishaa, miiwaa waashi naadmowyaang.

I thank the Creator today, as we ate together
We thank you the people for your help and your support
We thank you all for coming to share this meal
We thank you before hand for your continuanse support.

Written by: Jeanne Grubin
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 14)

Theme 14: Descriptive Words

Amazing, Unbelievable - Maandaan
Aroma (fills the air) - Pswewmaagot
It stinks - Nchiwmaagot
Really stinks - Wilisgimaagot
Nice aroma - Mnomaagot
Sweet taste - Wishkban
Sour taste - Ziwpagot
Bitter taste - Wilisgipgot
Hot - Gzhide
Cold - Tkaa
Cooled down - Tkaaabkisin
Scorched - Skaabkide
Crisp, Dry - Shkaakde
Blistered - Nbibii
Bland not flavored - Biinsaa
It looks ugly - Nchiwmaagot
Ugly - Maanadaa
Inflated, Bloated - Maanaadzi
Swollen - Maanadzi
Pus (matter) - Baakshii
All Together - Mniiwi
Uncertain, Doubtful - Maamwi
Then - Gwiinwi-nendam
Again, And - Mii dass
My turn - Miinwa
Your turn - Niin tam
His/Her turn - Kiintam
Our turn (excluding you) - Wiin tam
Our turn (including you) - Niintamwii
Your turn (Plural) - Kiintamwii
Not yet - Wintamwii
Suddenly - Kaawiin mshii
Soon, Early - Geskana
Already done - Wii ba
Don't - Zhaazhi
Stop that - Gego
Be quiet - Boontaan

Bekaayaan

Continued...
No; not -  Kaa, kaawiln  
None; nothing -  Kaawiln gegoo  
Always -  Pane  
Straight -  Gwek  
Sometimes -  Naangodnong  
I remember -  Minjmendaan  
By heart -  Bagona, bgona  
Little by little -  Bebngli  
By no means; not at all -  Kawiin baapish  
No one; nobody -  Kawiin waya, kaa waya  
No more -  Kawiin waya, kaa waya  
Enough -  Debse  
Gradually -  Bwaatamaach

**Commands**

Kshkozin. - Wake up.

Bi-widibamshin. - Come and sit with me.

Aambe paamsedaa. - Lets go for walk.

Aambe enji-niimiding. - Lets go to the dance.

Aambe oon-niimdaa. - Let's go dance.

Bzigwiin - Get up.

Biiskaan gbiiskawaagan. - Put on your coat.

Biiskan Kwiiwkwaan. - Put on your hat.

Biiskan gda-bootsinan. - Put on your boots.

Biskaw gda-naapkawaagan. - Put on your scarf.

Biskaw gda-kminjkawnag. - Put on your mitts/gloves.

Giihzookiniwen. - Dress warm.

Zhliitaan. - Get ready/prepared.

Giiskan gbiiskawaagan. - Take off your coat.

Giiskan gda-bootsinan. - Take off your boots.

Giiskaw kminjkawnag. - Take off your mitts/gloves.

Giiskan kmidaasan. - Take off your socks.

Giiskonyen. - Get undressed.

Continued...
Biiskonyen. - Get dressed.
Aambe paamdaabaangodaa. – Let’s go for a drive.
Gziibigzhen. - Take a bath.
Gziingwewan. - Wash your face.
Gziiblingdiben. - Wash your hair.
Gziibigziden. - Wash your feet.
Gziibigtawgen. - Wash your your ears.
Gziibilkgowen. - Wash your neck/throat.
Gziibiiganaaganen. - Wash the dishes.
Blinchigen. - Clean up.
Miptoon. – Run.
Wiingezin. - Be careful.
Wewiiptaan. - Hurry up.
Boozin. - Get in. (I.e., into the vehicle.)
Gindaasan. - Read/count.
Bekaayaan. - Be quiet.
Gdoombigis. - Shut up.
Maanda naagdiwenda. - Look after this.
Kowaabam. - Watch him/her for a while.
Kowaamdan. - Watch it.
Wi/maanda – This
Wa - Her/him
Jina - For a little While
Kowaabam wa jina. - Watch him/her for a little while.
Jibajakwen. - Cook.
Oon-baan. - Go to sleep.
Oo-skoonwen. - Go to school.
Gegwa zgasaake. - Don’t smoke.
Gegwa zhitchegeke wi. - Don’t do that.
Aambe naa. - Let’s go now.
Ojibwe is a language of verbs. Almost eighty percent of all its words are verbs.

Verbs

**Present Tense**
- I am eating
- I am sleeping
- I am drinking
- I am writing
- I am walking
- I am singing
- I am teaching

**Past tense**
- I ate
- I slept
- I drank
- I wrote
- I walked
- I sang
- I taught

**Future tense**
- I will eat
- I will sleep
- I will drink
- I will write
- I will walk
- I will sing
- I will teach

**Pronouns**
- I
- You
- He or she
- We (excluding you)
- We (all of us)
- They

**Ezhchigeng**

**Noongo (Now)**
- Nwisan
- Nnibaa
- Nminkwe
- Ndizhbilige
- Nbimse
- Nnagam
- Nda-Kinoomaage

**Zhaazhigo (already)**
- Ngii-wiisin
- Ngii- nbaa
- Ngii-mnikwe
- Ngii-Zhibaige
- Ngii-bmose
- Ngii-ngam
- Ngii-Kinoomaage

**Baama (later)**
- Nga-wiisin
- Nga-nbaa
- Nga-mnikw
- Nga-zhibaige
- Nga-bmose
- Nga-ngam
- Nga-kinoomaage

- Niin
- Klin, Kiinwaa
- Wiin
- Niinwi
- Klinwi
- Wiinwa
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 15)

Week 15 Review

Review..........................Aanj miinwaa

To Review - is to look again, to examine with care.

The Purpose - is to observe and listen to students. To teach students to recognize and use words associated with the theme that have been taught, to use phrases and words taught.

Review Lessons:

Themes 11 - 14

1. Descriptive Words
2. Commands
3. Verbs
4. Pronouns
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 16)

Theme 16  Pow Wow

Ceremony - Bgosendang, bgosenjigewen
Celebrate - Migoooshewin
Pow Wow - Jiingadamowag
Grand Entry - Biindigeshimowag
Eagle staff - Mgizi akwadnaatig
Dewegan - Drum
Dewege - He/She drums
Mdido wa dewe’gan - That drum has Spirit (incorporeal beings)
Engamjig - Singers
Mgizi - Eagle
Miigwan - Feather
Miigwaans - Little feather
Miijim - Food
Fire - Shkode
Moccasin - Mkizin
Ribbon - Zenbaa
Corn soup - Mdaamnaaboo
Chingwun(uk) - Meteor(s)
Aambe Jichiing adamowin miikan naaghadooda -
Let’s follow the Pow Wow trail.

Colours - Enaandek

Waabshka - White
Zaawaa - Yellow/brown
Mskwaa - Red
Mkadewaa - Black
Zhaawshkwaaw - Green
Giizhigaande - Blue
Miinaande - Purple (blueberries)
Waabaande - Grey

Giniiwaande - Pink (wild pink rose)
Ozaawmingaande - Orange
Kiwiwaande - Brown
Mnwaande - Nice colour
Wiinaande - Dirty colour
Wilsgaande - Bright colour
Moozhgaande - Solid colour
Food – Mijim

Bnagzige-making corn soup
Nboop - soup
Mdaamin - corn
Bkwezhigan/Mbijilizgan - Bread
Niibiishaaboo - Tea
Doodooshaaboo - Milk
Zaawaa bmide - Butter
Pkwezhgaans - Cookie
Waawanoon - Eggs
Menwagmig - Soda/soft drink
Mshiimin - Apple
Ezaawmingaan - Orange
Waagweyaa - Banana
Bookdoonzh - Pear
Bagaanag - Nuts
Jjisens - Carrot
Jiisan - Turnips
Zhigaangwish - Onion
Mskodismin - Bean
Mniijiminag - Peas
Chi niiblish - Cabbage
Mskojis - Beet

Baasdaawngaak - Pkwezhgan - Flour
Zhooshkiwaan - Dumpling
Nenaabgaan - Porridge
Zaawmin - Cornmeal
Baashkmin - Preserves
Bmagan - Fresh cream
Mzise - Turkey
Chi nagish - Bologna
Wligwaasminnan - Cherries
Miinan - Blue berries
MsKomnag - Raspberries
De'minan - Strawberries
Zhoomnan - Grapes (raisins)
Bgeseanak - Plums
Miinkaanan - Seeds
Wligwaasminnan - Cherries
Zhaaboomnak - Gooseberries
Mshkiigminan - Cranberries
Niibminan - Highbush Cranberries
Saswee - Chokecherries
Mlinesak - Hawberries
Ziwbak - Rhubarb
**Action (verbs) - Enankid**

Wiisni - s/he is eating
Minikwe - s/he is drinking
Nbaa - s/he is sleeping
Naaniibwi - s/he is standing
Nmadbi - s/he is sitting
Bmose - s/he is walking
Miptoo - s/he is running
Maandwe - s/he is climbing
Damna - s/he is playing
Niimi - s/he is dancing
Zhooshkwaade - s/he is skating
Bapi - s/he is dancing
Ngamo - s/he is singing
Zhibiige - s/he is writing
Gindaaso - s/he is reading
Zhooshkibizo - s/he is sliding
Ginoowaamjige - s/he is watching
Naadmaage - s/he is helping

Wiingizin gaashkbaazyin - Be careful when you shave
Aangwaamsin zhooshkwaadeyin - Be careful when you skate

**Extra Words To Remember**

Miiksaatoonh kina kidwinan
Gaazhgenhs noondwaa dewe wdang
Kch twaa Giizhqat
Wiingash maanda
Maanda
Maajaan
De'minan debse
Nwiijkiwenh maaba

Match all words
I hear a kitten meowing
Special Day
Here is Sweetgrass
Miraculously
Come here
I had enough strawberries
This is my friend
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 17)

**Theme 17 - Diminitive**

This noun indicates smallness – always ends in “ns”

**Endings:** ens, aans, oons, iins

| wiikwaanens | mtigoons | binoojiins |
| niilmoons   | gookooshens | nbaagaans |
| daabaanens  | pinii-mnidoons | zilbiins |
| jidmoons    | gaazh gens | taaswaans |
| mshkimdens  | waaboozoons | siniins |
| mkakoons    | waaboowaanens | naagaans |
| jilimaanens | biwaabkoons | oojiins |
| daawegamgoons | waabooyaanens | miikaans |
| emkwaanens  | dopwaans | bzhikiins |
| mkoons      | bezhgoogzhiins | biiskawaagaans |
| mkiznens    | memengwaans | gninjiins |

**Locative:** This noun indicates **Location** - always ends in “-ng”

**Endings:** -ing, -aang, -eng, -ong, - iing

| doopwining | daawegamgong |
| taaswining | mkakong |
| wiigwaaming | mtigong |
| oodenaang | siniing |
| mshkimdaang | nboobiing |
| bikwanaang | bezhgoogzhiing |
| shkodeng   | bmideng |

**Pejorative:** A derogatory term - having an unfavourable meaning or effect
- always ends in “-sh”

**Endings:** -ish, -osh, -wish, -aash,

| gookooshish | gnebgosh |
| nimshi sh | ngidgosh |
| daabaanish | dikmegosh |
| kwewish     | mshkimdaash |
| shkode wish | nzidaash |

Note: sometimes used as “loving” term or “joking” term for close friends and family.
Verbs
To breathe
To bring
- back (something)
- in a fish net
To build
To bump into
To burn
To burst
- out crying
- out laughing
To bury someone
- something
To be busy
To butcher/ make a Killing (Hunting)
To buy
To buy through, credit or owe
To call for (ask for) someone
To camp
To can, put away, tidy up
To carry - a pack
- wood
To carve - artist
- carpenter
To catch - e. g. a ball
- someone
- something
To catch on fire
To catch up to someone
To change (it)
- clothes
To chase
- someone
To cheat
Stand up read the words

Ezhchigeng
Nese
Biidoon
Pskaabwidoon
Naatsabii
Zhige
Ptaakshkawaa
Jaagzan
Baashjilshkaa
Baashkdema
Baashkdema
Bgiddenmaa
Ngohan
Ndamttaa
Ntaage
Gishpnhajje, Yaajge
Mzinige
Ndawem
Gbeshi
Zgaknige
Nbinaadi
Biindgense
Mzinkojje
Mookdaasa
Nkwebdoon
Debnaan
Debbidoon
Skide
Dimnewaa
Aanjtoo
Aanhskonye
Bminaashkaage
Bimnaashkowan
Wezhge
Naaniiibwin gindan kidwenan
Preserving Our Language - Ojibwa (Week 18)

Theme 18 - Let's Sing - Ngamdaa

JOE BLEZOOKH

1. Joe Blezookh, gmishoomsinaa
   Gchi-mtigong gii-kwaandawe
   Kwaandwaagan gii-naakmatoon
   Joe Blezookh, gmishoomsinaa
   *Chorus* Joe Blezookh gii- bgaskijilishin
   Bgesaan nan baa-nda-gmoold
   Joe Blezookh, our grandfather
   He climbed a big tree
   He put up a ladder
   Joe Blezookh, our grandfather
   He broke his backside (2 x)
   Joe Blezookh fell down hard
   Trying to steal some plums

2. Joe Blezookh, gmishoomsinaa
   Gchi-mtigong gii-bninaandwe
   Babgooyaan gii-zagaakodini
   Joe Blezookh, gmishoomsinaa
   *Chorus*
   Joe Blezookh, our grandfather
   He lost footing on the big tree
   His shirt got caught
   Joe Blezookh, our grandfather

3. Joe Blezookh, gmishoomsinaa
   Tamkamig gii-bgaskijilishin
   Gii-noondaagzi, gii-zegjilishin
   Joe Blezookh, gmishoomsinaa
   *Chorus*
   Joe Blezookh, our grandfather
   He fell down hard on the ground
   He yelled, the fall scared him
   Joe Blezookh, our grandfather

(loses meaning and humor in English)

*Sung by: Wikwemikong Children's Choir*
*MUSIC TEACHER: Violet Pitawanakwat*

MDAAMNAABOO.................... CORN SOUP

Wegnesh naa waa-mnozmooyan? (3 x)
Mdaamnaaboo sa nii-mnoozaan (3x)

What are you going to cook for me?
I am going to cook corn soup

Wegnesh naa waa-paabweyana? (3x)
Dikmeg wdiisinsan (2x)
Dikmeg wdiisinsan nii-paabwenan

What are you going to cook with it?
Whitefish *gizzards*
I am going to cook whitefish *gizzards*
with it

Much appreciation to the people who taught and shared these songs so that our children can learn Ojibwe with fun and happiness.

*Bneshiing zha yaadaa, Ngamdaanin gda ngamwinaanin.*
May we be like the birds, let's sing our own songs.
**Numbers - Gindaaswinak**

**By Tens**

Ten  Mdaaswi
Twenty Niishtana
Thirty Nsimdana
Forty Nilimdana
Fifty Naanmidna
Sixty Ngodwaasmidna
Seventy Nlizhwaasmidna
Eighty Nshwaasmidna
Ninety Zhaagsmidana

**By Hundreds**

One hundred Ngodwaak
Two hundred Niizhwaak
Three hundred Nswaak
Four hundred Niliwaak
Five hundred Naanwaak
Six hundred Ngodwaaswaak
Seven hundred Niizhwaaswaak
Eight hundred Nshwaaswaak
Nine hundred Zhaangwaak
One thousand Mdaaswaak

**Counting**

Once Ngoding
Twice Niizhing
Three times Nsing
Four times Nliwing
Five times Naaning
Six times Ngodwaaching
Seven times Niizhwaaching
Eight times Nshwaaching
Nine times Zhaangching
Ten times Mdaaching
### Pre-Verbs: Help to modify verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Verb</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aabji</td>
<td>Constantly, repeatedly, continually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anji</td>
<td>Change location, do again, redo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aanke</td>
<td>In succession, extra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aapji</td>
<td>Finally, for the last time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aashda</td>
<td>Change from one to the other, from place to place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aazhoo</td>
<td>Next (periods of time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baakji</td>
<td>Prematurely, before ready</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baazhji</td>
<td>Over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bbaa- (bebaa-)</td>
<td>Go around, take time to do something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi-</td>
<td>Come and do something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bili-</td>
<td>Coming in this directing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bmi-</td>
<td>Going past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Booni-</td>
<td>Quit (doing something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bwa-</td>
<td>Not (with the conjunct)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bzaani-</td>
<td>Quietly, still</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Da-</td>
<td>Future tense, will (consequence/obligation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daa-</td>
<td>Would</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dam-</td>
<td>Be busy at (doing something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>De-</td>
<td>Be able (to do something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dgo-</td>
<td>Among (other things)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dzh-</td>
<td>At a certain place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epiichi-</td>
<td>While</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ga-</td>
<td>Future tense, will (consequence/obligation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaa-</td>
<td>Past tense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gchi-(Kchi)</td>
<td>(Do) too much (of something)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mookse</td>
<td>To appear - (e.g., sun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naagozi</td>
<td>-(animate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naagot</td>
<td>-(inanimate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwaandwe, Bmaandwe</td>
<td>To climb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detegwilninj</td>
<td>To float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detegwilnde</td>
<td>-(animate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhoonyaa-taage</td>
<td>-(inanimate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mooshginaan, Gezbinaan</td>
<td>To gamble with money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giishkaankwekza</td>
<td>To gather, collect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moozha</td>
<td>To have a haircut (female)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiingshkoke</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaayikke</td>
<td>To pick sweetgrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kshkigwaså</td>
<td>To do quillwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiingshkogwaasa</td>
<td>To sew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tkopjige</td>
<td>To sew sweetgrass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tkopnaan</td>
<td>To tie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tkopdoon</td>
<td>-(animate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-(inanimate)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Preposition**

Across
Near, close
between
On
In
Under
Over
Along side, beside
Behind
The wrong side
Below
Up

Gaami, Gaamiyiin
Jigyihiing
Nsawoyiing, Biiwiyiing
Giji, Gijiyiing
Biiinji, Biiinijiing
Naami, Naamiyiin
Baazhji, Baazhjiyiing
Shawe, Shaweyiing, Pimeyiing
Aagwi, Aagwiyiing
Npaajiyiinn
Dbashish
Shpimings

**Miscellaneous**

Medicine
Musical instrument
Necklace
Perfume
Playing cards
Ribbon
Ring
Scarecrow
Soul (life)
Spirit (deceased)
Statue
Stone building
Tobacco
Violin
Whistle

Mshkiki
Mdwewechgan
Naabkawaagan
Mnomaakchigan
Taadwinak
Zenbaanah
Tibninjilbziowin
Gwetaach-chigan
Jichaak
Jilbaam
Mzinii
Sin-wiigwaam
Semaan
Naazhaabiiigigan
Boodaajgaanhs

Nishin aasagaabwiiteadying maampii gidkamig.
It is good to support each other here on Earth.

Note: Capitalization, although not essential, has been added in most sections.
**Ngamdaa!**  
*(Let's Sing)*

**O, CANADA**

O, Canada, maampii enjibaayaang  
Niindaklimnaang  
Gichi - aapiitendaagwak  
Ninde'naang mashkwendandaan  
Giiwednong zaagtoodaa  
Naaniibwidaa! O Canada  
Weweni ganawendandaan  
O, Canada, gichi - gwanaaj  
Naaniibwidaa! miigwechiwendandaan!  
Naaniibwidaa! miigwechiwendandaan!

O, Canada, here where we are from  
This is our Land  
That is priceless  
Let us be strong in our hearts  
Let us love the North  
Let us stand!  
Let us take care of it  
O, Canada, you are so beautiful  
Let us stand!  
Let us stand!

Sung by: Wikwemikong Children’s Choir
One time an elderly woman, Genevieve visited (her fellow old Woman) Angeline. She came and knocked on the door where Angeline lived.

Hello, Angeline! Are you there?

Hello, Genevieve. Come on in.

How have you been doing, Angeline?

Right now I’m overwhelmed.

Oh! What’s happening?

My son’s getting married in July. He’s going to marry a very young girl.

How old is this young Lady?

She’s twenty-one.

Oh your son, then. How old is he?

My son’s 51. He hasn’t woken up yet.

Wow! A lot of unusual things happen nowadays. How old were you when you got married Angeline?

I was fifteen years old when I got married.

Wow, were you ever young!

Well! I guess a lot of unusual things do happen.

They certainly do!
Glin dash, Zhenyep, ggii-bi-nibaw na wiikaa gli-shkiniigkwewyin? And you, Genevieve, did you ever marry, when you were young?

Enh. Zhaagnaash ngii-nibwitwaaba. Ngo-dbik gwa eta ngii-nibwimi, Yes, I married a whiteman. We were only married for one night, in 1929.


Gli zaagii-gwaashkni waasechganing. Gaawlin wiikaa ngii-kendnziin gaa-zhiwebzi. He jumped out the window. I never knew what became of him:

Aapiish maanda gli-zhiwebak Where did this happen?

Gchi-mookmaan’king, Wichita zhin’kaade oodena In the states, a town called Wichita.

Esnaa nmaamkaadendam gaa-zhiwebak I’m amazed at what happened.

Glin dash, Aazhniik, aapiish gda-kwenzlinyim? And you, Angeline, where’s your old man?

Gli-bkobiliseba, ngwa-bboon gaa shkwaa-nibwiyang, 1934. He fell in to a liquid a year after we got married, in 1934.

Oonh, esnaa ngissaadendam. Aapiish maanda gaa-nji-zhiwebak? Oh, I’m sorry. Where did this happen?

Mniikwewgamgong. In a bar.

Mniikwewgamgong. Oonh! Mii dash go gii-aapjibil? In a bar. Oh, and he was lost for good?

Mii sa gwa gli-aapjibil, gaa wiikaa nwaabmaasil maanda da-naadzid. He was lost for good. I have never seen him in his right mind.

Gwetaadkamig sa naa gaa-bi-zhiwebziyeg! Gosh, we’ve come through a lot!

Enh! Mii go geget. Yes, that’s for sure.

(loses meaning and humor in English)

Written by G. Zhaawande
In collaboration with Eliz Osawamik

Note: This short Ojibwe play was developed as an example of how written conversation can be used as an aid to learning the language. The material here is evidence of the vitality of the Ojibwa language, and the creative imagination of its speakers.
Biography

Gordon Zhaawande (Shawanda) is a member of the Raindance Society from Wikwemikong Unceded First Nation Reserve Located on Manitoulin Island, Ontario, Canada. Presently he resides in Toronto, Canada.

Gordon graduated at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay in 1995 receiving his Diploma in Native Language Instructors Program under such noted teachers as Ernestine Buswa, Jean Shawana, and Lena Odjig White.

Gordon is also one very proud 1992 Graduate of Native Horizons Treatment Center program. It is when this connection and respect of who we are is broken that the people become displaced mentally and spiritually. Through aboriginal healing powers and traditional teachings he began to strengthen his inner self.

His philosophy is “to heal oneself is to heal your voice your language”. Everything comes from the language, it is how we talk, how we walk, it is our culture. Healing oneself finding who we are, will help nourish Native Language back to health. Our language makes us stronger, it is our identity.

Gordon enrolled in the four year Native Language Instructors Program at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay and graduated 1995. He taught in Thunder Bay, Guelph, Wikwemikong and at the Hamilton Regional Indian Center where it all begin.

In Toronto, Gordon is a student training in Susan Aaron’s “Psychodramatic Bodyworks” and currently is a volunteer and sits on the board of directors of the Akwa Honsta non-profit housing program.

It is nice to be back in Hamilton Regional Indian Center. It has so much to offer. This is where many meaning entities came in place for me. I joined the Ojibwe class here in 1990. I was a van driver for the Little Beavers program and joined the Men’s Circle. I drove for the Elders from which much of my learning carried me to follow the red path to a brighter future. To teach my kids Native Language is like having a second chance with no unfortunate happening. The ability for them to learn the language was always there. They were born with it. It is a great honour to teach our Gift our Language.

All my relations.
Miigwechwendming Namewin
Ojibwe Thanksgiving Prayer

Origin Manitoulin Island
Translator: Violet Shawanda

   To All People-Native, White, Black, Yellow, Thank You all.

2. Shkaagmig -kwe Miigwech.
   Mother Earth, Thank You

   Water, Thank You.

   Plants, you give us food, medicine and beauty, Thank You.

5. Mtigoog, mtigwaakiing eyaayig, geginwaa Miigwech.
   Trees - of the forest, Thank You, all.

   Animals, farm animals, fish. You give us food, clothing and beauty, Thank You.

7. Bineshiinyag, Miigwech geginwaa.
   Birds. Thank You all.

   Winds of four directions. Thank You.

   Brother-Son. Thank You also.

10. Dbik-giizis Nookmisnaan Miigwech.
    Grandmother-Moon, Thank you.

    Stars, You, who help Grandmother Moon, Thank You.

    Great Spirit, you who gave us everything.

   Miigwech. Thank You