

Ojibwe Reference Book for
Beginners

Vowels and Commands



Roseau River Anishinaabe First
Nation Language Camp

e as in bed, **i** as in pit, **ii** as in peek, **o** as in put, **oo** as
in soup, **a** as in pup, **aa** as in mama

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The following is a reference
booklet on learning the
language of Ojibwe that was
composed during the Ojibwe
Language Camp in Roseau
River Anishinaabe First Nation.

October 18-20, 2021

*Note – Not all words are the
same across Anishinaabe
country. There are variations of
words that are specific to that
community or region. They are
not wrong... it is a variation.

We need to be proud of our
language on how vast and
comprehensive it is. Do not
limit yourself to only knowing
one way to saying something.

Keep on learning.

e as in bed, i as in pit, ii as in peek, o as in put, oo as
in soup, a as in pup, aa as in mama

Miigwech!

We give thanks to Carol
Beaulieu, Charlie Nelson,
Dawnis Kennedy, Ernie
Longclaws, and Peter Atkinson
for helping with translating
over the language camp days.

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Ojibwe Consonant Clusters

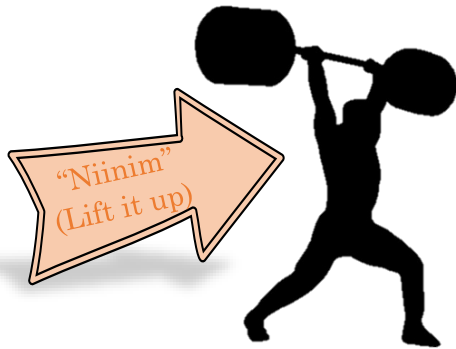
mb	Ambe	Come
ch	Jaachaamo	Sneeze
nd	Aanind	Some
ng	Waabang	Tomorrow
ns	Ininiins	Little man
pw	Opwaagan	Pipe
sk	Iskisin	Drained
sh	Ashi	Put down
shk	Ashkin	Raw
shp	Ishpaa	High
sht	Niishtana	The number 20
shw	Ashwiin	Be prepared
shkw	Ishkwaa	The end after...
zh	Bezhig	The number 1
zhw	Niizhwaabik	\$2.00

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CAUTION

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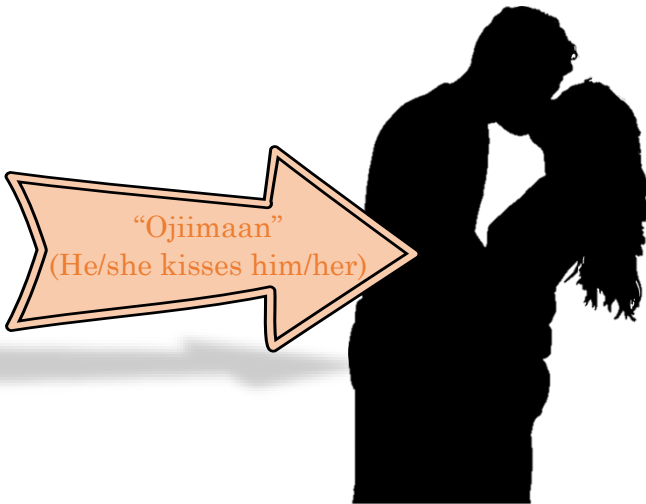
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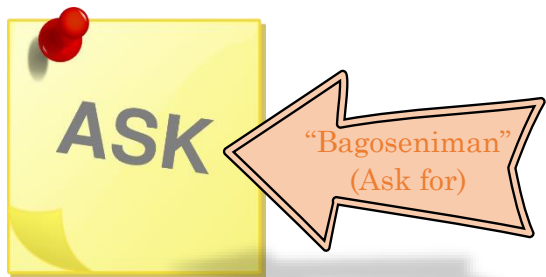
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"Ndizhidan"
(I speak about)

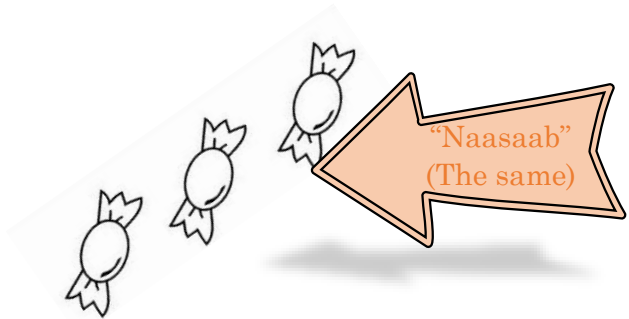


"Ogoodon wiiyakwan"
(Hang up the hat/cap)

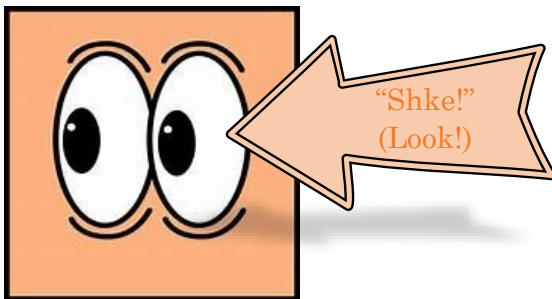
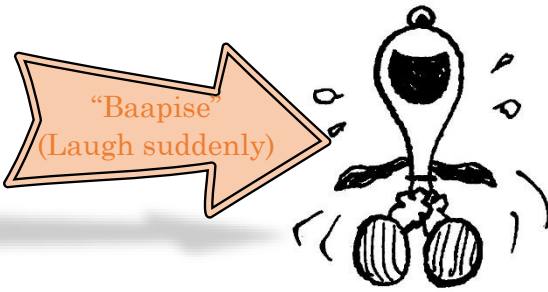


"Biisikwan wiiyakwan"
(Put on the hat/cap)

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in soup, a as in pup, aa as in mama

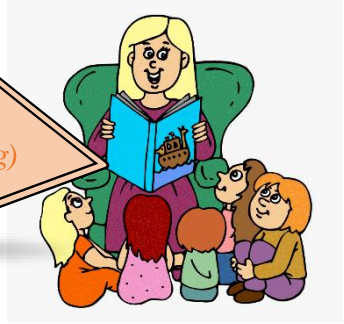


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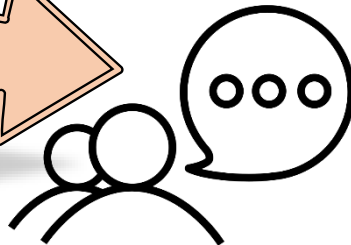
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“Bizindamog”
(They are listening)



“Biziska’ayan”
(Calm down)

“Ikidon”
(Say it)



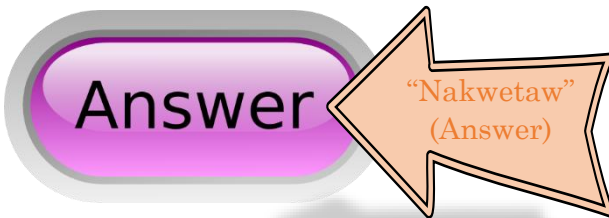
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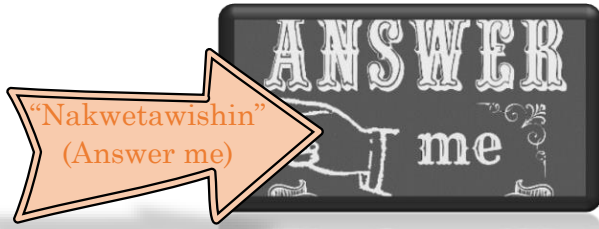
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“Nakwetawishin”
(Answer me)

ANSWER

me



“Gagwejim”
(Ask him/her)



“Gagwetaw”
(Ask)

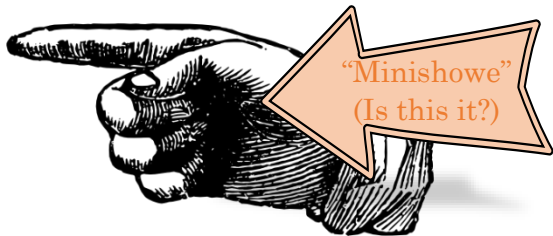
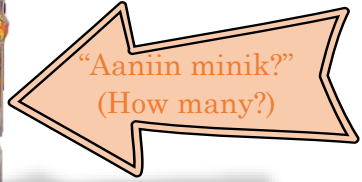


ASK

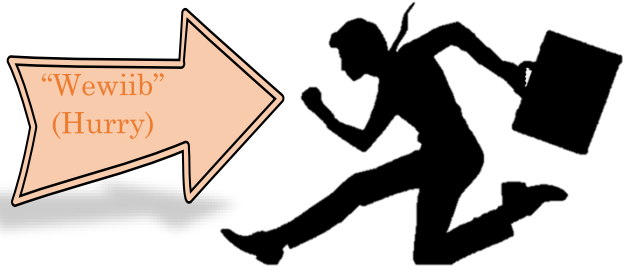
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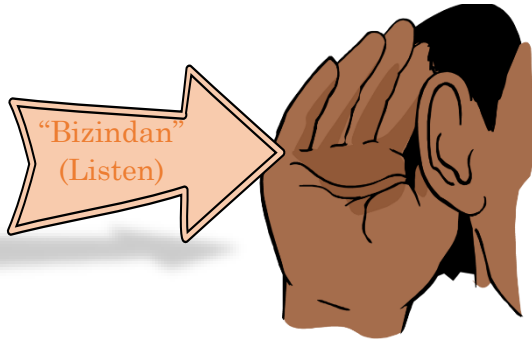


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“Gaa-bizindawaamin”
(Let’s all listen to
someone)



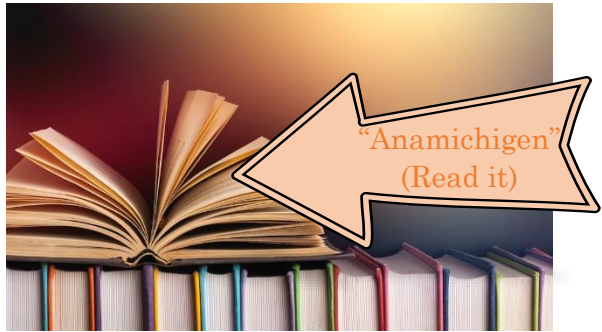
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“Boozhoo”
(Hello)



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“Giigidoog”
(Speak/say it, plural)



“Dibaajimon”
(Tell a story)

“Miinawaa ikidon”
(Say it again)



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“Nawach gizhiwen”
(Speak louder)

“Geyaabi ikidon”
(Still say it)

**HAVE
YOUR
SAY**

More

“Baatinening iwe ikidon”
(Say it more)

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“Aabiding...niizhiing”
(Once...twice)



“Aan gaa-ikidoyin?”
(What did you say?)



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“Ganoozh wiin”
(Talk to him/her)



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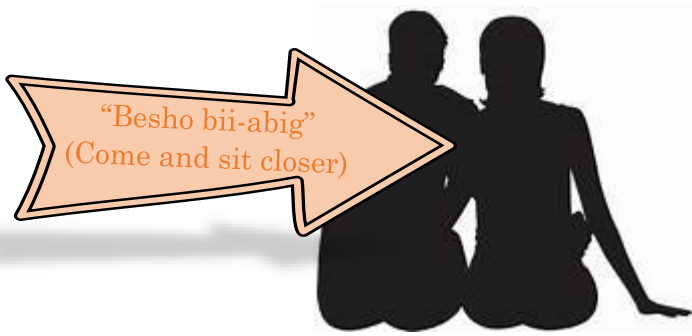


“Enigok”
(Harder)



“Niibowi”
(Stand)

“Niibowin”
(Stand up)



“Besho bii-abig”
(Come and sit closer)

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Created by Veronica Berg
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