Aaniin da ge-inanokiiyaambaan?
What Will I Do?

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Acknowledgements

I am always appreciative of educators, daycare workers and parents who are building literacy in our youth. You all inspire me.

Nancy Jones and Jason Jones from Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation are responsible for the translations which accompany this children’s book.

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Go to the www.anishinaabemodaa.ca or www.wakingupojibwe.ca websites to find the recording for this book and other resources. Also look for directions how to load a free app to allow the video of this book to play on your smart phone or iPad.

How to use this book

1. Ojibwe translation
2. Simplified phonetic pronunciation of Ojibwe translation (where syllables are bold italic, lengthen the sound)
3. English translation
"Laa, laa, laa," ina’amaazo enigok Jen.

“Lah, lah, lah,” Jane sings loudly.
“Winge naa gigizhiwe. Daga bizaan nawaj, Gegoo gosha giwii-wiindamawin.”

“You are so loud. Quiet down, I have something to tell you.”
“Anokiiwin ningii-tebinaan noongom gaa-giizhigak!”
Met odinaan Jenan.

“Uh-nock-kee-win nin-gee-teh-bih-nawn noon-gom gaw-gee-zih-guck!”
Met oe-dih-nawn Jenan.
“I got a job today!” Matt says to Jane.
“Mii owe izhichigewin ji-hooniyaakeyang.”

“Mee uh-weh ih-zhih-chih-geh-win jih-hoo-nih-yaw-keh-yung.”
“A job is our role in society, we can make money from it.”
“Niwiijì’a Karen ji-moozhaginaad mushimina’. Niminwendaan akwaandaweyaan. Naanwaabik giga-miinin ningii’ig.”

“I’m helping Karen pick apples because I like to climb trees. She said she will give me five dollars.”
“Amanj niin ge-inanokiiwaambaanen?” izhi-mikwendum Jen.”

“Oh, I wonder what I could do?” ponders Jane.
“Nindaa-nanaa’itoon nibi gaa-izhiwang. “

“Nin-daw-nuh-naw’-ih-toon nih-bih gaw- ih-zhih-jih-wung.”
“I could be a plumber to fix pipes.”
“Nindaa-mashkikiwininiw ji-badaka’oweyaan.”

“I could be a doctor to give needles.”
“Ninda a-mazina’iga niwininiw ji-izhiwidamaageyaan mazina’iganan.”

"I could be a postal worker to deliver the mail."
“Nindaa-gitigewiniwiniiw ji-nitaawigitooyaan gegooyan.”

“I could be a farmer to grow crops.”
“Aaniin inake ge-izhi-onendamaan?” odinaan Metan.


“The beaver has the wisdom to use his special gifts. We must understand what each of us is supposed to do,” Matt explains.
“Amik odaabajitoonaan wiibidan gaawamaad mitigoo’. Mii iwe omiinigoowiziwin.”

“Beaver uses her teeth to chew through wood, this is what she is supposed to do.”

“Oh, I understand. I need to figure out what I am really good at, then I can decide what I will do,” Jane shouts.
“Aaniin igo ge-inanokiiyaan,
aapiji ninga-wawiingez.
Weweni ninga-aabajitboon
nimiinigoowiziwin,” ikido Jen.

“Aw-reen ih-goe geh-ih-nuh-noe-kee-yawn,
aw-pih-jih nin-guh-wuh-ween-gez.
Weh-weh-nih nin-guh-aw-buh-jih-toon
“Whatever I end up doing, I will be the best because I will use my gift,” Jane exclaims.
A critical step to improving the vitality of Anishinaabemowin is to increase the sounds transferring from the parent to the child at an early age. This book is designed to allow both speakers and non-speakers the ability to pass the Ojibwe language onto their youth. The translations and simplified phonetic pronunciations in the book give parents the ability to practice and to read this book to their children in Anishinaabemowin.

The Rainy River District area is undergoing an effort to put Anishinaabemowin back into the homes of the Anishinaabeg. Anishinaabemodaa – Let’s speak Ojibwe, is the Ontario Ministry of Education sponsored partnership between the Rainy River District School Board, SayITFirst and 7 Generations Education Institute with support of the ten area Anishinaabe Nations to help Wake Up Ojibwe within individuals in our community.

Each book in this series has audio support found on our website, These videos can be viewed on a cell phone or iPad by hovering the camera over the front cover of this book or viewed directly off of our site. A free app will need to be downloaded.

Downloading instructions and videos provided for audio support can be found at: www.anishinaabemodaa.ca and wakingupojibwe.ca