Gaa-Dipaabaaweg-Nawapowin
The Wet Picnic
An Ojibwe SayITFirst Book

Translations by Rose Tuesday
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Acknowledgements

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

Rose Tuesday from Anishinaabeg of Naongashiing First Nation facilitated the audio recordings and was 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

There are three different versions of each sentence as described below:

1. English translation
2. Ojibwe translation

The **bold** letters in *italics* need to be spoken just slightly longer than the other syllables.


“Let’s go on a picnic,” says Blue Jay. “I’ll bring seeds. What will you bring Robin?”
“Manijooshag ningabiinaag, wegonen giin gebiidooyan Nenookaasi?”
gagwedwe Opichi.

“Muh-nih-joo-shug nin-guh-bee-nawg, weh-goe-nen geen
geh-bee-doo-yawm Neh-noo-kaw-sih?”
guh-gwed-ween Oe-pih-chih.”

“I’ll bring worms, what will you bring Hummingbird?”
Robin said.
“Zhiiwi-nibi ningabiidoon, wégonen giin gebiidooyin Migizi?”
gagwedwe awe Nenookaasi.

“I’ll bring nectar, what will you bring Eagle?”
asks Hummingbird.
“Giigoo ningabiinaa,” ikido Migizi.
“I’ll bring the fish,” states Eagle.


“We don’t like bread,” the other birds chirped.
“Gaawiin niminwenimaasiwaanaan gibozigan,”
inwewag aanind igi bineshiiyag.

“Gaw-ween nih-min-way-nih-maw-sih-waw-naawn gih-boe-zih-gun,”
in-weh-wug aw-nind ih-gih bih-neh-shee-yug.
"Aaniin Zazegaa-miigwani-bineshii?" izhi-gagwedwe Gookooko’oo.


“What’s the matter Peacock?” Owl asks.
“Igiwedi aanind bineshiiyag nawapowin izhaawag gaawiiin niin ningiiwiizhaamigoosii.”


“The other birds are going on a picnic and I wasn’t invited.”
“Gego maanendagen,” ikido Gookooko’oo, “gegiinawind nawapowin iga ayaamin.”


Owl says, “Don’t be sad, we’ll go on our own picnic.”
“Gibozigan ningabiinaa,” izhi jiki-nakwedam Zazegaa-miigwani-bineshii.


Peacock says happily, “I’ll bring the bread.”
“Mii-goshaa-naa, maaji-gimiwang!”

“Mee-goe-shaw-naw, maw-jih-gih-mih-wung!”

“Oh no, it’s starting to rain!”
“Wewiib, mitigookang izhaataa!”

“Weh-weeb, mih-tih-goo-kung ih-zhaw-taw!”

“Quick, head for the trees!”
“Gaawiin gidaa-dedaagoshinziimin, onzaam waasa!”

“Gaw-ween gih-daw-deh-daw-goe-shin-zee-min, own-zawm waw-suh!”

“We’ll never get there on time, it’s too far!”


“Come, hide under my tail. It will protect you from the rain.”
“Miigwech Zazegaa-miigwani-bineshii,
igichi-wiiji’inaam ji-bengozii’ang.”

“Meech-wech Zuh-zeh-gaa-mee-gwuh-nih-bih-neh-shee,
ih-gih-chih-wee-jih’-ih-nawm jih-ben-goe-zee’-ung.”

“Thank you Peacock,
you have really helped us to stay dry.”
“Howah, gichi-onizhishin iwe gizow,”
iki dowag igi bineshiyag.

“Howe-wah, gih-chih-oe-nih-zhi-shin ih-weh gih-zaw,”
ih-kih-doe-wug ih-gih bih-neh-shee-yug.

“Wow, your tail is beautiful,” the birds said.
Miigwech. Ningiimiinigo’iz i’iwe gii-nitaawigiyyan.


Thank you. It was a gift I was given at birth.
We should have another picnic tomorrow.
“Manijoosh ningabiinaa,” ikido Opichi.


“I will bring a worm,” says Robin.
“Zhiiwi-nibi ningabiidoon,”
ikido Nenookaasi.

“Zhee-wih-nih-bih nin-guh-bee-doond,”
ih-kih-doe Neh-noo-kaw-sih.

“I will bring nectar,” says Hummingbird.
“Miinikaanensag ningabiinaag,”
ikiido Diindiisi.

“Mee-nih-kaw-nen-sug nin-guh-bee-nawg,”
ih-kih-doe Deen-dee-sih.

“I will bring seeds,” says Bluejay.
“Giigoo ningabiinaa,” ikido Migizi.


“I will bring fish,” says Eagle.
“Wegonen giin gebiidooyin Zazegaa-miigwani-bineshii?”

“What will you bring Peacock, bread?”
“Nindoshki-wiijiwaganag ningabiinaag.”
“Nin-doshe-kih-tee-see-wuh-guh-nug nin-guh-bee-nawg.”
“I will bring my new friends.”
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 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.

Audio support can be found on our website. 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