

Aginjibagwesi O'dibaajimo Mazina'igan Goldfinch Teachings Book



Teachings from Ogimaawigwanebiik - Nancy Jones
& Niigaanibines - Don Jones
Written by Niigaanigaabawiik - Carissa Copenace
Illustrated by Tim Smith

Text copyright © 2020 by Carissa Copenace
Illustrations copyright © 2020 by Tim Smith

All rights reserved. The use of any part of this publication reproduced, transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, or stored in a retrieval system, without the prior written consent of the publisher—or, in case of photocopying or other reprographic copying, a licence from the Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency—is an infringement of the copyright law.

Edit by Niigaanigaabawiik/Carissa Copenace and Mike Parkhill
Translations by Nancy Jones and Don Jones
Narration by Ogimaawigwanebiik Nancy Jones

Acknowledgements

Special thank you to Nancy Jones and Don Jones for their time, patience, and words. This story is a reflection of the teachings and language you both have shared with our team at Anishinaabemodaa. I would like to say thank you to my family and friends who continually support me in my language learning, in my education, and in my career.

Thank you to the Ontario Ministry of Education for funding this project. Thank you to the Rainy River District School Board, SayITFirst, and Seven Generations Education Institute for the opportunity to collaborate with the Waking Up Ojibwe – Anishinaabemodaa initiative to create these resources. We hope that these resources will help us to foster the resurgence of Anishinaabemowin in our families, communities, and nation. Chi-miigwech.

These resources will help to wake up Anishinaabemowin within ourselves.

How to use this book

There are three ways to enjoy this book:

- 1. Read in Anishinaabemowin**
- 2. Read in English**
- 3. Listen to the Anishinaabemowin story read by a fluent speaker at www.anishinaabemodaa.ca on the Families page under the Videos tab**

**Boozhoo nindinawemaaganidok.
Ozaawibinesiik inindizhini-anishinaabewinikaaz!
Aginjibagwesi indigo.**

**Hello all my relations.
My spirit name is Ozaawibinesiik.
I am called a Goldfinch.**





**Nitam ginitaawigeyaan ningii-igoo
ji-agindamaan aniibiishan.**

**When Creator made me, he put me in charge of counting
the leaves.**





**Mii iwe wenji-izhichigeyaan ji-minjimendamang apane
gidinwewininaan.**

I do this so I can remember our language all the time.

Agindandaanin! Gidaa-agindaamin!

Let's count them! We'll count them together!



Bezhigh, Niizh, Niswi, Niiwin, Naanan...

One, Two, Three, Four, Five...





**...Ningodwaaswi, Niizhwaaswi,
Nishwaaswi...**

...Six, Seven, Eight...



...Zhaangaswi, Midaaswi!

...Nine, Ten!



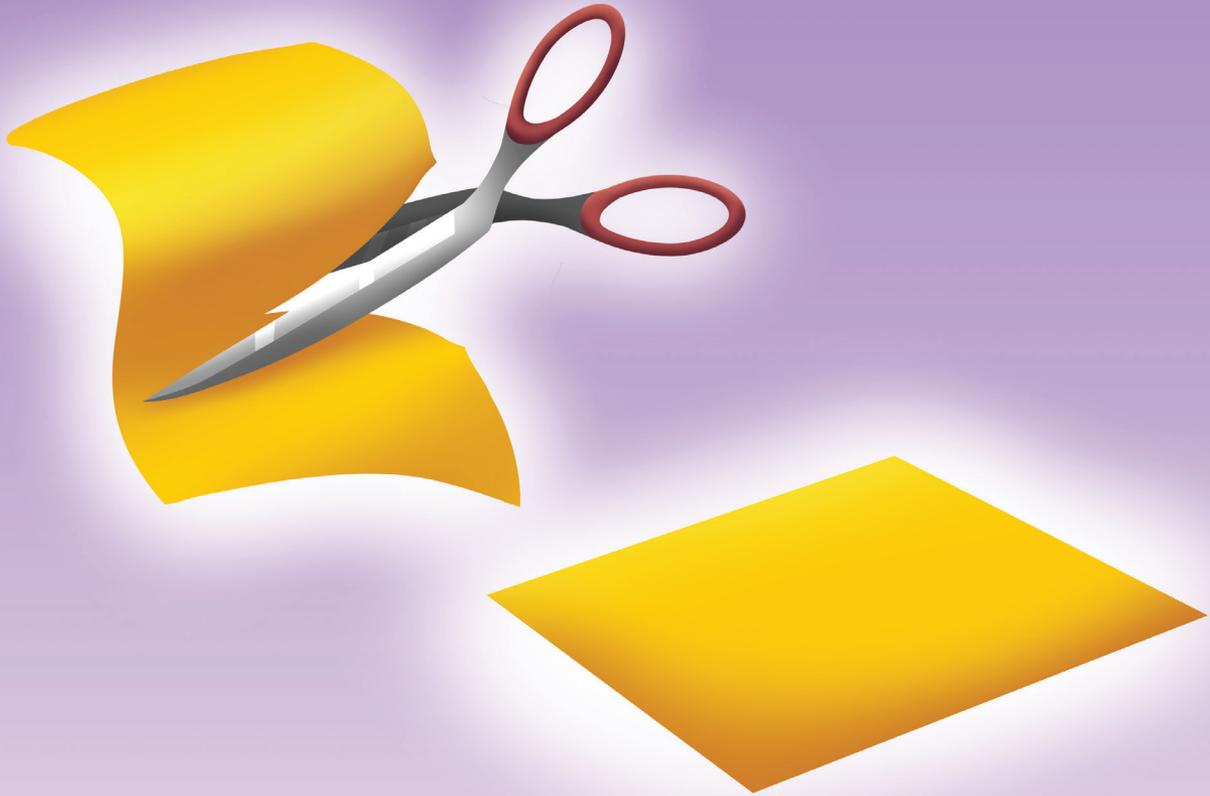
Weweni ninganawendaan gidinwewininaan.

I take good care of our language.



**Giishpin wii-gagwe-gikendaman
gidinwewininaan gidaa-biindakozh
giga-wiiji'in.**

**When you want to learn our
language, you can make an
offering for me so I will help you.**



Akawe nitam gaa-bagaki-ozaawegin...

First you need a piece of yellow cloth...

...izhi-dakobizh gidasemaa.

...then tie your tobacco.



A cartoon illustration of a young girl with brown hair, wearing a red shirt, a blue skirt, white socks, and red shoes. She is standing on a green grassy hill, reaching up to hang a small yellow bag with a white drawstring on a branch of a large, leafy green tree. The background is a clear blue sky. In the bottom right corner, a yellow and grey bird is looking up at the girl.

**Agwajing gidaago naa epichi-debinigeyan
apii dagozh apii bi-mooka'ang giizis
gidaa-biindakozh gaye wiisiniwin.**

**You can hang it outside as high as you can
reach when the sun comes up, and offer
me some food too.**



**Giga-nakomin gii-piindaakozhiyan
giga-wiiji'in ezhi-anda-wendaman.**

**I will come to help you with what you ask
for.**

**Biindig gaye gidaago naa maagizhaa gaye
gidoodaabaaning, endazhi-anokiiyin, dibi go
waa-onji-gagwe-gikendamang,
giga-nanda-gikendam ji-bi-wiiji'igoyeg.**

**You can also hang yellow tobacco ties in your home,
office, vehicle, or anywhere you learn,
so that I will know to come and help you there too.**



**Giga-oko-wiiji'idimin ji-gikendamang
gidinwewininaan.**

Together, we can learn the language.



Ojibwe letter	Examples	English Equivalent
a	a gim – ‘count someone!’ na ma dabi – ‘sits down’ baashkizig a n – ‘gun’	a bout
aa	aa gim – ‘snowshoe’ ma aa ja aa – ‘goes away’	f ather
e	e mikwaan – ‘spoon’ aw e nen – ‘who’ anishinaab e – ‘person, Ojibwe’	ca f é
i	i nini – ‘man’ maw i – ‘cries’	p in
ii	ii n – ‘I’ goog ii – ‘dives’	s een
o	o zid – ‘someone’s foot’ an o kii – ‘works’ nib o – ‘dies, is dead’	o bey, bo ok
oo	oo dena – ‘town’ an oo kii – ‘hires’ g oo n – ‘snow’ bimibat oo – ‘runs along’	bo at, bo ot

<http://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu/about-ojibwe-language>