



Aginjibagwesi gaye Gaa-wiiji'itwaawaad: Makwa

[Click here to hear
Niigaanibines read
Makwa O'dibaaajimo Mazina'igan](#)

Teachings from Ogimaawigwanebiik - Nancy Jones &
Niigaanibines - Don Jones
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Illustrated by Tim Smith

The following pages are ideas and suggestions on how to incorporate Makwa teachings and Anishinaabemowin into your daily routine while targeting sounds and pronunciation. Use the steps below and Makwa Sound Card to explore speech and the language.

STEPS IN LEARNING SPEECH SOUNDS

Hear and Notice the Speech Sound

Make the Sound by Itself (in isolation)

Make the Sound in Words

Make the Sound in Some Phrases

Make the Sound in Some Sentences

Use the Sound during Conversation

Use the Sound during Conversation

Makwa omiijinan miinan

mm mm mm

Bear eats blueberries

mm mm mm



(Click above for link to Speech Card)



Some ideas in the guide include medicine and ceremony. Please ask your community elders and knowledge keepers for guidance. Teachings in the book are meant to be explored and shared with good intentions.



Makwa O'dibaajimo Mazina'igan

Starting with a Look Through of the book before reading the book in Anishinaabemowin allows learners to make connections with the language before reading in English. We have included a list of questions that can be used to spark ideas and make connections using Anishinaabemowin and English.

LOOK THROUGH

Sit with the learners and slowly examine the book from the beginning. Have them make predictions about the book. You can ask learners:

Aaniin ezhinaagozid?	What does s/he look like?
Makadewadowe	S/he has dark fur
Niiyogaade	S/he has 4 legs
Makadewizi	S/he is black
Aaniin ezhinaagozid?	What shape is h/?
Manginaagozi	S/he looks big
Aaniin ezhichigeyid Makwa?	What is makwa doing?
Omiijinan miinan.	S/he is eating blueberries.
Odandawaabamaan giigoonyag.	S/he is looking for fish.
Na awe gaabowaanag.	S/he is in a dream.

Recast or rephrase questions in a positive manner.
If the learner answers "Makwa is black!" you can reply "Eya, makadewizi makwa".



Agindan

(Read it)



Read the book in Anishinaabemowin or follow along to the Read with Me Video read by Niigaanibines Don Jones. It is recommended to read the book in Anishinaabemowin before English. Use the questions and answers below to guide conversation and discussion regarding Makwa.

After reading book in English, talk more in depth about the meanings behind colours, cultural lessons, and importance of language.

Wegonen noondaman Anishinaabemowin?	What Anishinaabe language do you hear/understand?
Ningiinoondaan Anishinaabe _____. Ikidowin _____ izhi-aanikanooote.	I heard the word _____. _____ means _____.
Wegonen dinowa bi-gikendaman?	What is the book telling us?
Mino-bimaadizi awe Makwa. Ganandawaadizi a' Makwa. Gaa-ganandawaag miijim nitaawigin imaa noopiming.	Makwa lives a good life. Makwa lives a healthy life. Healthy food grows in the bush.
Wegonen gikinoo'amaagoyang mazina'igan gaye gaa-giikwewinan?	What is the book trying to teach us and what are the cultural lessons?
Makwa gimiinigonaan owiiaas ji-mino-ayaaying.	Makwa gives us meat so we can be well.

If you don't have a physical copy of the book you can print a PDF for free [here](#)



Aandi wenjiiyin?

(Where are you from?)

A long time ago, Anishinaabeg spoke to the animals, and the animals spoke to each other. To introduce Makwa to the class, use Aginjibagwesi to spark some dialogue. One goal of this guide is to have learners identify where they are from or where they live in Anishinaabemowin.



Boozhoo, awenen gaa-namadibiwaad omaa?
Hello, who are all these people sitting here?

Miiwag ogowe ninagadeniimaaganag.
Gidaa-boozhoo'aawaa Makwa.
These are my friends. Everyone say hello to Makwa.



Boozhoo friends. Aniindi ayaayang?
Boozhoo niijiwag. Where are we?

Nidayaamin omaa _____. Aandi wenjiiyin Makwa?
We are in _____. Where are you from Makwa?



Noopoming nindoonjii. Aandi wenjiiyeg?
I am from the woods. Where are you all from?

You can use the above conversation between 2 educators to showcase a child-friendly conversation in Anishinaabemowin that includes learners. In the Aginjibagwesi Guide they learned how to introduce themselves with their name and/or spirit name. This next step allows learners to expand their introduction by saying where they live or where they are from.

"_____ indaa noongom" Where I live today.

"_____ nindoonjii" Is where I am from

Learners can use either or both.

Nagamowinan

(songs)



Giminwendaan ina nagamoyin Aginjibagwesi?
Do you like to sing Aginjibagwesi?

Geget, giga-maada'oozh ina?
Yes, can you share some with me?



Eya, niizh ningikendaanan nagamowinan ge-nagamoyaan.
Yes, I know two songs I can share with you.

Makwa Nagamowin (to the tune of Family Finger)

Boozhoo nijjiwag (Hello friends)

Makwa indizhinikaaz (My name is Bear)

Noopiming indoonjibaa (I am from the woods)

Ninanda-waabandaanan (I look for)

Miinan miinawaa giigooyag (Berries and fish)

Niminikwe nibi (I drink water)

Nimashawiz (I am strong)

Ambe omaa (Come here)

Baabaamosedaa (Let's walk about)

[Listen Here](#)

Makwa Baazhidajiwe

Makwa baazhidajiwe (Bear goes over the mountain)3X

inaabid ge-waabandang (to see what h/ will see)

Miish eta gaa-waabandang (and only what he saw)2X

Awasajiw ezhinaagwadinig (was the other side of the mountain)3X

Miish eta gaa-waabandang (and only what he saw)

[Listen Here](#)

Bawaajigan

(a dream, vision)

Gigii-bawaajige na dibikong?
Did you have any dreams last night?



Gaawiin ningii-bawajigesii. Giin dash?
I did not dream. And you?



Geget ingii-bawaadaan bagizoyaan.
I dreamt I was swimming.



Geget na? Gibagiz na?
Really? Do you swim?



Gaawiin ninga-bagizosii aanawi dash ninga-bimise.
I cannot swim but I can fly.



Nimisawendaan wii-pimiseyaan,
I wish I could fly.



Click on the image to the right to be directed to a
"Nimbawajige - Dreaming Journal".

If learners cannot recall any recent dreams, they can
draw pictures of their hopes and wishes.

Try to encourage older learners to label the
objects and people in their dreams. Instructor or learner
can transcribe in Anishinaabemowin.

There is an option to print the Dream Journal in black
and white or in full colour.



Miijim (food)



Wegonen minwendaman miijiyin?
What do you like to eat?



Niminwendaan amwagwaa manidooshag. Mmm minopogoziwag.
I like to eat bugs. Mmm they taste good.

Howa - niminwendaan miijiyaan miinikaanan eta go.
Wow - I just like to eat seeds.



Use the bug sorting game to sort by number of legs, colour name (plurals) on the sorting maps. Laminate and take outside for an outdoor activity.

Aaniin minik okaadan eyaad?

(How many legs does it have?)

Omaa aniibiishing izhi-ashi-nishwaasogaaded

(Put the Bug on the right leaf.)

Mikaw nishwaasogaaded manidoosh.

(Find the 8 legged bug)

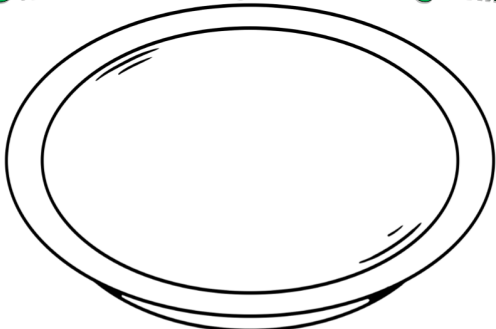
Aaniin ezhinaagoziwaad igiwe manijooshag?

(What colour are the bugs?)

NISHWAASOGAADEWAG



Owe nindaa-miijin endaso-giizhik



foods I should eat every day

Take a look at the [First Nation Food Guide](#). Try to figure out if foods should be eaten everyday, sometimes, or as a treat. Print out the Food Sorting Game and discuss as a class if Makwa would like this food or not. Remember, Makwa loves eating food found on the woods. He likes to keep his body healthy and strong, and you should too!



Giizhikwaabo

(Cedar Tea)

This is something Anishinaabeg say when someone sneezes.



sneezes Gaawiin onjidaa Aginjibagwesi.
Oh sorry Aginjibagwesi.

Awenen mikweniminik?
I wonder who is thinking of you?



Gaawiin ingikendanzii. Nindaakoz bangii da-aniibiishikeyaan.
I don't know. I'm feeling a little sick so I'm going to make some cedar tea.

Use the links to the right to learn how to make cedar tea. Offering tobacco and the picking of the cedar may be done with children. Be sure to emphasize the importance of the asemaa offering and picking medicine with good intentions.

[Wejepibines Ed Atatise Video on Picking Traditional Medicines](#)

[Seven Generations Education Institute Blog on Cedar Tea](#)

These teachings from Ogimaawigwanebiik - Nancy Jones & Niigaanibines - Don Jones we're shared to help others learn the language and to keep the language alive.

This is only a guide and does not replace a Speech Pathologist. Please talk to your doctor or local Health Unit for an assessment and speech plan.

Miigwech to Shawna McRitchie, Resource Worker, ECE, Abinooji Gamig - United Native Friendship Centre for assisting with this program.

Click on the image to print out a set of Puzzles to enhance learning!