

Biboon—When it is Winter

Biboong, giizhoo'oo. Agwajiing gigibabiinzikawaagane. Giizhootawage'oo dash gigiminijikaawane gaye. Abinoojiyag biitookizineewag, gisinaamagak. Odozhi'awaan a'aw goon-ininiwan. Omikaanaawaan odishkiinzhiigoon. o'ow Odookaadaakijaane, miinawaa odoon. Omikaanaawaan omitiginikan. Odayaan miskaa-wiiwakwaan idash odayaan ozhaawashko-giizhoopizonan. Minwendam zoogipong. Biiwang, niibawi. Zhoomiingweni apane biboong.

(When it is winter, s/he dresses warmly. Outside s/he wears a coat. S/he wears earmuffs and s/he wears mittens also. Children they wear boots, when it is cold weather. They make him/her that snow-man. They find them, his/her eyes, carrot-nose, also his/her mouth. They find his/her stick arms. S/he has a red-hat and s/he has a blue-scarf. S/he is happy when it is winter. When it is a blizzard s/he stands up. S/he is smiling always, when it is winter.)

Bezbig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.

—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Waabooz—as in father

Miigwech—as in jay

Aaniin—as in seen

Mooz—as in moon

—Short Vowels: A, I, O

Dash—as in about

Ingiw—as in tin

Niizho—as in only

—A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.

—Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and dialect differences.

Proper names in Ojibwe

From *Survival Ojibwe* by Patricia M. Ningewance, Mazinaate Press, Winnipeg, Manitoba ISBN 0969782608

Elder speakers may speak English names by substituting Ojibwe vowels, consonants and consonant clusters. L, F, V and R are not used in Ojibwe. L, R are replaced by N. F, V are replaced by P, B. TH (unvoiced) is replaced by T. TH (voiced) is replaced by D.

- Allan—Aanan
- Eugene—Yoojiin
- Charles—Jaanis
- Mary—Menii
- Jerry—Jenii
- Thomas—Daamas

Niizh—2

Circle the 10 underlined Ojibwe words in the letter maze. (Translations below)

A. Biboong, ningagwedwe, “Aaniin ezhinikaazod wa’aw giizis?”

B. Gidikid, “Izhinikaazo Manidoo-giizisoon wa’aw giizis.

C. Ikido, “Gichi-manidoo giizis wa’aw giizis.”
Gichi-gisinaa!

R G Q N

G I I Z I S

B I B O O N G

A Z D G G C N I

Z I T I O E D P I

H S A S K A G W E N

I Z H I N I K A A Z O

G V F N A K D G A T O J

W L U A N I M O S H A G

A G M A N I D O O S I S

I K I D O A H S A D I N

D. Nindikid, “Daga gibiindiganaag ingiw animoshag idash gaazhagensag.”

E. Ikidowag, “Izhinikaazo Namebinigiizis wa’aw giizis.
Gegaa ziigwan!

F. Azhigwa nindibaajimomin idash nimazinigwaasomin.

G. Nindikidomin, “Miigwech. Gichi-manidoo.”

Niswi—3

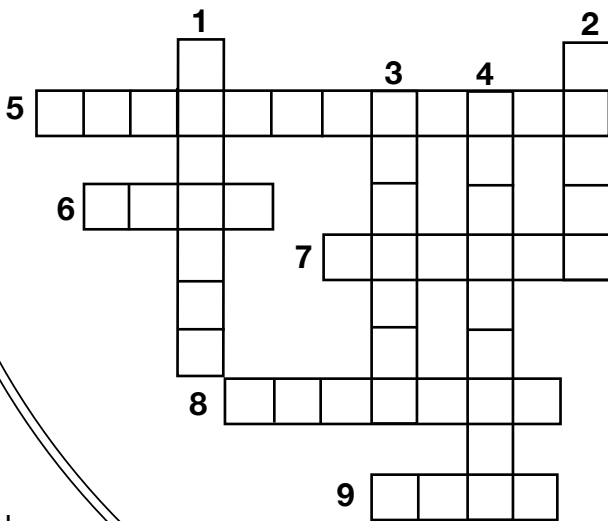
IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

Down:

1. S/he stands.
2. S/he says.
3. Spirit
4. S/he dresses warmly.

Across:

5. When it is cold....
6. Come
7. 2 (in counting)
8. S/he sets a snare.
9. Snow



Niiwin—4

Proper Names

I say..., We say..., You say...

Alexander—Nindikid, “Aniksaandan.”

Daniel—Nindikid, “Daaniyan.”

Charlotte—Nindikid, “Zhaanat.”

Andrew—Nindikidomin, “Aandanoo.”

Nancy—Nindikidomin, “Naanisii.”

Sharon—Nindikidomin, “Zhenan.”

Katie—Gidikid, “Getii.”

Jennifer—Gidikid, “Jinipen.”

Matthew—Gidikid, “Maatiyoo.”

John—Gidikid, “Jwaan.”

Izhinikaazowin—Name

Goojitoon! Try it!

Translation below.

1. _____ (Elizabeth) gii-ikido, “Waabooz bi-izhaa omaa.”
2. _____ (Kevin) gii-ikido, “Gaawiin bi-izhaasii. Izhaa imaa noongom.”
3. _____ (Mike) gii-ikido, “Ambe omaa Waabooz!”
4. _____ (William) gii-ikido, “Gego bi-izhaaken!”
5. _____ (Christopher) gii-ikido, “Ninga-agoodoo dash ninga-naandagoodoo ga-waabang.”

Gebin

Ma’ik

Wiiniyam

Ganistapan

Anizibat

Translations:

Niizh—2 A. When it is winter I ask, “What is she named this moon (month)?” B. You say, “She is called the Little Spirit Moon (Dec.) this moon.” C. She says, “She is named the Great Spirit Moon (Jan.) this moon. It is very cold. D. I say, “Please bring them in those dogs and cats.” E. They say, “It is called the Sturgeon Moon (Feb.) this moon. Almost it is spring.” F. At this time we tell stories and we do beadwork. G. We say it, “Thank you Great Spirit.”

Niswi—3 Down: 1. Niibawi 2. Ikido 3. Manidoo 4. Giizhoo’oo Across: 5. Gisinaamagak 6. Ambe 7. Niizho 8. Agoodoo 9. Goon

Niiwin-4 1. Anizibat did say, “Rabbit is coming this way here.” 2. Gebin said, “No S/he isn’t coming this way. S/he is going there now.” 3. Ma’ik said, “Come here Rabbit!” 4. Wiiniyam said, “Don’t come in this direction!” 5. Ganistapan said, “I will set a snare and I will check the snares when it will be tomorrow.

There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. Note that the English translation will lose its natural flow as in any world language translation. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author’s written permission. Some spellings and translations from *The Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe* by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm. All inquiries can be made to **MAZINA’IGAN**, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861 pio@glifwc.org.