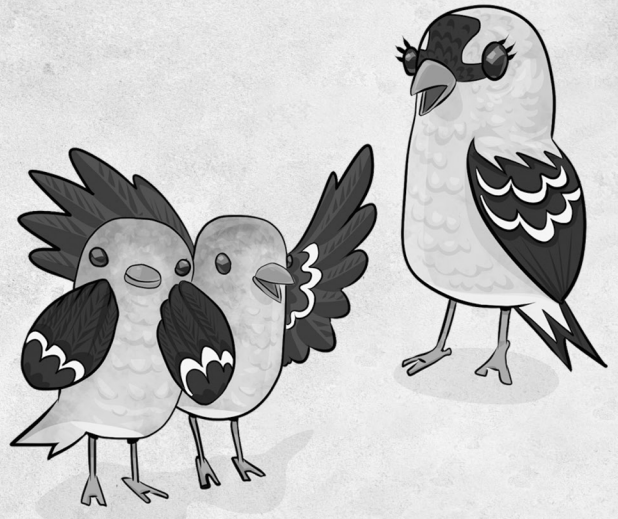


**Maajii-Ojibwemowag**  
(They Begin to Speak Ojibwe)

# Giiwedinong

Stories of the Flyers



**Tribal Storytellers:**  
**Niiyogizhig (Wesley Ballinger)**  
&  
**Saagijiwegaabowiik (Jennifer Ballinger)**







*Maajii-Ojibwemowag  
(They Begin to Speak Ojibwe)*

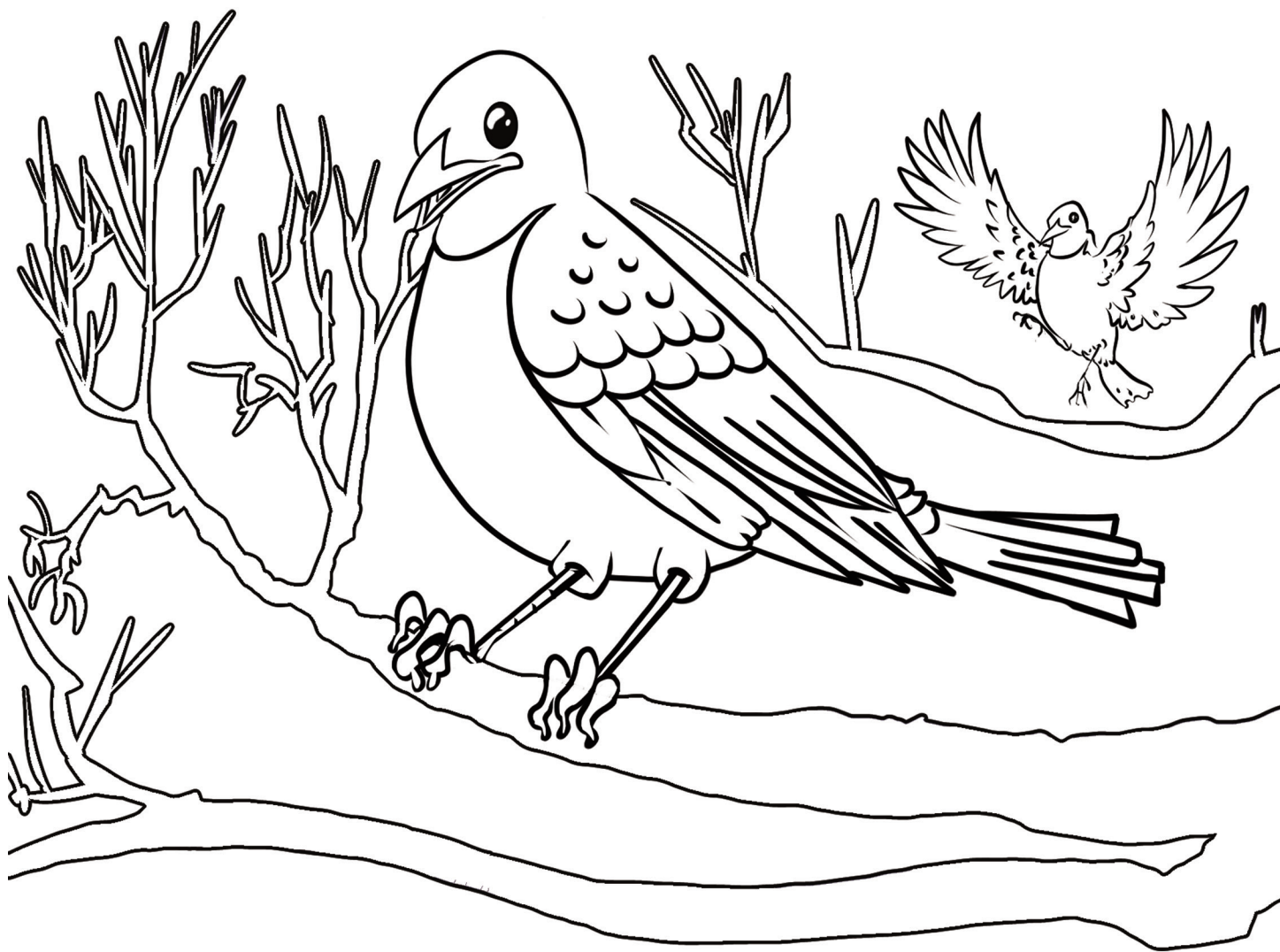
# OPICHI

*Stories of the Flyers:  
A Giiwedinong Book*



**Aaniin, Opichi indizhinikaaz.**

(Hello! I am called Opichi.)



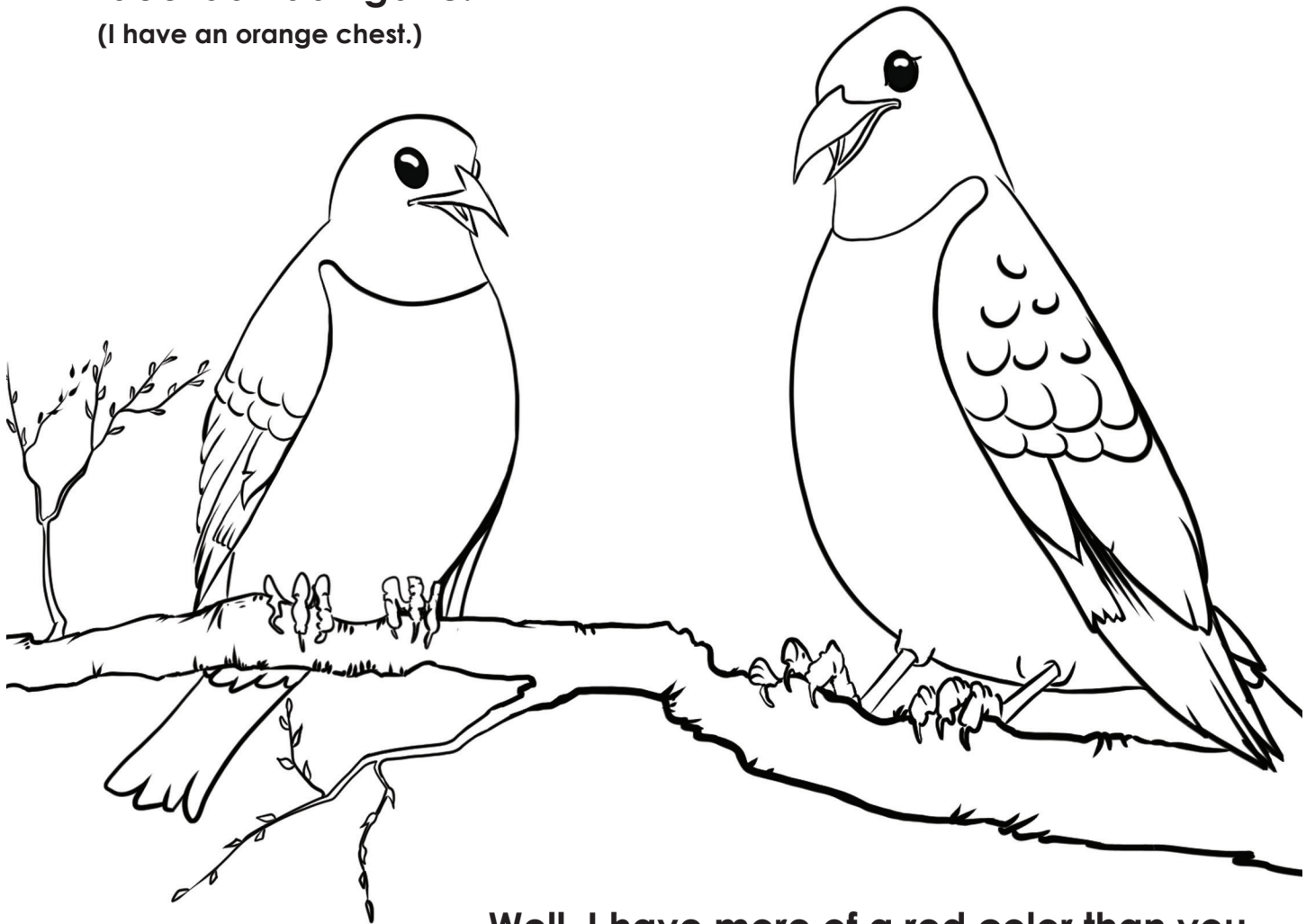
**Ziigwan!**

(It is spring!)

**We spent the winter in the south.**

**Do you like my colors?  
Nindoozaawaakigane.**

(I have an orange chest.)



**Well, I have more of a red color than you.  
Nimiskwaakigane.**

(I have a red chest.)

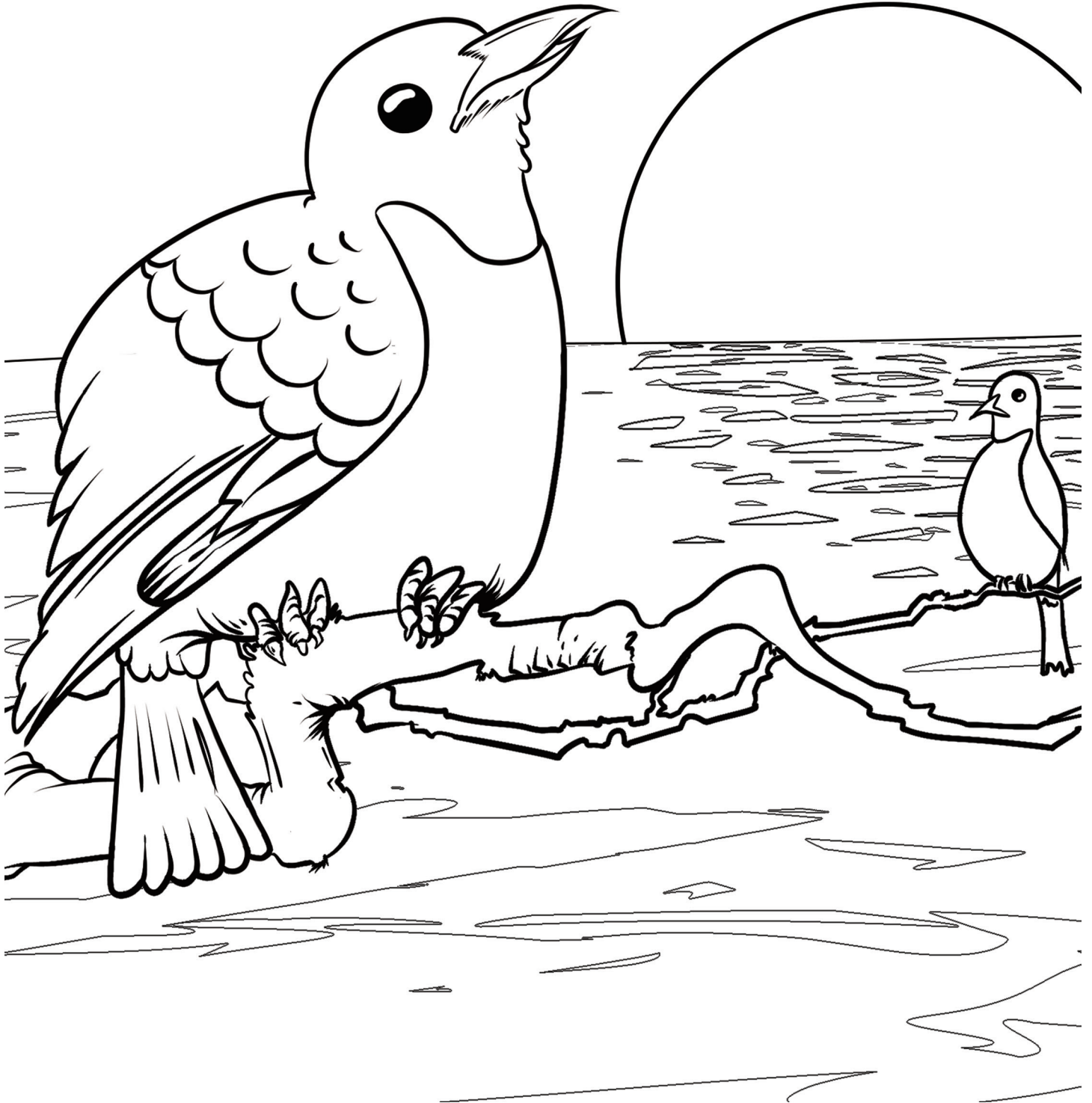
**Gigizhebaawagad.**

(It is morning time.)

**Naabe-binesiinh likes to sing when the sun rises.**

**Nagamodaa!**

(Let's sing!)





**Ishkwaagamizigewag ingiw Anishinaabeg.**

(Those people are finishing up boiling maple sap.)

**Nibakade. Let's go find some moose!**

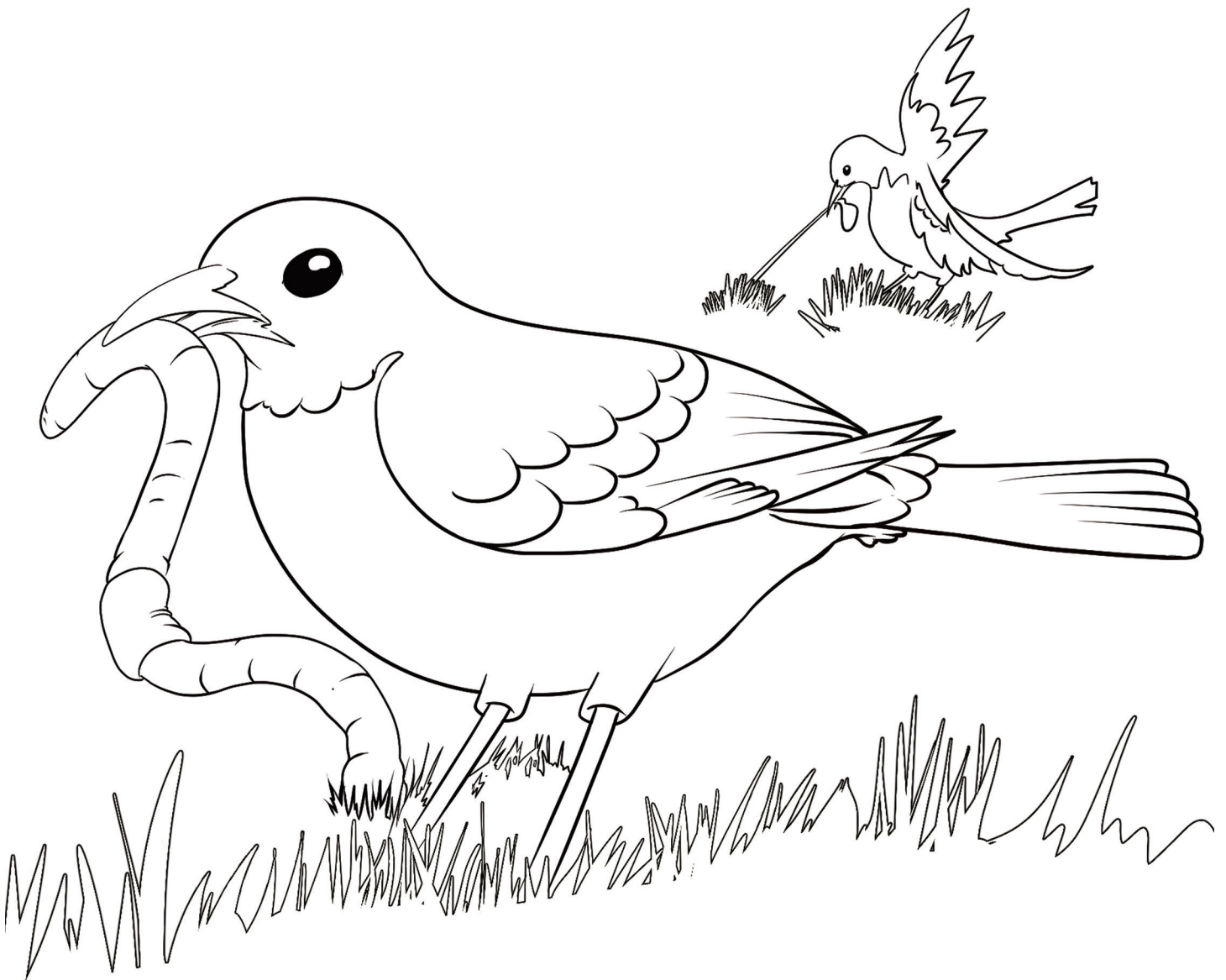
(I'm hungry.)

(worms)





**Mooseg are my favorite meal!**



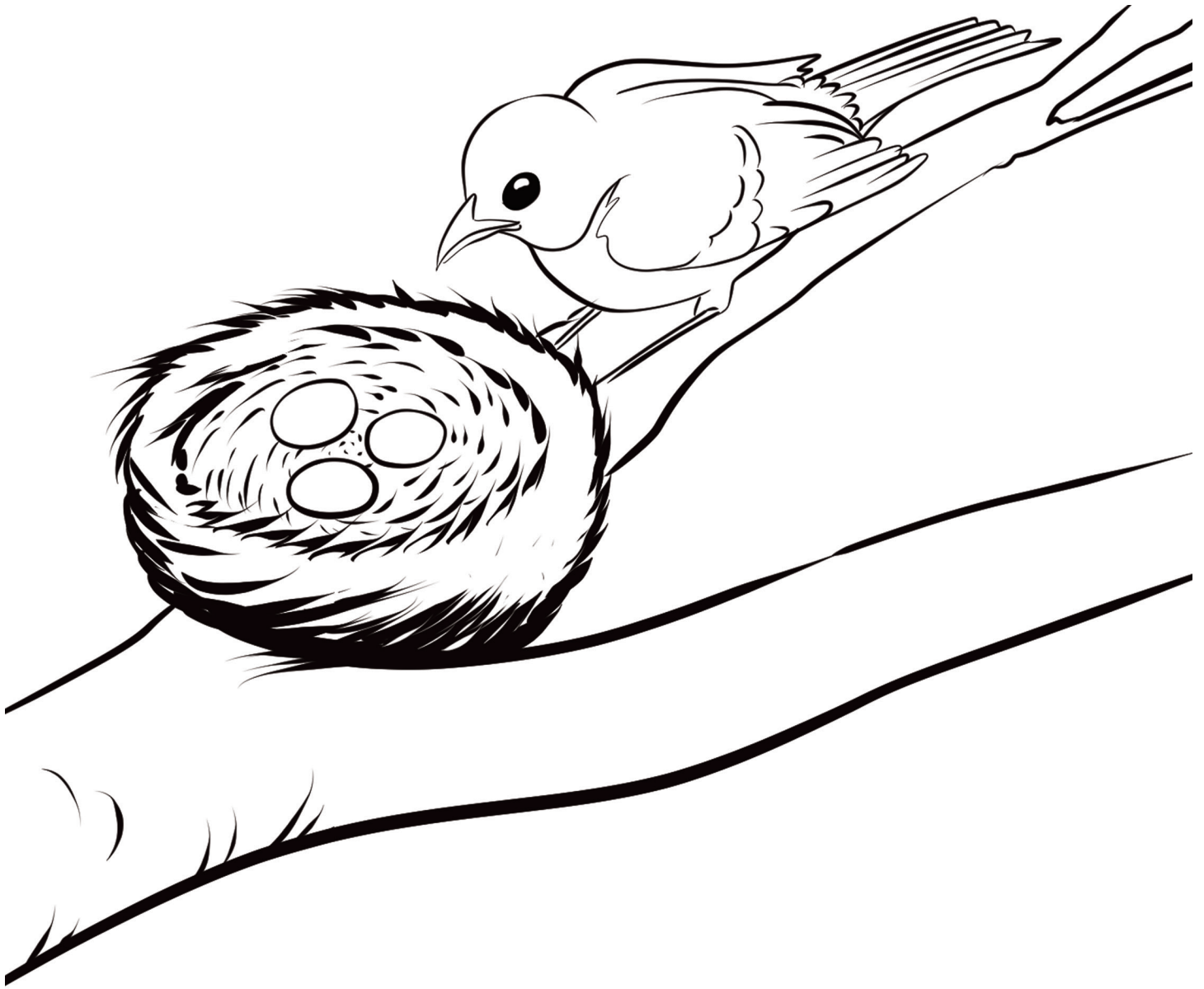
**Niminwendaan amwag ingiw mooseg gaye niin.**

**(I like eating worms too.)**

**Indoozhitoomin waziswan omaa zhingwaakong.**

(We are building a nest here in the white pine.)





**Nashke!**  
**Nisinoon iniw waawanoonsan omaa niwaziswaning.**  
(Look! There are three small eggs here in my nest.)



**Baashkaawe'owag!**  
(They are hatching!)

**Banajaanyag wenda-mawiwag!**

(The baby birds are really crying!)

**Aaaw chay, bakadewag.**

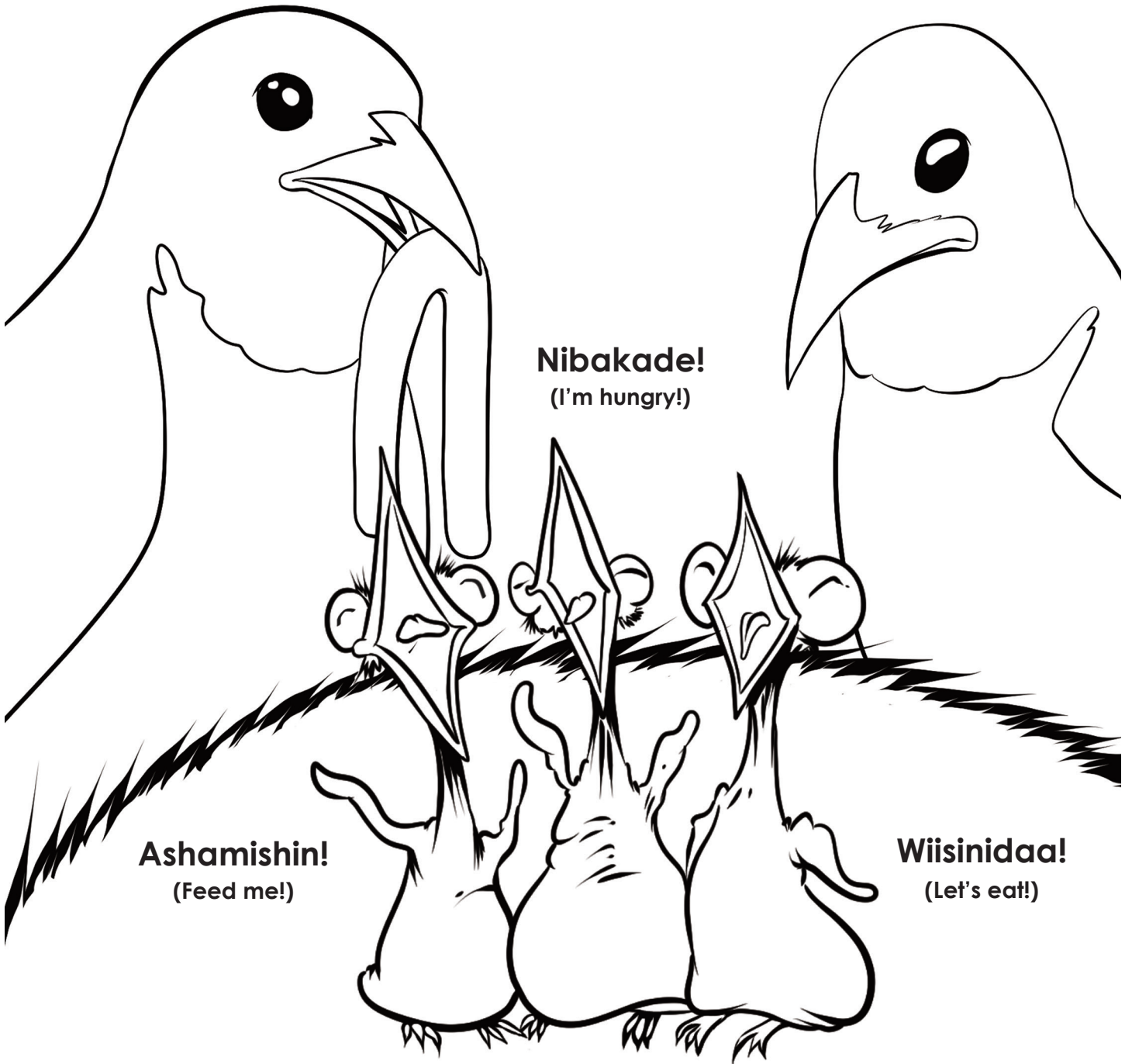
(They are hungry.)





# Giwii-amwaawaa na moose?

(Do you all want to eat a worm?)



**Nibakade!**  
(I'm hungry!)

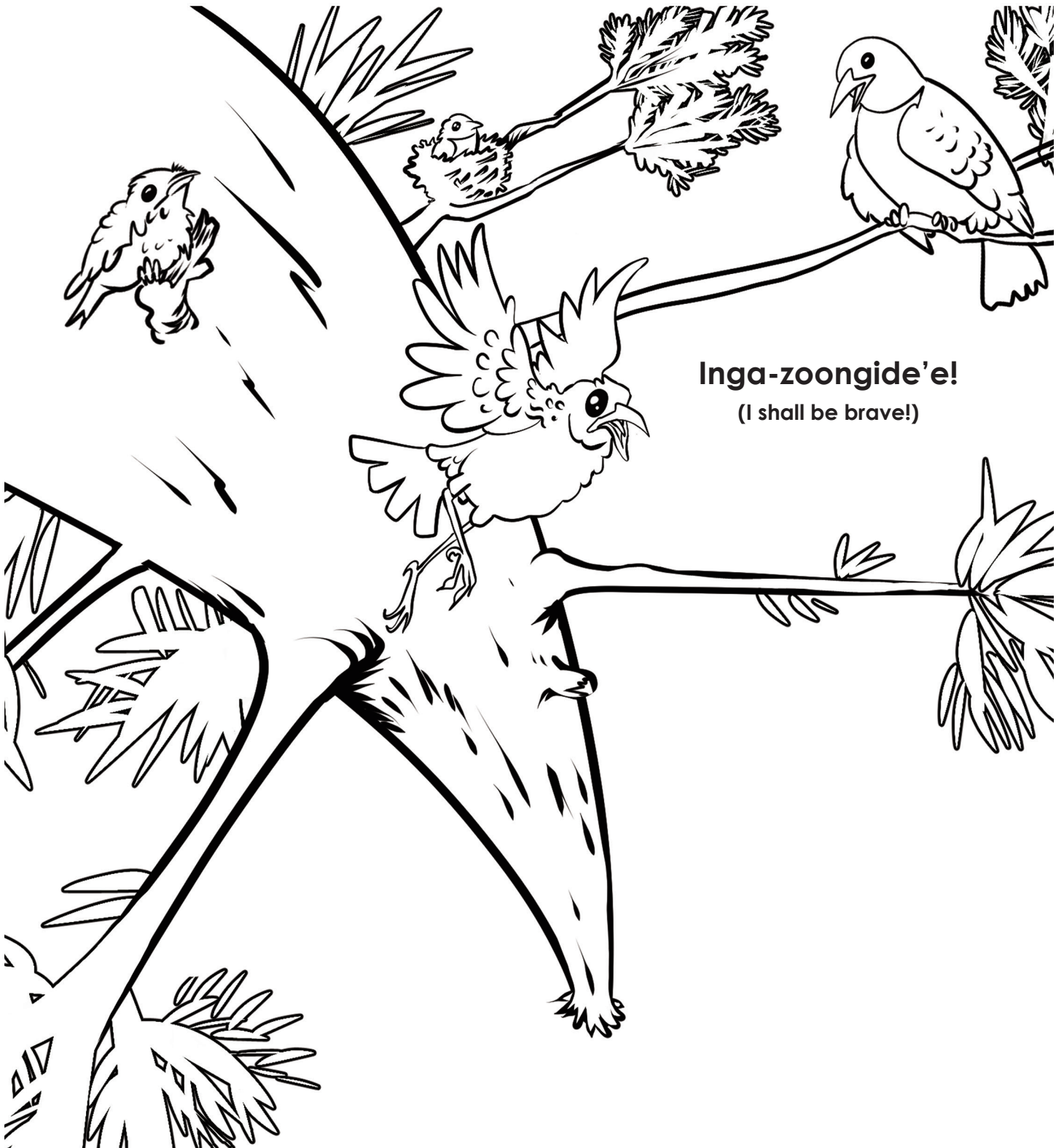
**Ashamishin!**  
(Feed me!)

**Wiisinidaa!**  
(Let's eat!)

**Niibin.**  
(It is summer.)

**It's time to learn how to fly.**

**Weweni!**  
(Be careful!)



**Inga-zoongide'e!**  
(I shall be brave!)

**Stop fighting with the diindiisi!**

**Mawinzodaa!**

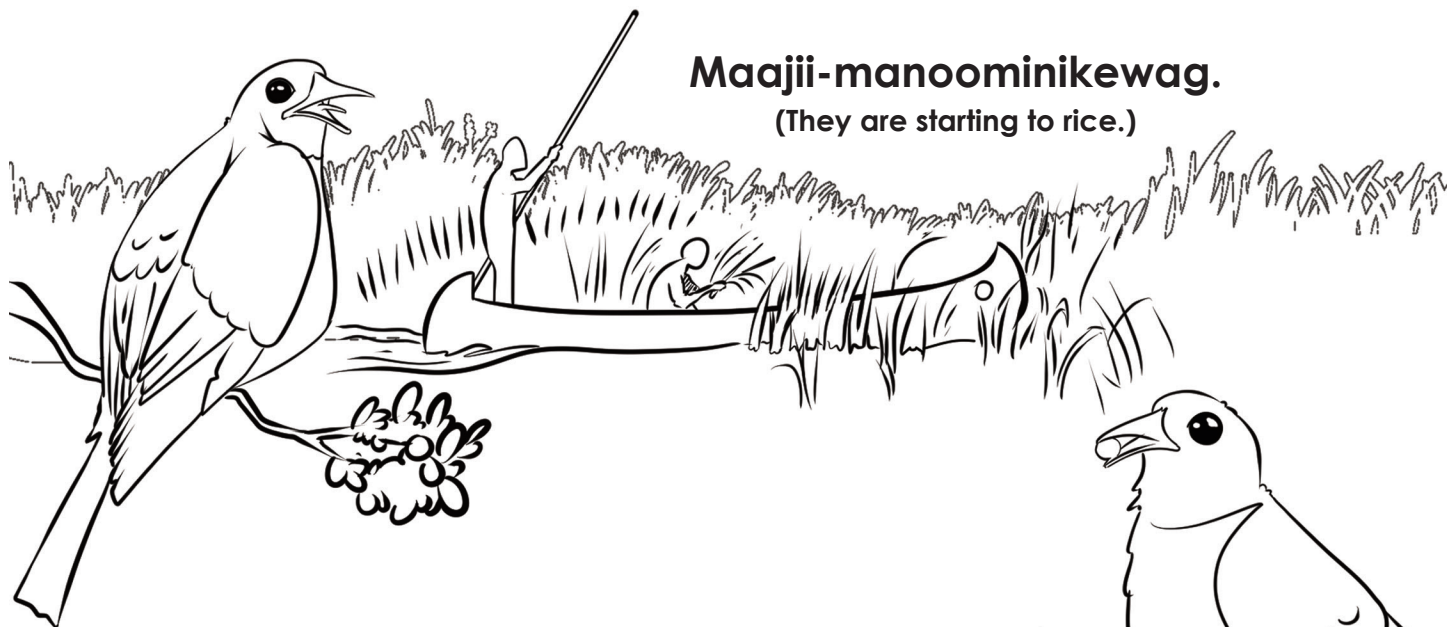
(Let's pick berries!)

**Come and eat some odatagaagominag!**

(blackberries)



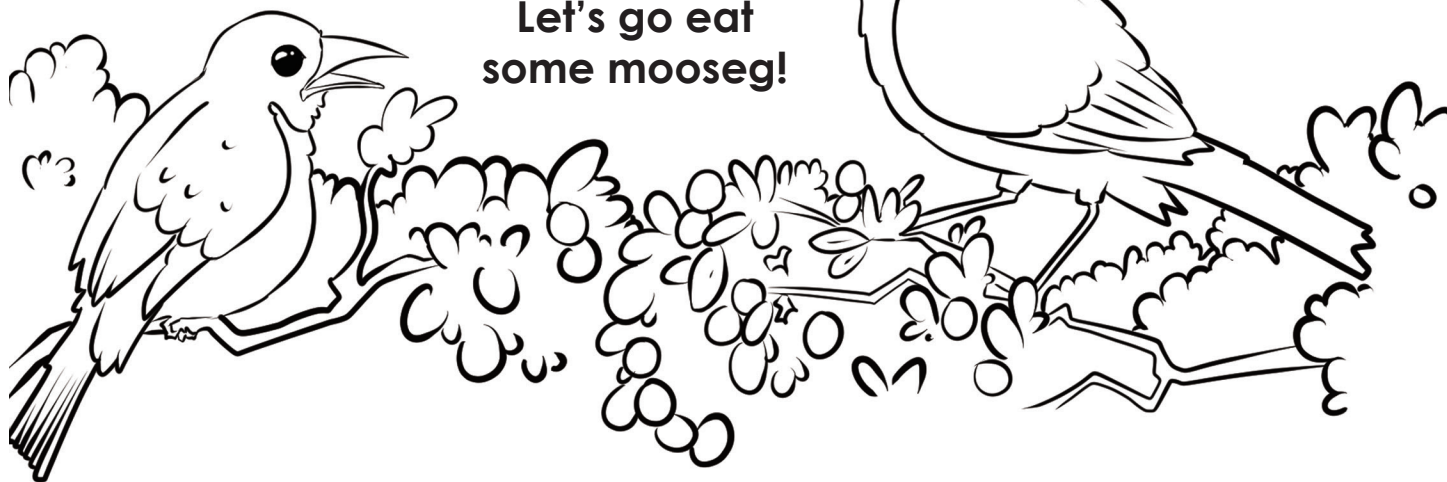
**Nashke!**  
The Anishinaabe are starting to harvest manoomin.



**Maajii-manoominikewag.**  
(They are starting to rice.)



Let's go eat  
some mooseg!





**Dagwaagin.**

(It is fall.)

**Aniibiishan waatebagaawan.**

(The leaves are bright and colorful.)

**Do the golden leaves bring out the color  
in my red-chest?**





**Maajipon gisinaag.**

(It starts to snow when it's cold.)

**It's time to fly south...  
and find some more mooseg!**





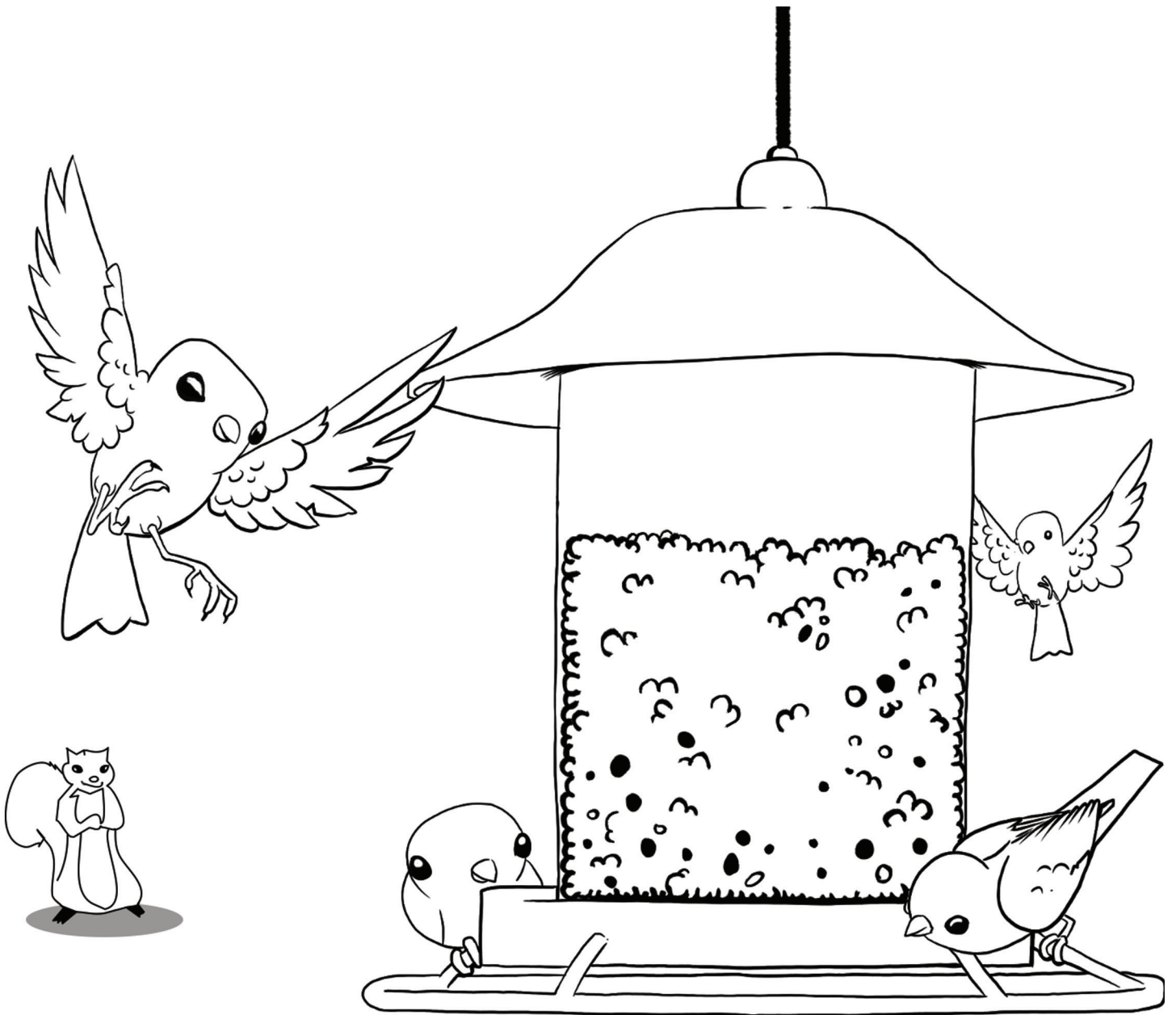
**Maajii-Ojibwemowag  
(They Begin to Speak Ojibwe)**

# GIJIGIJIGAANESHIINH

*Stories of the Flyers:  
A Giiwedinong Book*





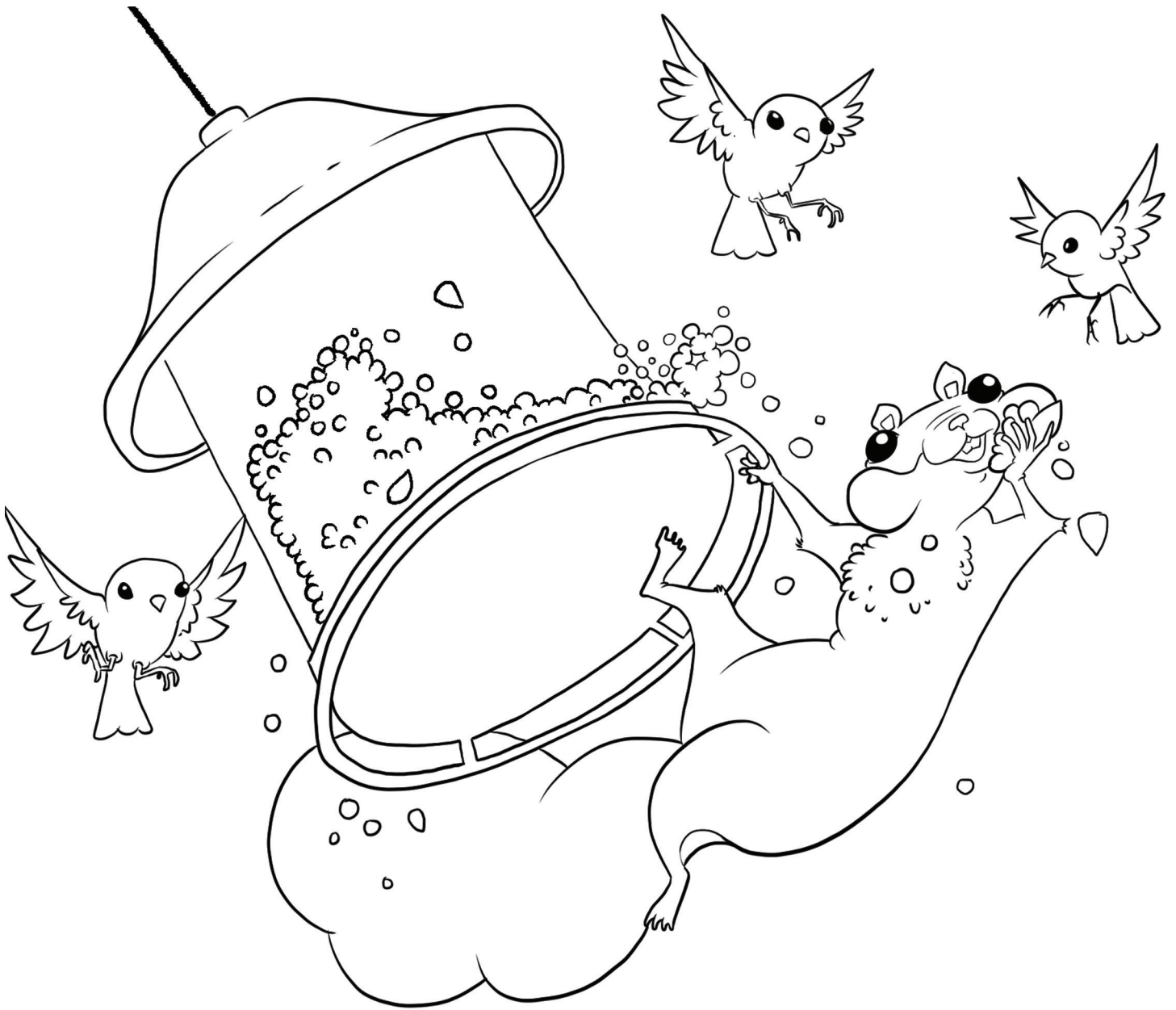


**It is fall time in the Northwoods.  
It is a cool morning.**

**Gijigijigaaneshiinyag are eating seeds from the bird feeder.  
Ajidamoo comes over looking to have an easy meal.**

**Gigizhebaa-wiisiniwag gijigijigaaneshiinyag.**  
(The chickadees are eating breakfast.)

**Daki-ayaa noongom agwajiing.**  
(It is cold outside today.)



**Ajidamoo jumps onto the bird feeder and bullies  
gijigijigaaneshiinyag away from their morning meal.**

**Ajidamoo gobbles down all the seeds.  
He is gluttonous.**

**Gaazhige a'aw Ajidamoo, gii-kidaanawed.**

**(Squirrel is being gluttonous, he ate everything up.)**



**Gijigijigaaneshiinyag are very upset.**

**“We were here first! It’s not fair!  
You ate up all the seed!” they exclaim.**

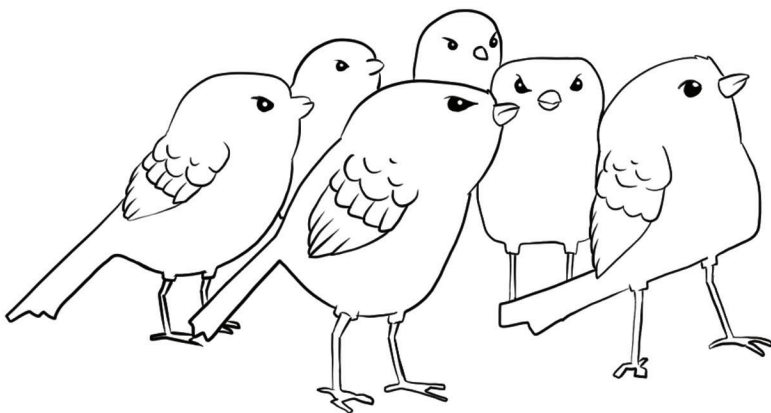
**Ajidamoo laughs,  
“You are too small to do anything about it.  
Fly away little baby birds.”**

**Gii-ani-nishkaadiziwag agiw gijigijigaaneshiinyag.**

**(Those chickadees are getting mad.)**

**Onishkenimaawaan geget iniw ajidamoon agiw  
gijigijigaaneshiinyag.**

**(Those chickadees are mad at that Squirrel.)**

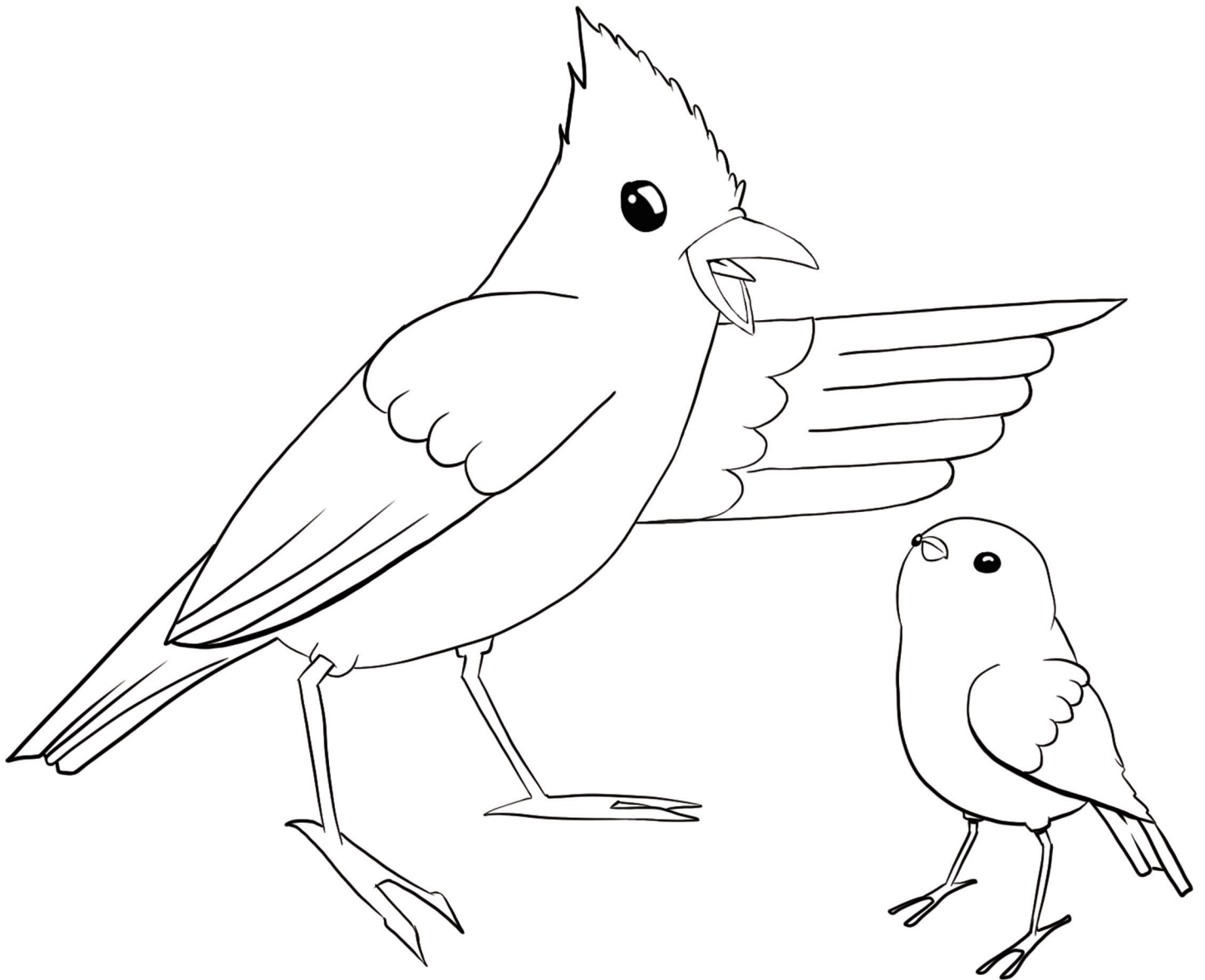


Bluejay saw what had happened and tells Gijigijigaaneshiinh about how Squirrel has so many acorns in his den.

“Ajidamoo chased me away yesterday too.”

Diindiisi odazhimaan iniw Ajidamoon.

(Bluejay talks about Squirrel.)

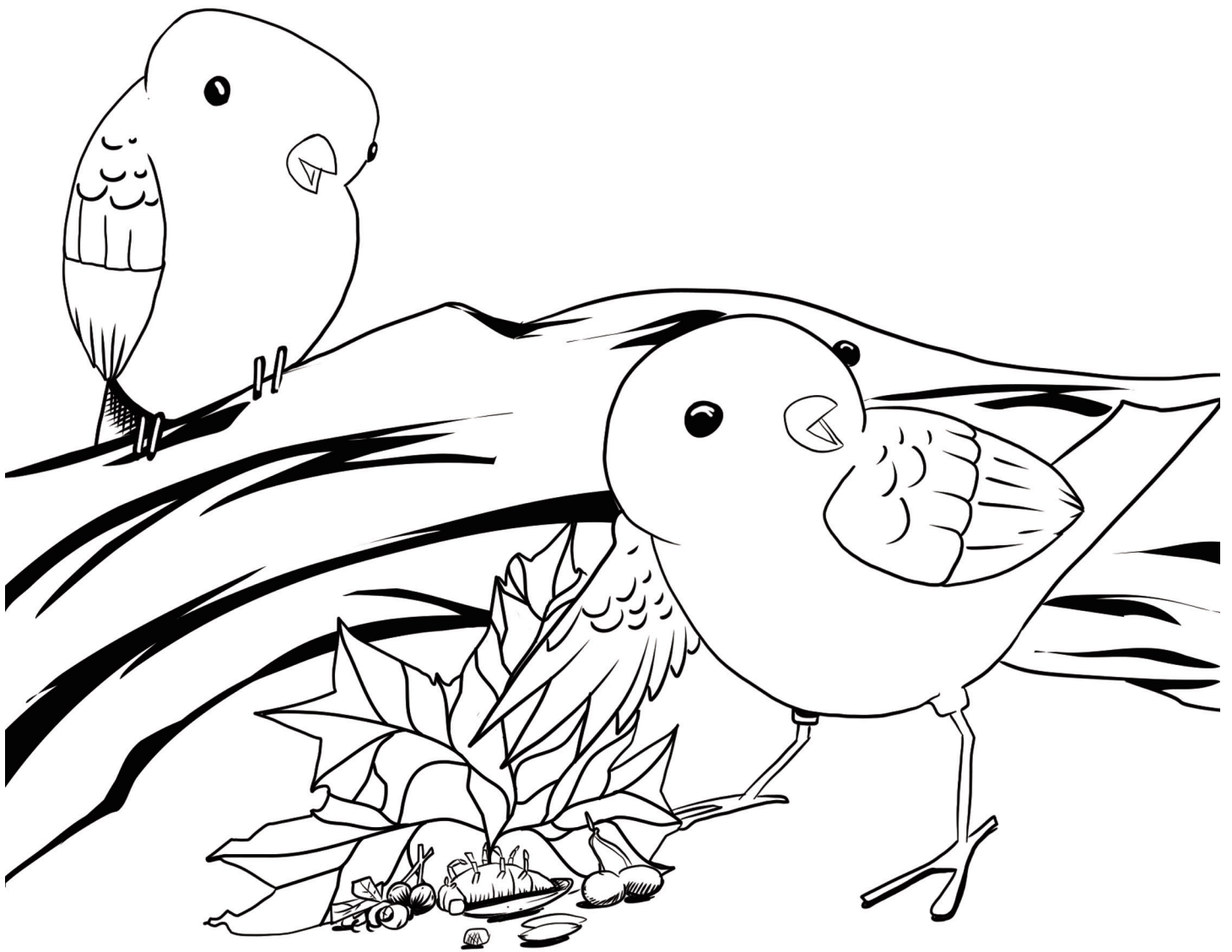


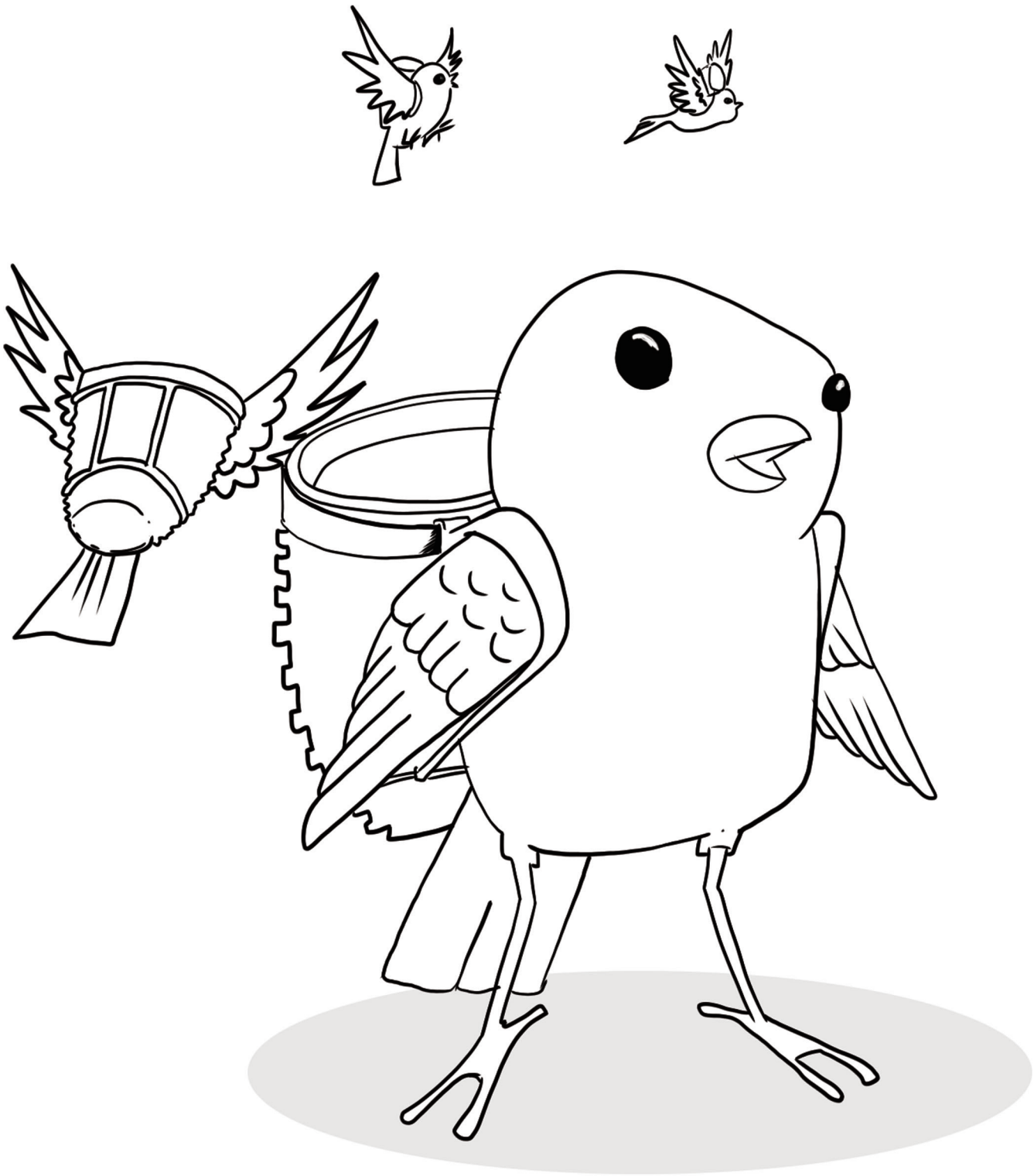
Gijigijigaaneshiinh made a plan to get even with Ajidamoo for eating their breakfast.

Since gijigijigaaneshiinyag are good at hiding their food, they decided to hide Ajidamoo's acorns to teach him a lesson.

Owiisiniwiniwaan asanjigowag gijigijigaaneshiinyag.

(Chickadees stash their food.)





As the day breaks, **gijigijigaaneshiinyag** set out with their ash baskets to raid **Ajidamoo's** den.

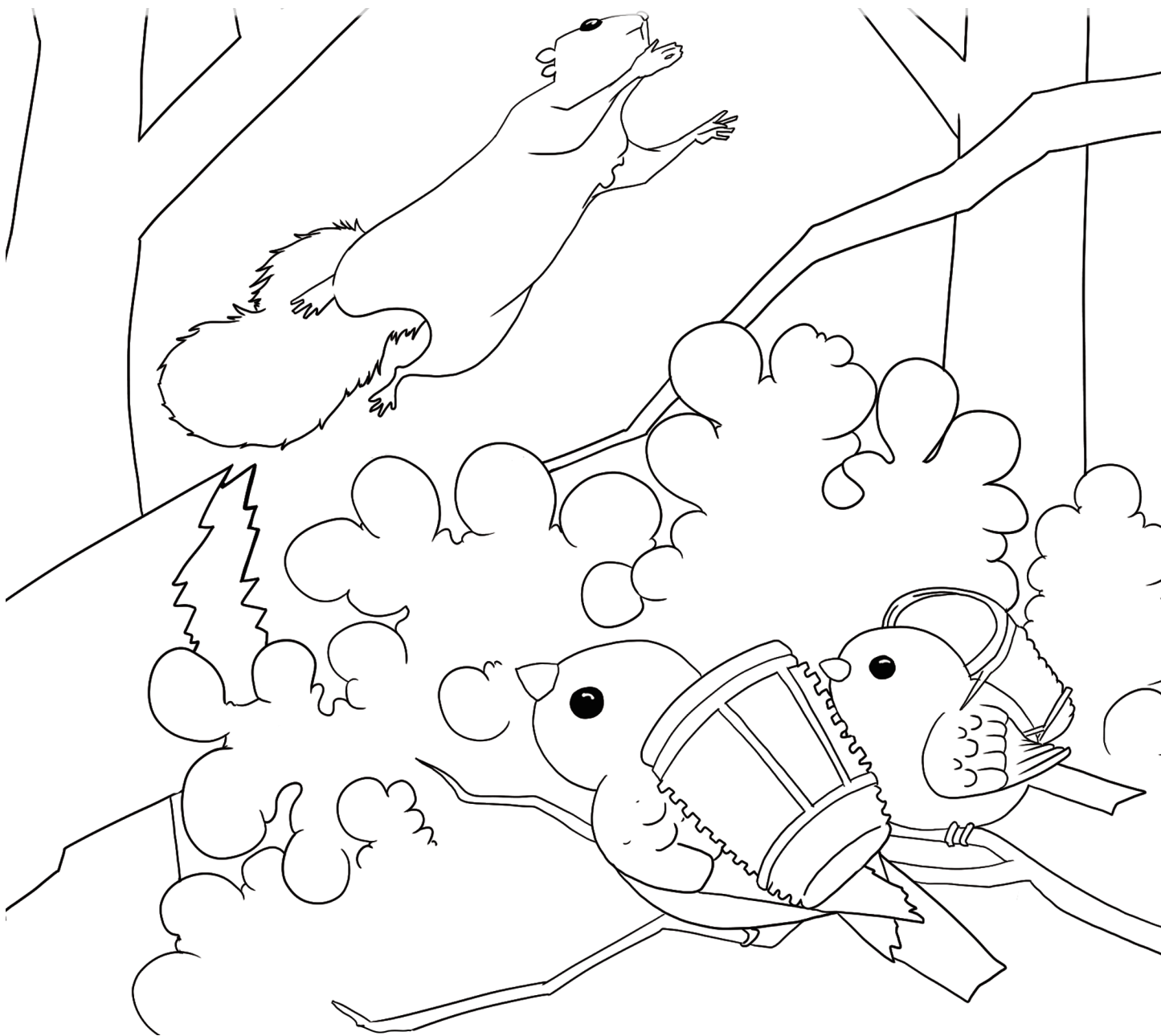
**Gijigijigaaneshiinh mangiwane.**

(Chickadee is carrying a big pack.)



**Gijigijigaaneshiinyag** hide behind cover and wait for **Ajidamoo** to leave his den.

“He’s probably going to stuff his face at the bird-feeder again.”  
**Gijigijigaaneshiinh** whispers.



**Gaaskanazo.** (She whispers.)

**Gaazo.** (She hides.)

**Gijigijigaaneshiinyag** **ogaazootawaawaan** iniw **Ajidamoon.**  
(Chickadees are hiding from Squirrel.)



**Gijigijigaaneshiinyag load up all of the acorns into their ash baskets,  
and fly away with Squirrel's food.**

**Gijigijigaaneshiinhyag gimoojimiijimewag.**

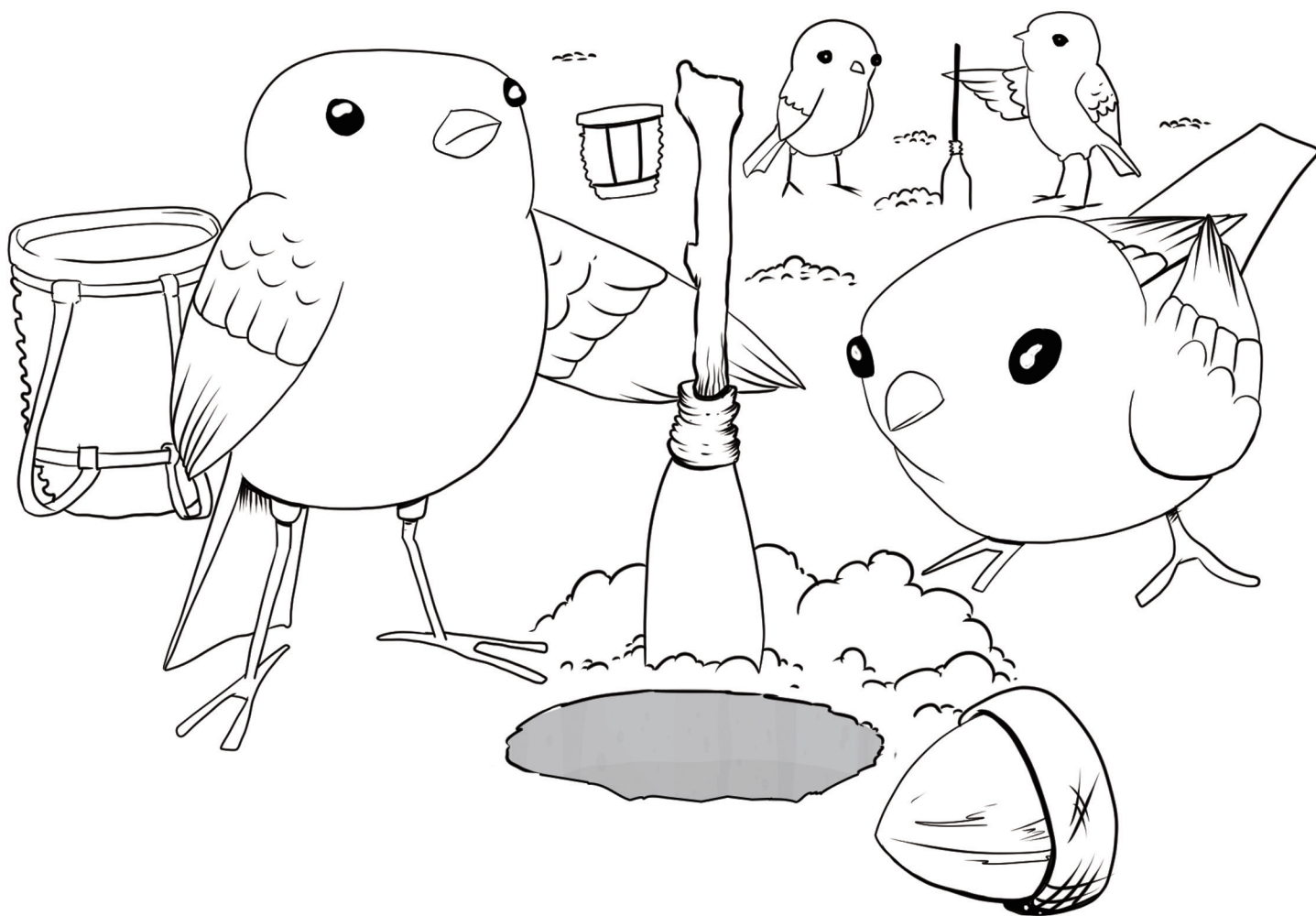
(Chickadees steal food.)

They use little shovels made from deer teeth to bury the acorns.

“Let’s bury Ajidamoo’s acorns behind this blackberry bush”.

Waanikewag ingiw gijigijigaaneshiinyag.

(Those chickadees are digging a hole.)

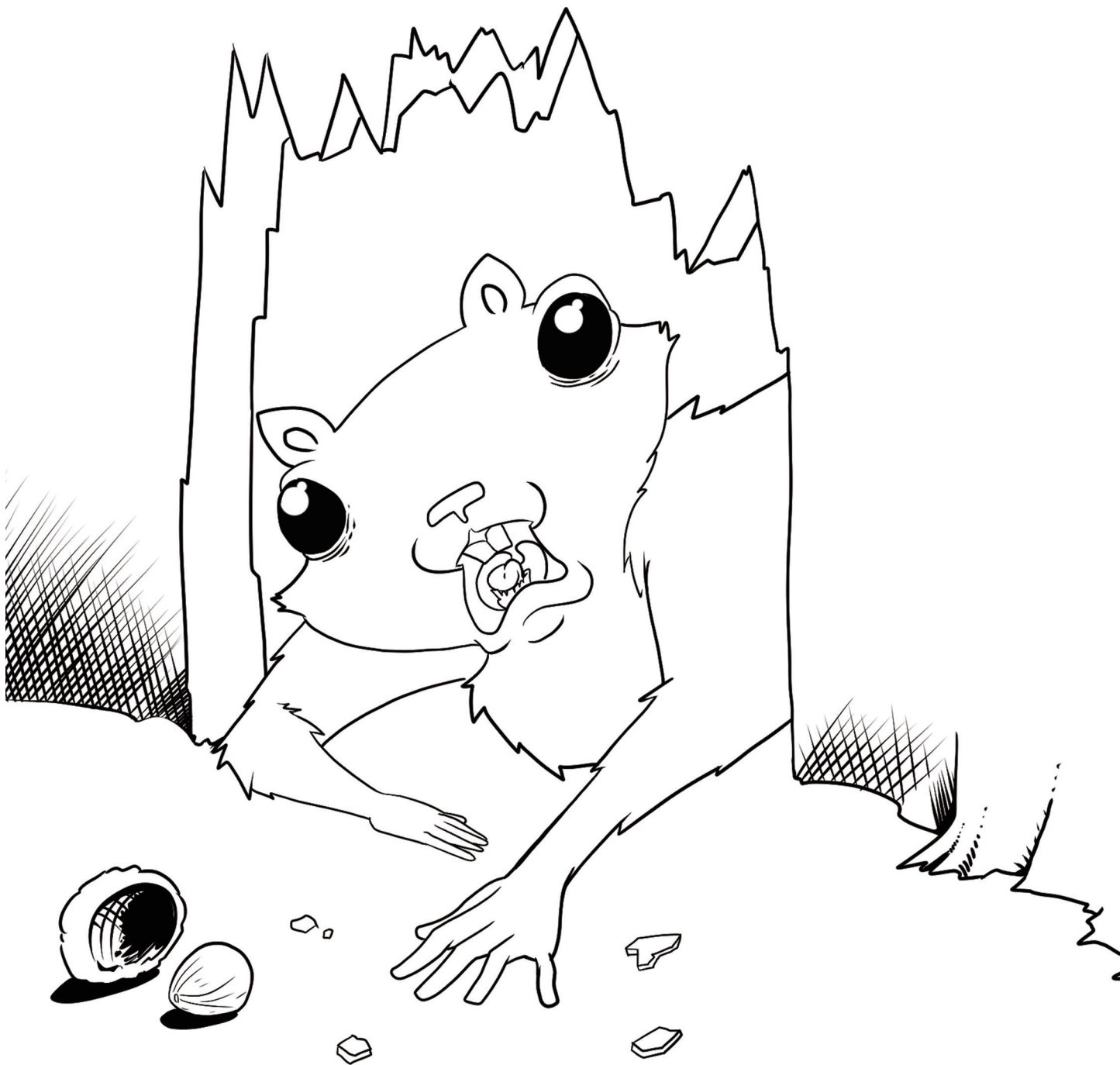


When Squirrel returned home, he was shocked to see that his acorns had been taken!

“I’ve been robbed!” Ajidamoo exclaimed.

There was just one broken acorn left behind.

Ajidamoo biibaagi. (Squirrel shouts.)





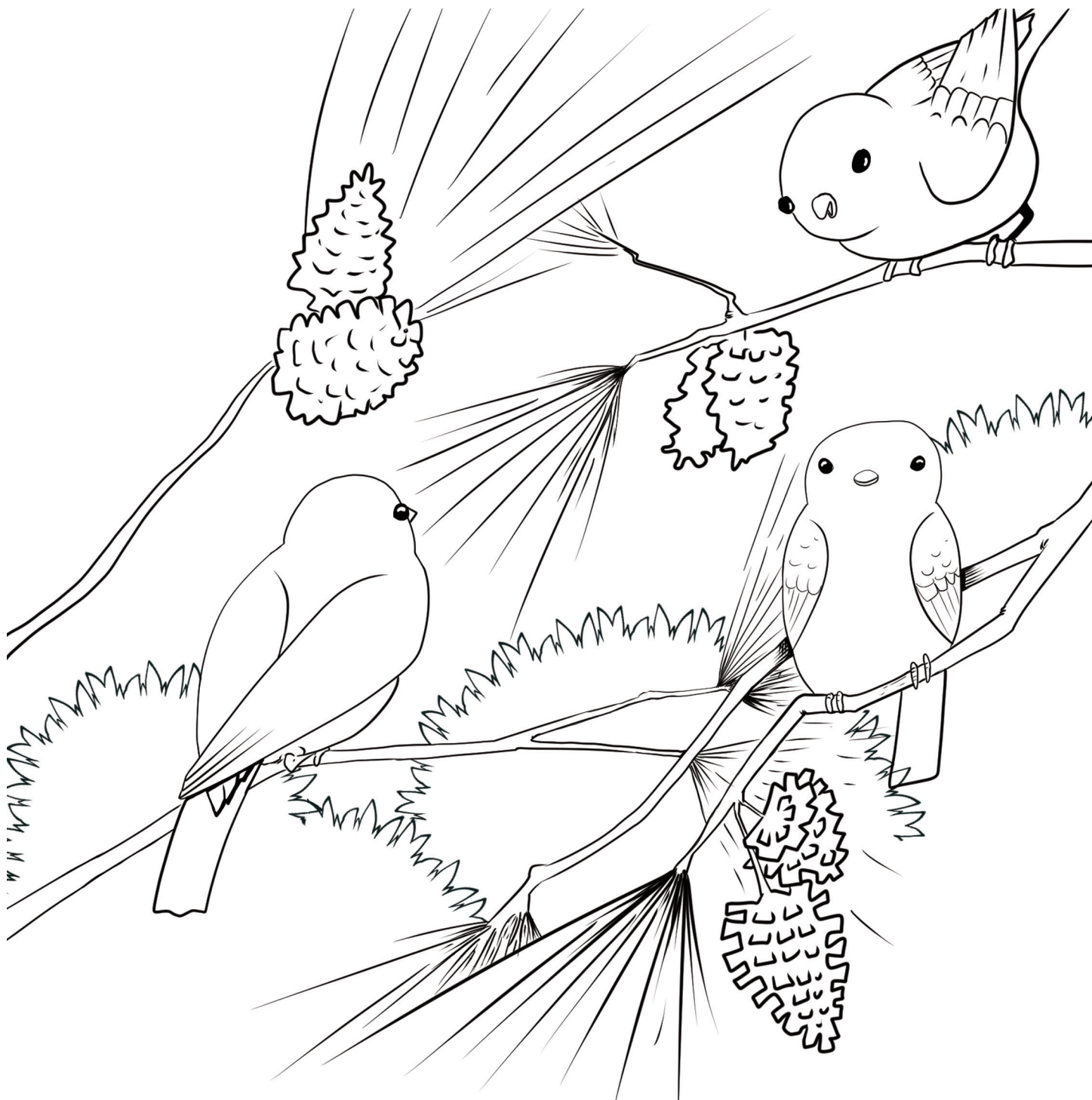


**Realizing that he no longer has enough food to get through the winter, Ajidamoo starts to cry.**

**“Pity me, pity me, I will surely perish this winter without my acorns! Who has done this to me?”**

**Maadademo a’aw Ajidamoo. (Squirrel starts to cry.)**

**Gijigijigaaneshiinyag sit on a red pine laughing and talking about how they got even with Ajidamoo.**



**“Ajidamoo will think twice about bullying us again.”**

**Agooziwag agiw gijigijigaaneshiinyag imaa bapakwanagemagong.**

**(Those chickadees are there on the red pine.)**

**“Gego baapiken don’t laugh,” says Auntie Gijigijigaaneshiinh.  
“By stealing Ajidamoo’s food you have doomed him this winter.**

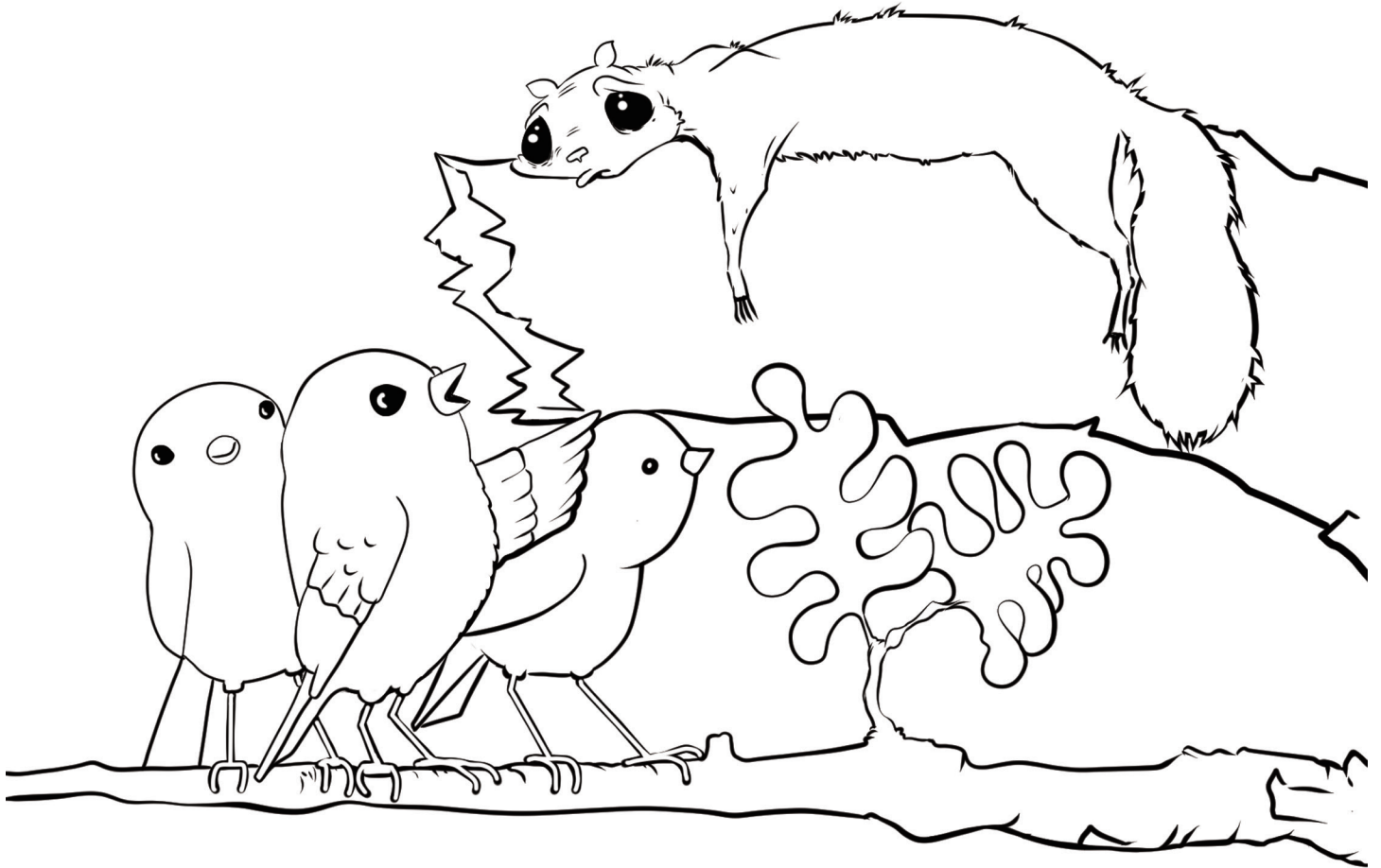
**Ajidamoo is not hardy like us, he is not as strong as us.  
The Creator has blessed us so that we may survive the harsh winter,  
but it is only through pity and love that we endure.**

**Ajidamoo needs that food so he can survive the winter.  
We can always find food, Ajidamoo cannot.**



**I think he has learned his lesson.  
Go and tell him where you hid his food.”**

**Ganawenindiwag. (They take care of each other.)**



So, gijigijigaaneshiinyag took pity on Ajidamoo and confessed. They told Ajidamoo they were upset that he bullied and teased them on top of taking their breakfast.

Wiping a tear from his eye, Ajidamoo apologized for being mean and gluttonous.

They all agreed to take turns at the bird feeder. There was enough to share.

**Maada'oonidiwag.** (They share with each other.)





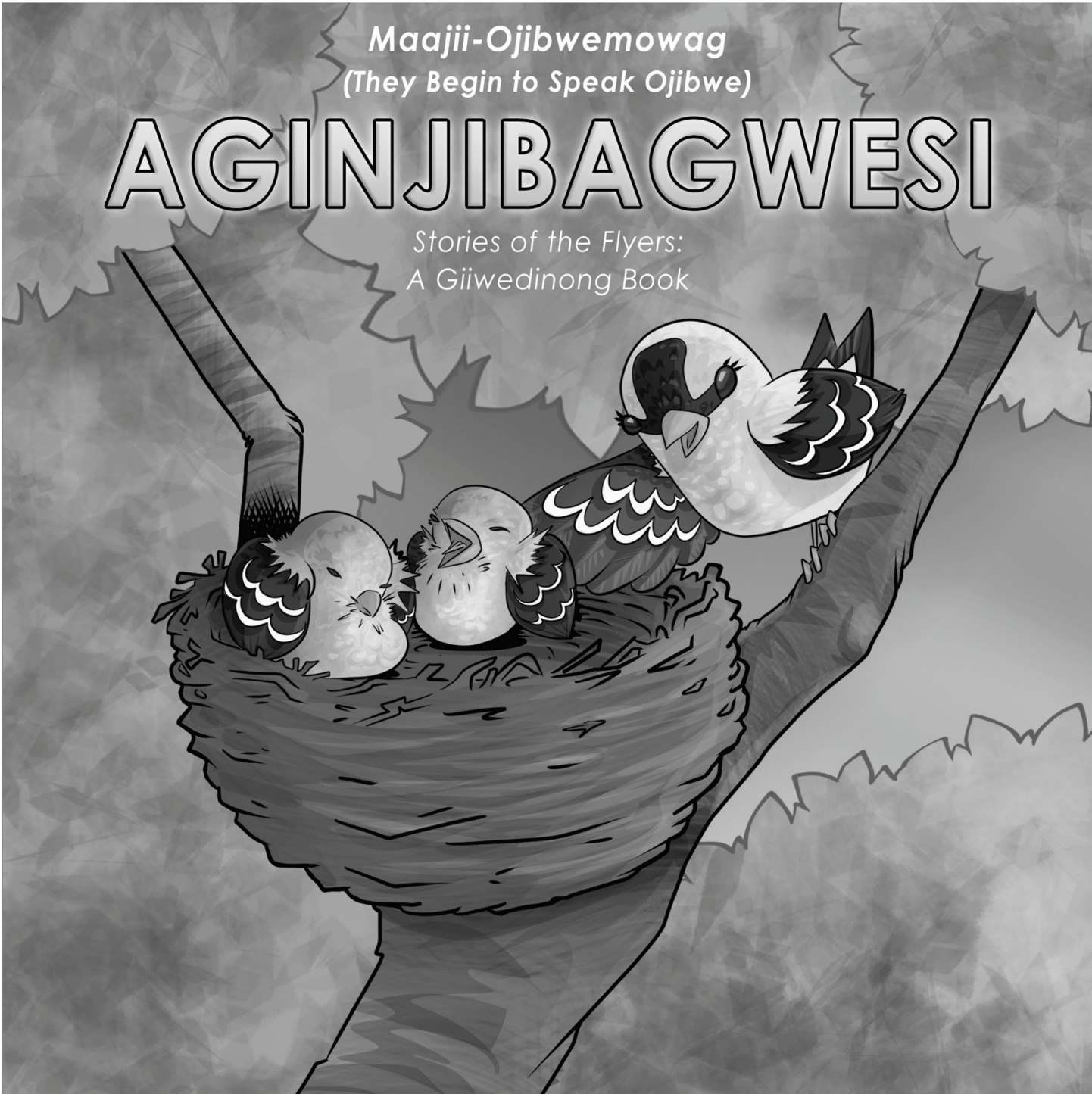
The next morning as Ajidamoo dug up his acorns, gijigijigaaneshiinyag enjoyed a peaceful breakfast at the feeder.

**Mii iw.** (That's it.)

*Maajii-Ojibwemowag  
(They Begin to Speak Ojibwe)*

# AGINJIBAGWESI

*Stories of the Flyers:  
A Giwedinong Book*



**Boozhoo! Ozaawaa nindizhinikaaz.**

(Hello! My name is Ozaawaa.)

**Nindaaw aginjibagwesi.**

(I am a goldfinch.)



**Ojibwemodaa!**

(Let's speak Ojibwe!)

**Goshkozidaa, banajaanyag.**

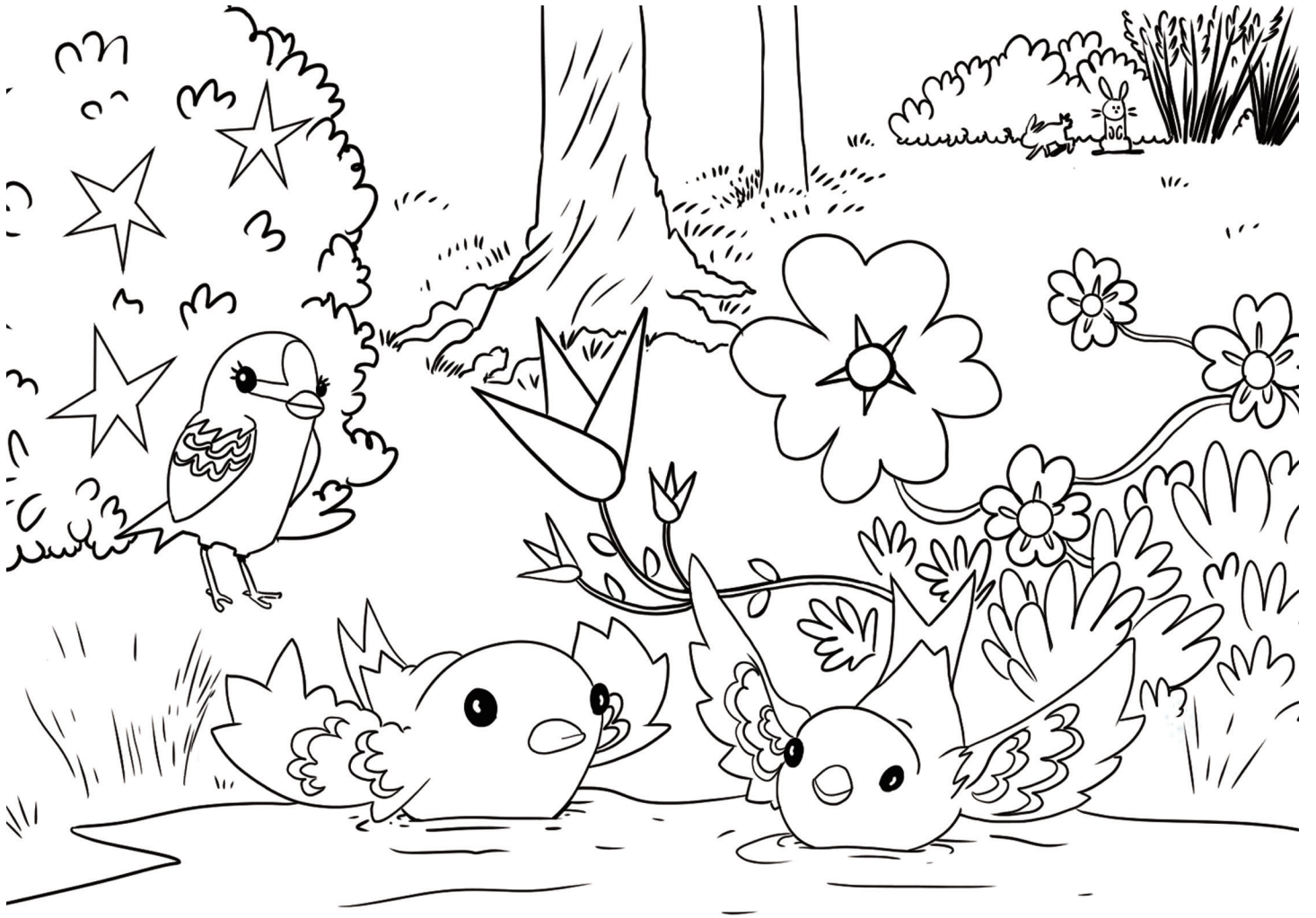
(Let's wake up, little birds.)

**Baakadawaabiyok.**

(Open your eyes.)







**Giziibiigiingweyok.**

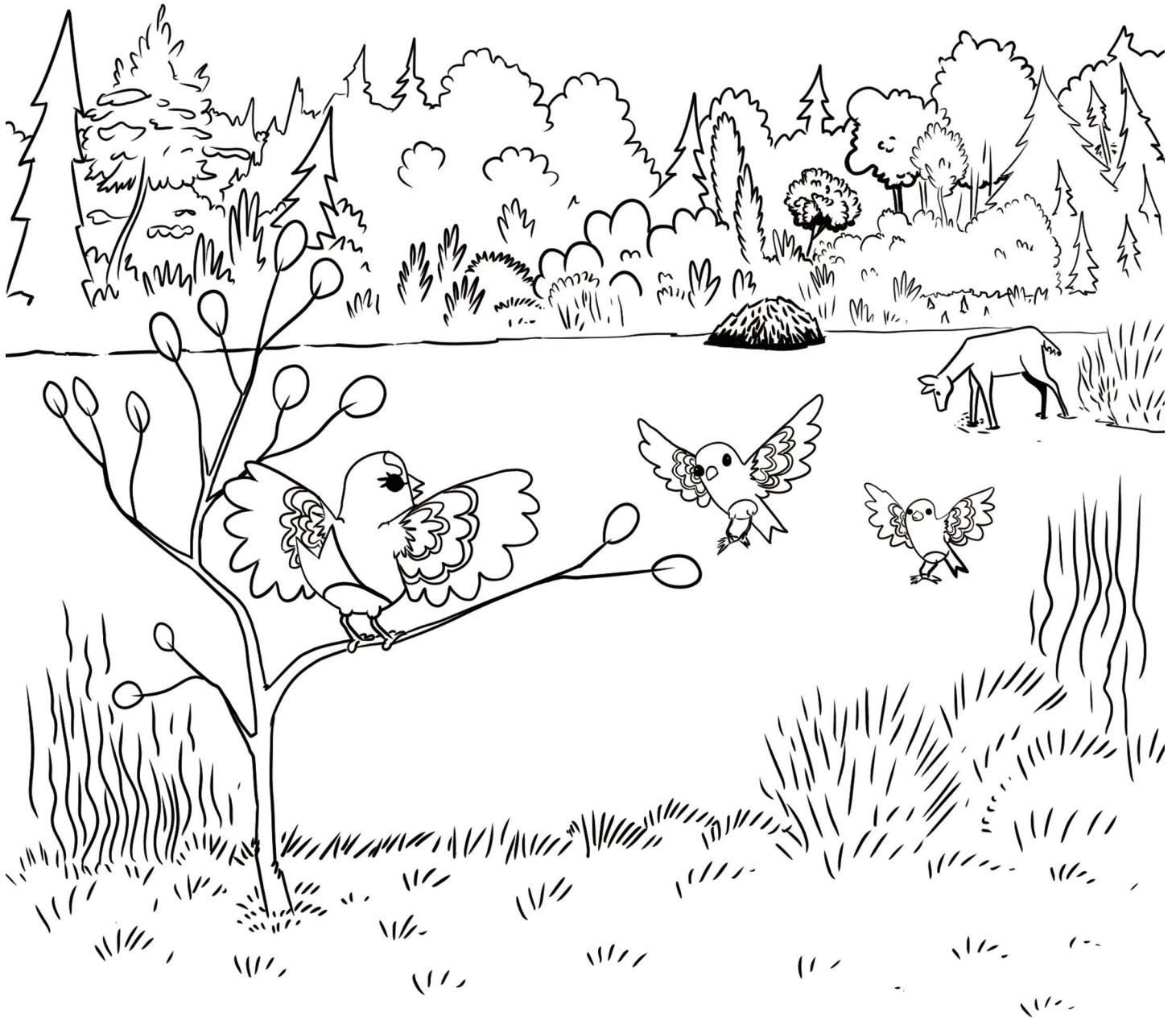
(Wash your face.)

**Giziibiigininjiyok.**

(Wash your hands.)

# Asemaakedaa omaa agamiing.

(Let's offer asemaa here at the water.)





**Gigizhebaa-wiisinidaa.**

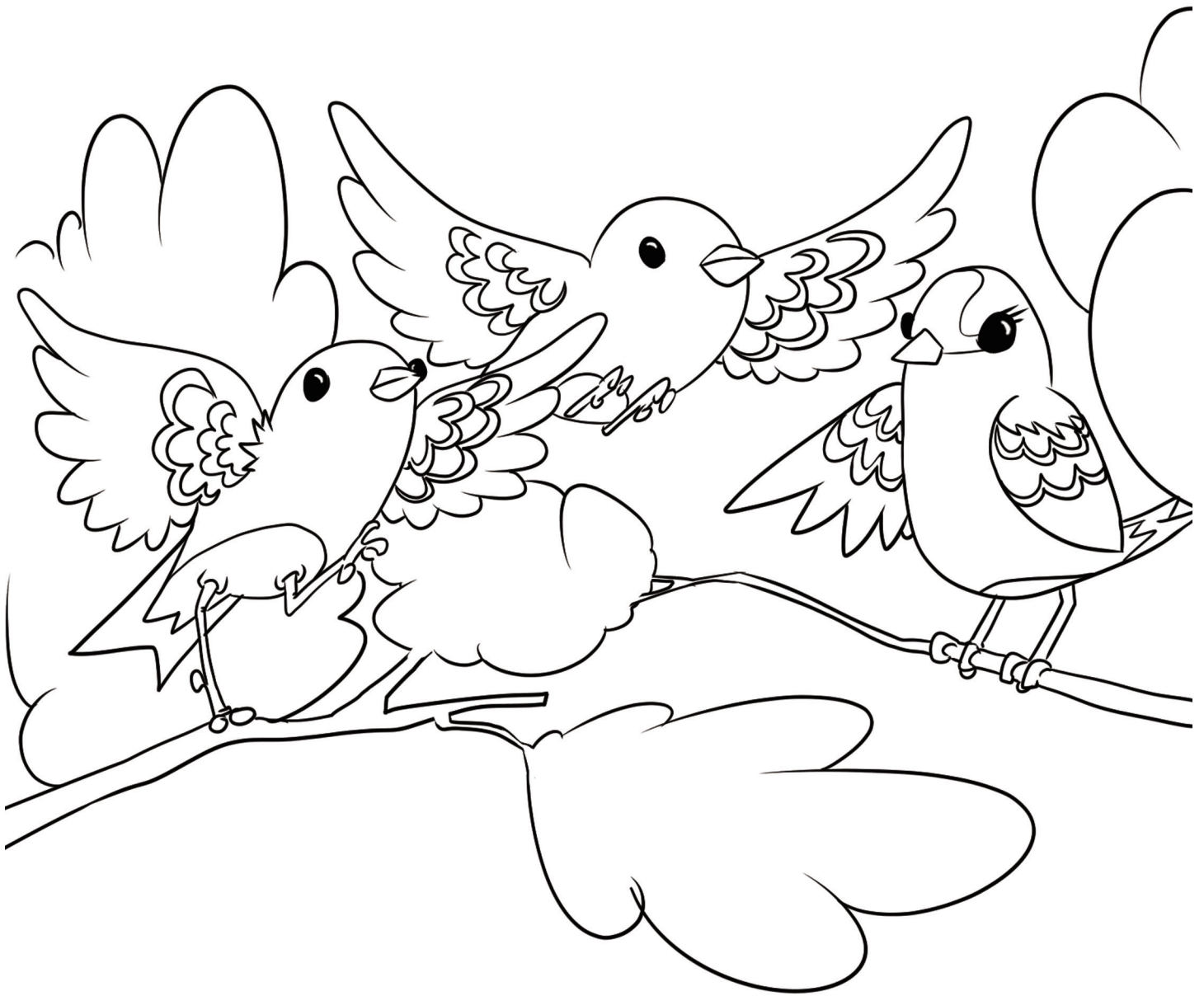
(Let's eat breakfast.)

**Wiigwaasi-miinikaan minopogwad.**

(The birch seed tastes good.)

**Howa! Wewiibitaayok! Mii o'apii gikinoo'amaagoziyeg.**

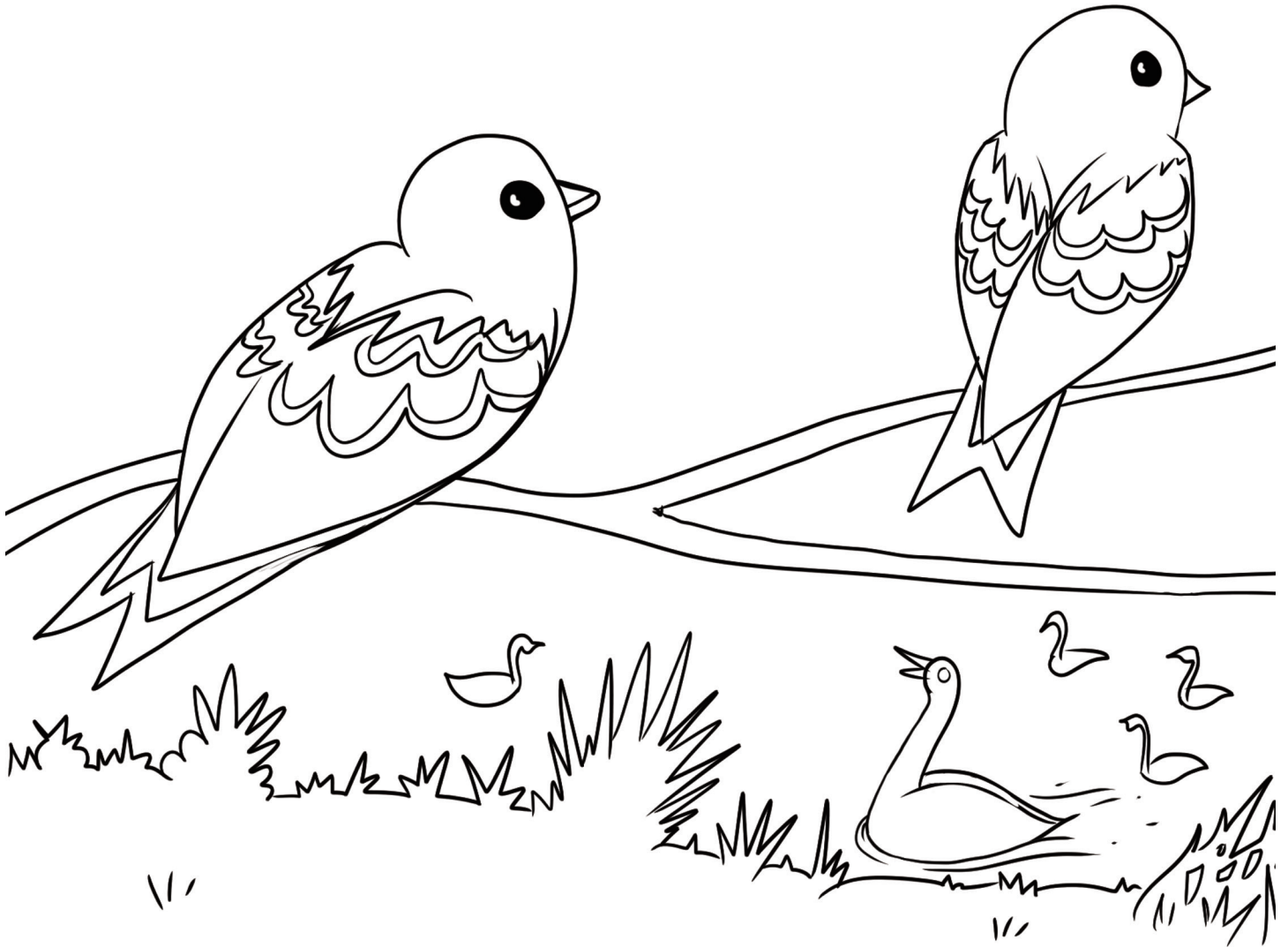
(Howa! Hurry! It's time to go to school.)





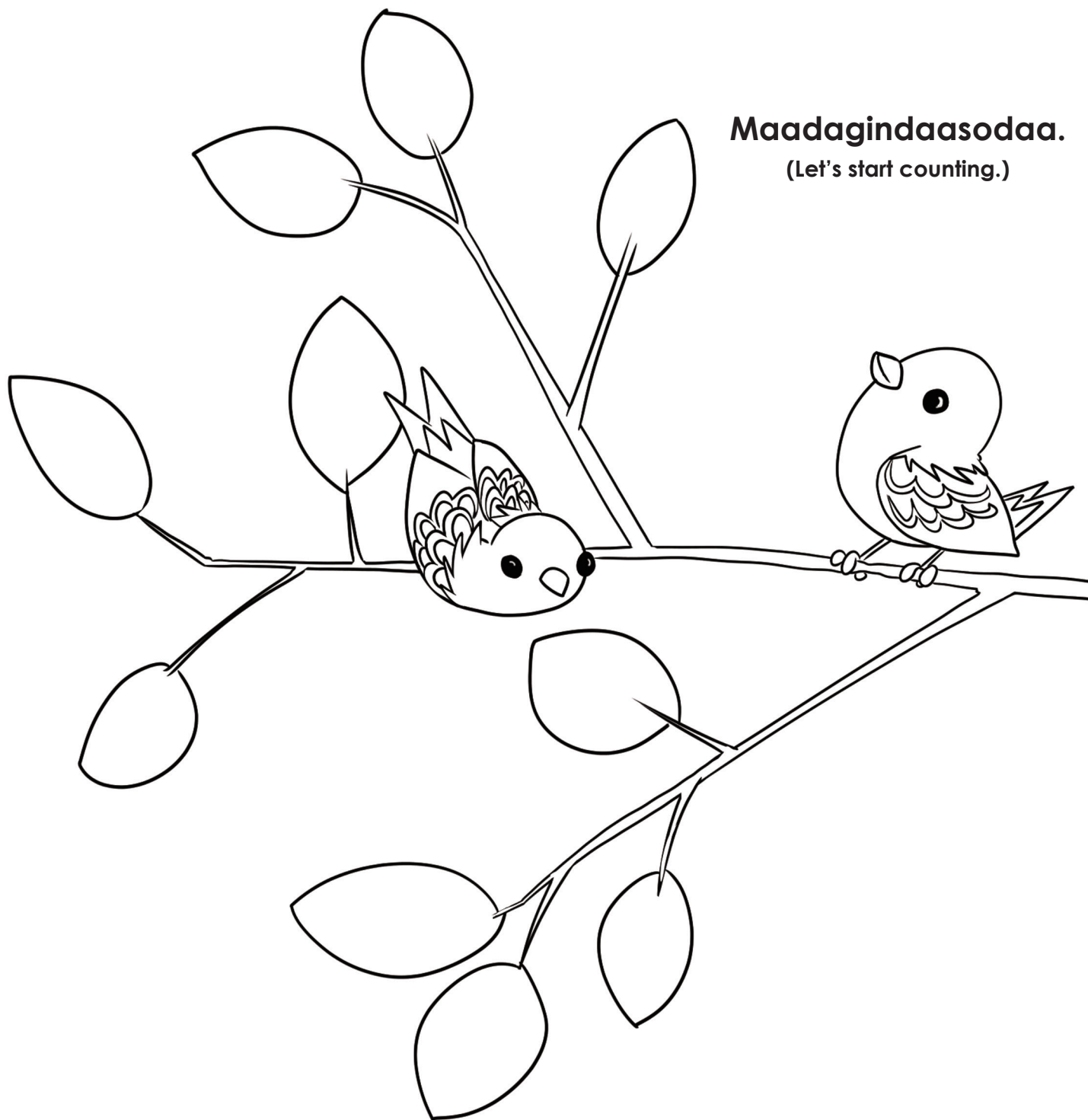
**Bizaan-ayaadaa miinawaa bizindaagedaa.**

(Let's be quiet and let's listen.)



**Maadagindaasodaa.**

(Let's start counting.)

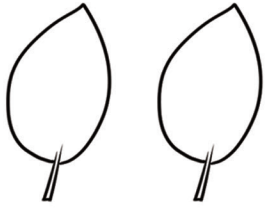


**Ninga-agindaanan onow aniibiishan.**

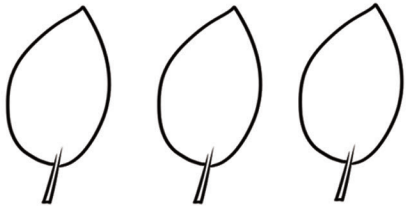
(I shall count these leaves.)



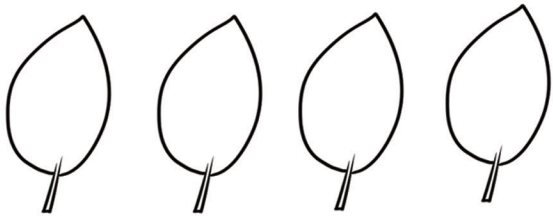
**Bezhig (1)**



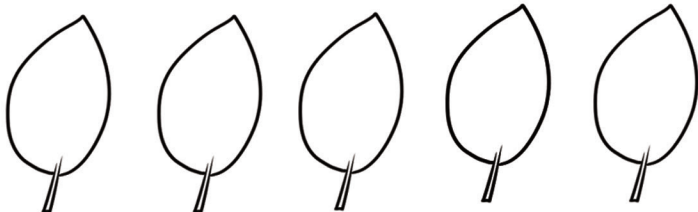
**Niizh (2)**



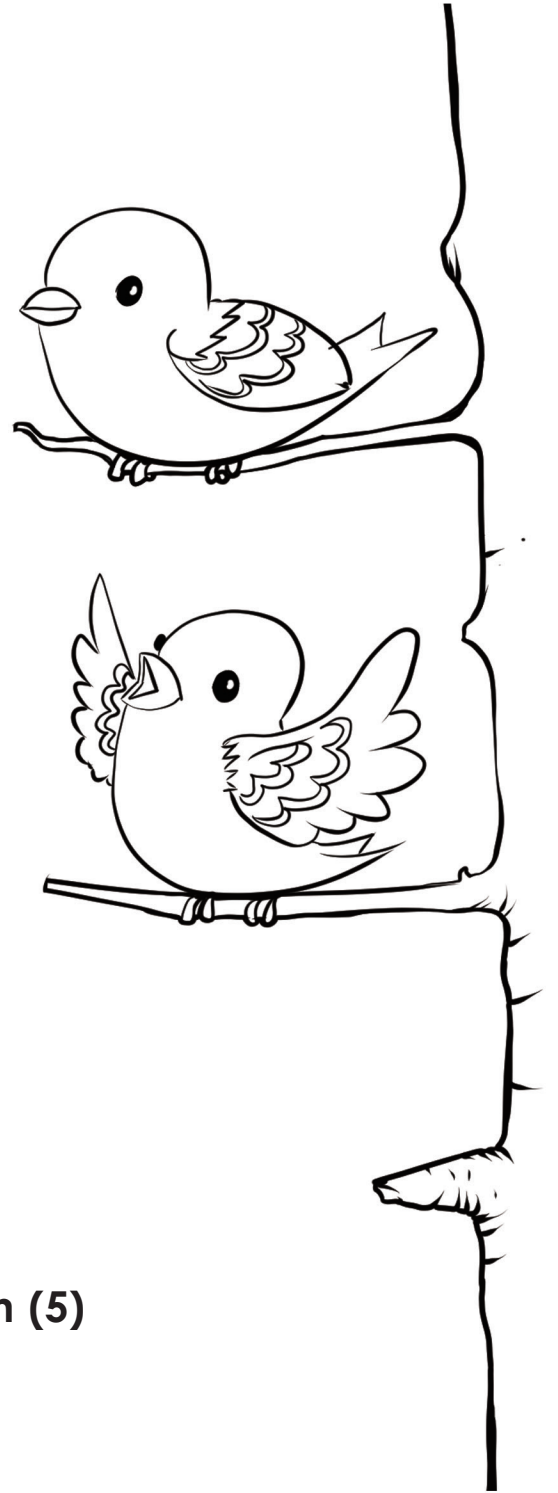
**Niswi (3)**

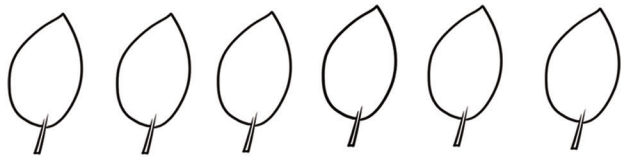


**Niiwin (4)**

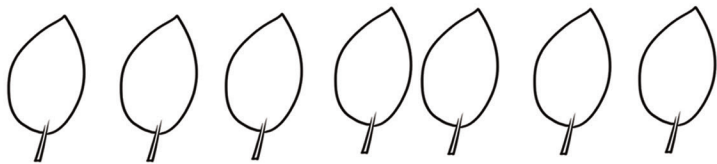
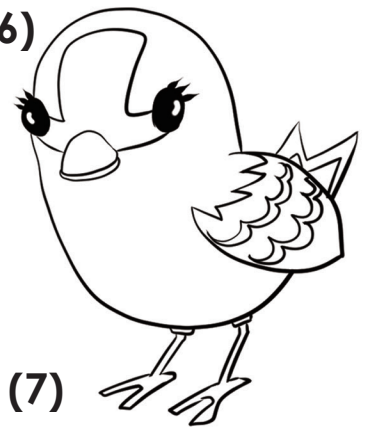


**Naanan (5)**

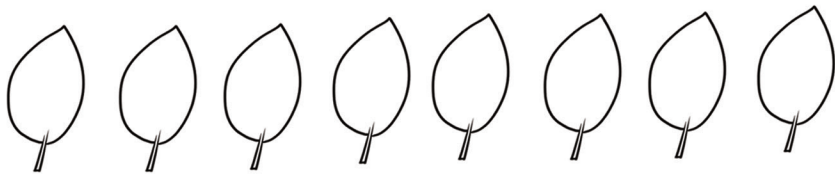




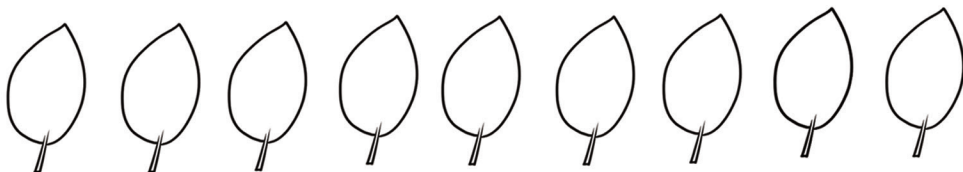
**Ningodwaaswi (6)**



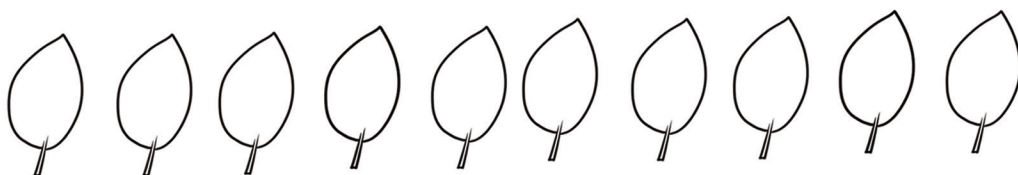
**Niizhwaaswi (7)**



**Nishwaaswi (8)**



**Zhaangaswi (9)**

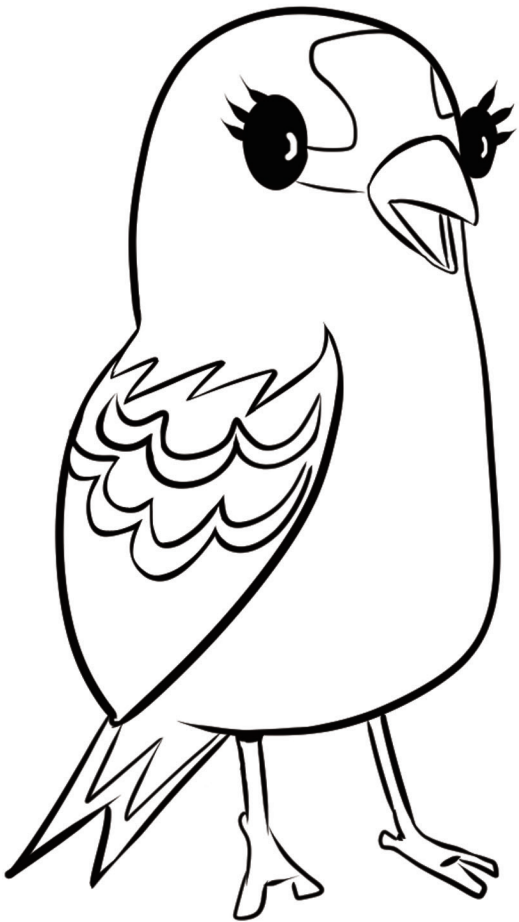


**Midaaswi (10)**



**Howa! Giminotaagozim, banajaanyag.**

(Howa! You sound good, little birds.)

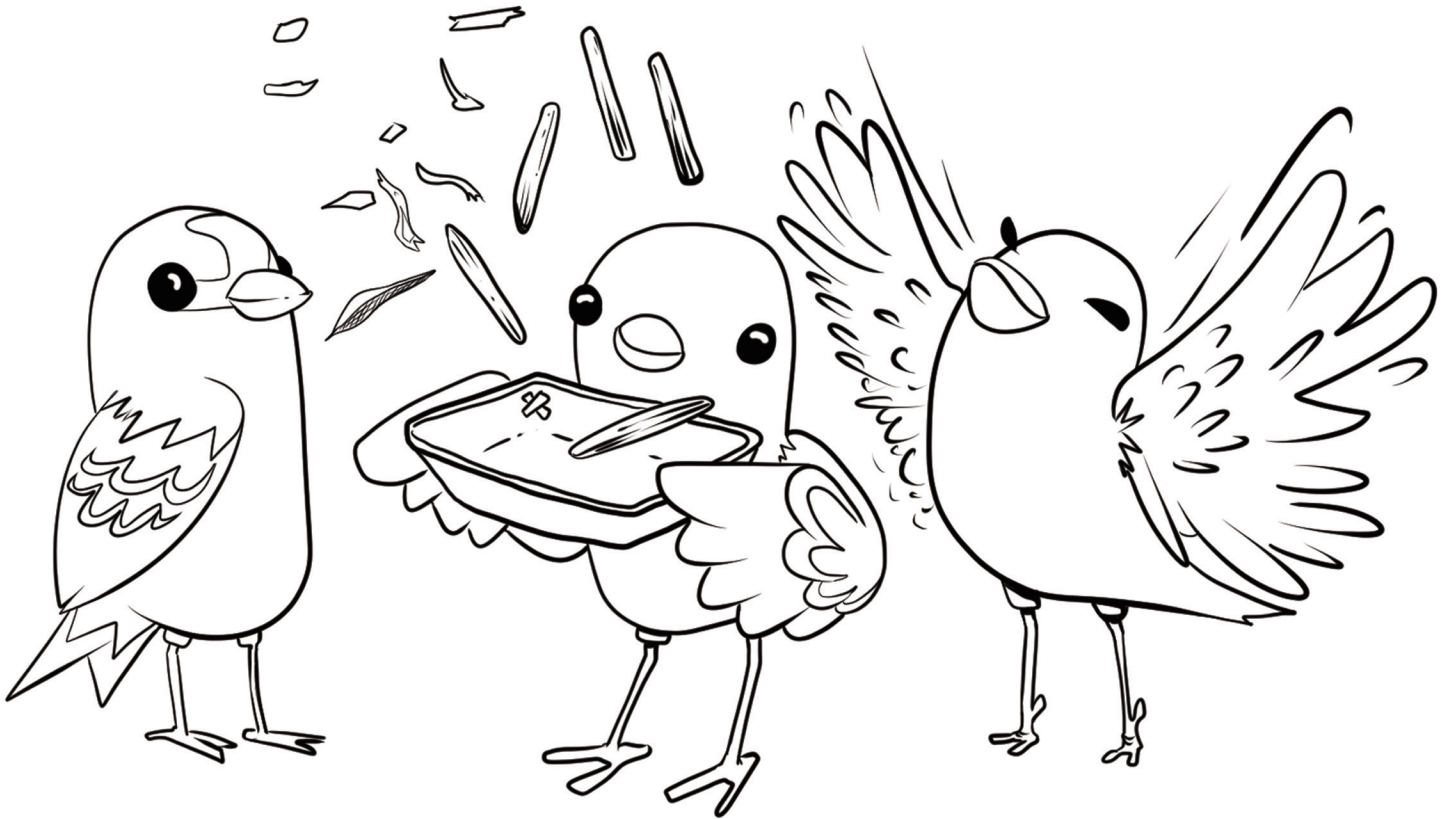


**Ginitaa-ojibwemom.**

(You know how to speak Ojibwe.)

**Ninooshkaachige.**

(I am winnowing.)



**Niwiidookaage.**

(I am helping.)

**Odamino yok agwajing.**

(Go play outside.)



**Baaga'adowedaa.**

(Let's play lacrosse.)

**Gibakadem ina?**

(Are you hungry?)

**Onaagoshi-wiisinidaa.**

(Let's eat supper.)



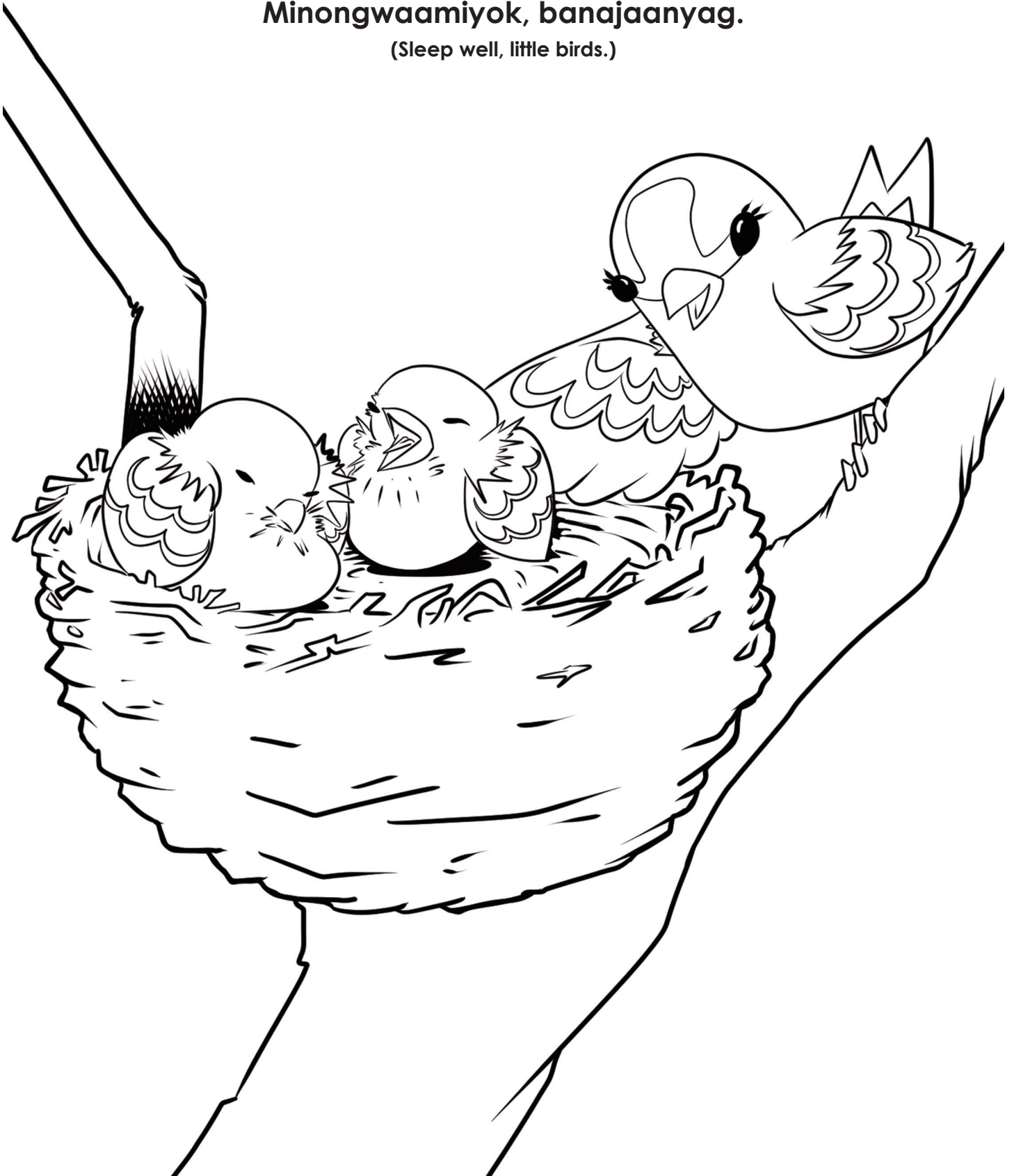


**Gawishimodaa.**

(Let's go to bed.)

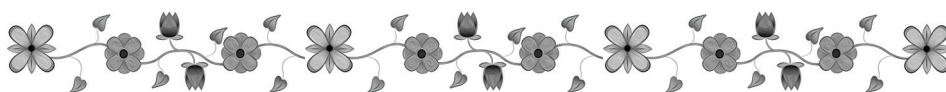
**Minongwaamiyok, banajaanyag.**

(Sleep well, little birds.)



This coloring book was adapted from Opichi, Gijigijigaaneshiinh, and Aginjibagwesi, storybooks from the *Maajii-Ojibwemowag (They Begin to Speak Ojibwe)* book set, *Giiwedionong: Stories of the Flyers*.

The production of this coloring book was supported by Grant #90NL0645 from ACF. Its contents are solely the responsibility of Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission and do not necessarily represent the official views of ACF.



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<https://www.glifwc-inwe.com>

