Dark skies and bright stars



August—Manoominike-Giizis Ricing Moon

September—Waatebagaa-Giizis Leaves Changing Color Moon

> October—Binaakwii-Giizis Falling Leaves Moon

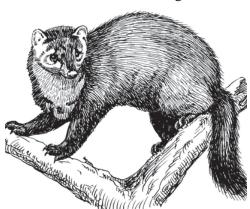
Michael Waasehiizhig Price. RevolvingSky.com/starstories

GLIFWC's Traditional Ecological Specialist Michael Price explains that "the most well-known group of stars is the Big Dipper. To the Anishinaabe, the Big Dipper is part of the constellation "Ojiig'anung Fisher Star." that emerges near the horizon in December. Throughout the long winter, it makes its way across the night sky."

The Anishinaabek knew that spring was close when "Ojiig'anung" was directly overhead in the early evenings. Winona Ominika of Great Lakes Guide retells one

version of Ojiig's cleverness:

"The story of the fisher tells of when the birds and spring were held prisoner by spirit monsters. Because of this, the birds were not able to share their songs to let everyone know spring was coming. Of all the animals, it was only the Fisher that was able to trick the spirit monsters into freeing the birds so spring could come.



The **Fisher** released the birds, saving everyone with his cleverness and wit. The spirit monsters were upset with him. They were never going to give up tracking him, so Fisher ran and ran from them, avoiding their arrows.

He thought he could trick the spirits by climb-

ing the highest tree and jumping into the sky world, but the spirit monsters shot arrows at Fisher as he jumped. The arrows pinned his tail to the sky, and Fisher has been a part of the constellations ever since."

Read more at greatlakes.guide/ideas/ojibwe-astronomy

The **Ajijaak** (crane) constellation leads the Ojibwe people and helps them to stay strong.



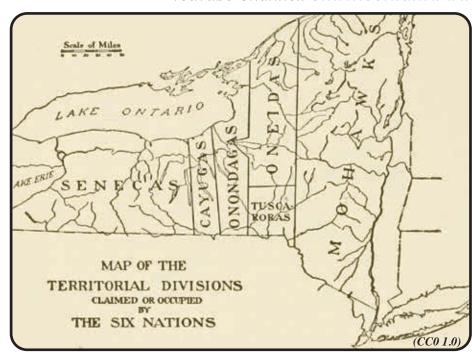
Traditional knowledge can evolve across time, geography & families.

Explore a story from "Our Universes: Traditional Knowledge Shapes Our World" at si.edu/es/object/yt_bH2mCcivliQ from the Iroquois Nations. **The Never–Ending Bear Hunt** is a story about three hunters who follow a bear into the sky and become the stars forming the handle of the Big Dipper.

To view all nine stories created by the National Museum of the American Indian visit:

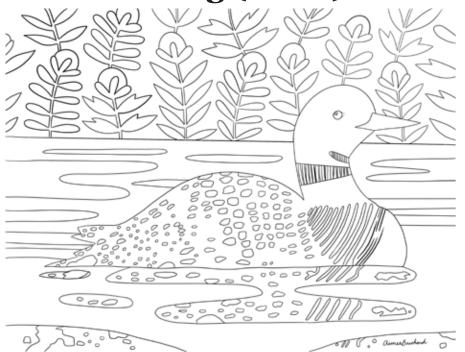
www.si.edu

YouTube Channel: SmithsonianNMAI



MAP shows the traditional IROQUOIS homelands across the territory now known as New York.

COLOR these popular STAR CONSTELLATIONS Maang (Loon)



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