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Ojibwemotaadiwag Anishinaabewakiing. They speak Ojibwe to each other in Indian Country.

Aaniin, boozhoo! Eya' ziigwan. Niminwendam ani-ziigwang. Ziigwanong, ingii-mikaan o'ow gete-apabiwin.
Ingii-saagidinaan agwajiing megwayaak. Ingii-tazhi-goshkwaawaadab bangii.
Giiwedinong, indebaabandaan endaayaan. Nibiindaakoojige. Bangan. Indikwanaam. Niwaabamaag ingiw bineshiinyag.
Ingiw gijigijigaaneshiinyag niwaabamigoog. Aandegwag bi-izhaawag wayiiba. Niwiidabimaag ingiw zhingwaakoog.
Minwaanimad nanaamadabiyaan megwayaak. Geget nizaagitoon i'iw apabiwin."

(Hello, greetings! Yes, it is spring. I am happy as spring begins. Last spring, I found this old chair. I put it out outside in the woods. I sat there quietly for a bit. To the north, I see my house in the distance. I make an offering of tobacco. It is quiet/peaceful. I take a deep breath. I see the birds. Those chickadees see me. The crows come this way in a bit. I sit with those red pines. There's a good breeze as I sit out in the woods. Indeed, I like that chair.)

OJIBWEMOWIN Circle the 10 underlined Ojibwe words in the Bezhig-1 Niizh-2 (Ojibwe Language) letter maze. (Translations below) **A.** Indoombendam. Niwii-izhaa iskigamiziganing <u>noongom</u>. Double vowel system of B. Nindayaanan negwaagwaanan. Indayaawaag akikoog. writing Ojibwemowin. —Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO C. Ziigwang, nimishoomis iskigamizige. Waabooz—as in father Niwiidookaaz. Miigwech—as in jay Aan<u>ii</u>n—as in s<u>e</u>en **D.** Nindizhaamin iskigamiziganing. M Mooz-as in moon Maajigaa. Ziigwan.—It is Spring. Ζ W Iskigamizige-giizis.—Maple sap -Short Vowels: A, I, O E. Ninaadoobii endasoboiling moon/April. K G Α Dash—as in about giizhik. Ininaatigokaa. **Iskigamizige.**—S/he is sugaring. Ingiw—as in tin D J Ν D 0 Ν Niizho-as in only **F.** Onde. <u>Iskigamizo</u>. Iskigamizigan—Sugar bush Ninase'ige. **Ininaatig(oog)**—Maple trees(s) Ζ G W Α Ν G Ziinzibaakwadwaaboo—Maple sap **G.** Megwayaak, A glottal stop is D O Η S G Ν Ε Ζ 0 a voiceless nasal Mitigo-negwaagwaan(an)—Wooden-tap(s) NI maamakaasound as in A'aw. dendaagwad. Ζ D 0 M Ε M Akik(oog)—Kettle(s)/Bucket(s) NA -Respectfully Naadoobii.—S/he gathers sap. **H.** Nibagidinise K Α enlist an elder Ziinzibaakwad—(Maple) sugar for help in dasing. D Т W J 0 G pronunciation Zhiiwaagamizigan—(Maple) syrup and dialect **Ombigamizige.**—S/he boils sap down to sugar. S G Α 1 Ζ 0 differences. K M 0 0 G D Niiwin Niswi-3 Inendam.—S/he thinks in a certain way. 3 Inendan!—Think of it a certain way! 2 Nindinendaan.—I think of it a certain way. Gidinendaan.—You think of it a way. Gi- -aa **IKIDOWIN** Inenim!—Think of <u>him/her</u> a certain way! **ODAMINOWIN** Nindinenimaa(g).— I think of him/her (them) nanda-(word play 5 a certain way. Gidinenimaa(g).—You think of him/her (them) 6 a certain way. Ninga- aa Nanda-mikwendan!—Seek to remember it! Down: Ninanda-mikwendaan.—I seek to remember it. 8 1. those Ginanda-mikwendaan. You seek to remember it. Ni-Nanda-mikwenim!—Seek to remember <u>him/her!</u> 2. chair Ninanda-mikwenimaa.—I seek to remember him/her. 3. bucket Gi- -aa Ginanda-mikwenimaa(g).—You seek 6. yes to remember him/her (they). wii-kikenim a'aw ikwendan!—Remember it! It is peaceful. Mikwenim!—Remember gichi-anishinaabe. him/her! Across: -mikwendaan ikidowin. Mii'iw.—That's it. 4. my home **3.** Biijinaago gii-inenim Devin, onzaam onizhishi. 5. maple trees **Online Resources** mikwendaan gii-panishinaan iwidi. ojibwe.lib.umn.edu 8. soon ojibwe.net 5. a'aw inini. Gikendaaso. mikwenim 9. this (animate) waabigwan(iin)—flower(s) glifwc.org 6. Ani-ziigwang, apegish wii-minwendamowaad agwajiing. mashkowiw(an)—grass(es) glifwc-inwe.com

Translations:

<u>Niizh—2</u> **A.** I am excited. I am going to the sugar bush today. **B.** I have the taps. I have the pails. **C.** When it is spring, my grandfather sugars. I help. **D.** We go to the sugarbush. Sap starts to run. **E.** I gather sap every day. There are a lot of maple trees. **F.** It boils. S/he boils sap down. I stir to form sugar. **G.** In the woods, it is amazing. **H.** I put wood on the fire so many times.

stir to form sugar. **G.** In the woods, it is amazing. **H.** I put wood on the fire so many times.

Niswi-3 Down: 1. ingiw 2. apabiwin 3. akik 6. eya' 7. bangan Across: 4. endaayaan 5. ininaatigoog 8. wayiiba 9. wa'aw

Niiwin-4 1. I want to know that elder (him/her). (Ni- -aa) 2. I seek to remember the word. (nanda-). 3. Yesterday, you thought of Devin (him/her), because he is nice. (Gi- -aa) 4. I remember when I fell down over there. (Ni) 5. I remember that man, He is smart. (Ni- -aa) 6. As spring

her), because he is nice. (Gi--aa) 4. I remember when I fell down over there. (Ni) 5. I remember that man. He is smart. (Ni--aa) 6. As spring begins, I hope you all will be happy outside.

There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. The grammar patterns may help a beginner voice inanimate and animate

nouns and verbs correctly, as well as create questons and negate statements. 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 *lynn@glifwc.org*.