

Teaching and Learning Ojibwe For Kids: At the Akinoomoshin Language Nest

Video Transcript and Notes



SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
FEATURING	<p>Leland Bell, Akinoomaaged Cotnee (Francis) Kaboni, Akinoomaaged Mary Lou Manitowabi, Akinoomaaged Julia Pegahmagabow, Niigaanizid</p> <p>Davis Armstrong Lex Armstrong Tate Armstrong Wren Zhawenim Gotts Levi Hanninen Cameron Manitowabi Hope Manitowabi Patience Manitowabi Amikohns Petahtegoose</p> <p>Jodi Armstrong Forest-Rebecca Gotts Ashley Manitowabi Heather Manitowabi Deanna Nebenionquit Chuck Petahtegoose</p>
VOICE OVER	<p>Akinoomoshin is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to learning from the land and language. Parents, learners and teachers from their virtual language nest joined us to showcase some of the methods they use in their immersion learning.</p> <p>This video is a demonstration of how multiple teachers work together to share the language through show & tell, singing & dancing and comprehension checks.</p> <p>The language learning songs featured in this video were created by the language speakers for the learners of Akinoomoshin. All rights to the songs belong to Akinoomoshin and the speakers that work with them, we thank them for demonstrating their methods here.</p>

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
<p>MARY LOU MANITOWABI</p>	<p>Aanii niin Mary Lou Manitowabi ndizhnikaaz. Hello, I am Mary Lou Manitowabi is my name.</p> <p>Naay Wiikwemkong ndoonjibaa. Wiikwemkong is where I'm from.</p> <p>Slabville nda-daa. Slabville is where I live.</p> <p>Maang ndoodem. Ehn, maang. loon is my clan. Yes, loon.</p>
<p>COTNEE (FRANCIS) KABONI</p>	<p>Cotnee Kaboni ndizhnikaaz. Cotnee Kaboni is my name.</p> <p>Cotnee Kaboni ndizhnikaaz. Cotnee Kaboni is my name.</p>
<p>LELAND BELL</p>	<p>Leland Bell genii ndizhnikaaz. Me too Leland Bell is my name.</p> <p>Mii go genii oodi enjiyaanh Wiikwemkoong. Me too over there I'm from Wiikwemkoong.</p> <p>Bebaa-dbaajmod dsh genii ndigoo. Bebaa-dbaajmod is my spirit name.</p> <p>Mii go genii maang genii ndoodem. Me too loon is my clan.</p>

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
TEACHERS	<p>BIINDIGEN NGAMWIN (COMING IN SONG)</p> <p>Aaah hey yaa Mbe biindigen! Aaah hey yaa come on come in!</p> <p>Heeeyyyy Mbe biindigen! Hey come on come in!</p> <p>Gchi-miigwech gaa-bi-zhaayeg. Thanks for coming (you all).</p> <p>Gaa-bi-zhaayeg na hey yaa hey yaa. You all (plural) came na hey yaa hey yaa.</p> <p>Gaa-bi-zhaayeg. You all (plural) came.</p>
<p>MARY LOU MANITOWABI LEADS EVERYONE RESPONDS</p>	<p>MII MAANDA (SHOW AND TELL)</p> <p>Maanda, ninaatigook baatiinowok, ninaatigook baatiinowok. This, maple trees there are many of them, maple trees there are many of them.</p> <p>Ninaatigook ne! Ninaatigook. Maple trees look! Maple trees.</p> <p>Nishin naa? Isn't it good?</p> <p>Nishke! Ninaatigook! Look! Maple trees!</p> <p>Maanda sa ziizbaakidokaan! This is a sugar camp!</p> <p>Ziizbaakidokaan, wood, me. A sugar camp, wood, meh.</p> <p>Ziizbaakidokaan. Ziizbaakidokaan. Ziizbaakidokaan. A sugar camp. A sugar camp. A sugar camp.</p> <p>Msan. Msan. Firewood. Firewood.</p> <p>Ziizbaakidokaan, Ziizbaakidokaan. A sugar camp. A sugar camp.</p> <p>Ne Msan msan, ninaatigook msan, msan. Look firewood firewood, maple trees firewood, firewood.</p>

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
<p>MARY LOU MANITOWABI LEADS EVERYONE RESPONDS</p>	<p>(CONTINUED) Miin(w)aash maampii. And here.</p> <p>Mii maanda ezhnikaadek skigamizige-gamig. This here is called a boiling shack.</p> <p>Skigamizige-gamig. Skigamizige-gamig. Skigamizige-gamig. Boiling shack. Boiling shack. Boiling shack.</p> <p>Skigamizige-gamig. Skigimizige-gamig. Boiling shack. Boiling shack.</p> <p>Enh. Mii i. Skigamizige-gamig. Yes. That's it. Boiling shack.</p> <p>...Kaadakik, kaadakik. Kaadakik, kaadakik. ...Kettle (a pot with legs), kettle. Kettle, kettle.</p> <p>Kaadakikook. Kaadakikook. Kettles. Kettles.</p> <p>Kaadakik. Kaadakik, kaadakik. Kettle. Kettle, kettle.</p> <p>Kaadakikook. Kaadakikook. Enh. Enh. Kettles. Kettles. Yes. Yes.</p> <p>Mii wi. Enh. Nishin. That's it. Yes. Good.</p> <p>Mii Maampii shkode enji-zhitoowaang. Maampii, enh. This here, this is where we make the fire. Here, yes.</p> <p>Mii Zhaazhi go... Zhiawaagmide biindik. So already this was... The maple syrup is inside.</p> <p>Zhaazhi go, maaba kaadakik gii-goojina zhi'e. Already, this kettle was hanging there.</p> <p>Kaadakik gii-goojina zhi'e. Enh. The kettle was hanging there. Yes.</p> <p>Miin(w)aash, nahaaw neyaap, oodi nga-bskaabii. And then, ok (let's) get back, over there I will return.</p>

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
<p>MARY LOU MANITOWABI LEADS EVERYONE RESPONDS</p>	<p>(CONTINUED)</p> <p>Nahaaw, neyaap. Skigamizige-gamik. Ok. (Let's) get back. Boiling shack.</p> <p>Skigamizige-gamik. Skigamizige-gamik. Boiling shack. Boiling shack.</p> <p>Skigamizige-gamik maanda. Skigamizige-gamik. Boiling shack here it is. Boiling shack.</p> <p>Ziizbaakidaaboo oodi. Ziizbaakidaaboo. Oodi. Oodi. Maple sap over there. Maple sap. Over there. Over there.</p> <p>Ziizbaakidaaboo zhe aj tam ni-chigaade zhe. Ziizbaakidaaboo. Maple sap there first it is put there. Maple sap.</p> <p>Enh. Kizheb gchi-kizhep aw maajtaad. Yes. In the morning, very early in the morning he when he started.</p> <p>Ne ziizbaakidaaboo ziizbaakidaaboo. Look maple sap maple sap.</p> <p>Ziizbaakidaaboo ziizbaakidaaboo. Enh. Maple sap maple sap. Yes.</p> <p>Nahaaw, nga-bskaabii oodi neyaap. Nahaaw. Ok, I will return over there (and) get back. Ok.</p> <p>Skigombide dash. So they boil it up and</p> <p>Msan Msan. Msan Msan. Firewood. Firewood Firewood Firewood.</p> <p>Enaabajikaazyang msan. Enh. Nahaaw. The way we use the firewood. Yes. Ok.</p>
<p>LELAND BELL LEADS EVERYONE RESPONDS.</p> <p>KOTNEE (FRANCIS) KABONI</p>	<p>ZIIZBAAKIDOOKEYAANG NGAMWIN (WE ARE MAKING MAPLE SYRUP SONG)</p> <p>Ziizbaakidookeyaang Ngamwin We are making maple syrup song</p> <p>Ahaaw, miinwaa maajii-webnigek! Ok, and start dancing (throwing things away)!</p> <p>Semaa, semaa, gizhep gii-saanaa. Tobacco, tobacco, we offer tobacco in the morning.</p>

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
<p>LELAND BELL LEADS EVERYONE RESPONDS.</p> <p>KOTNEE (FRANCIS) KABONI</p>	<p>(CONTINUED)</p> <p>Semaa, semaa, gizhep gii-saanaa. Tobacco, tobacco, we offer tobacco in the morning.</p> <p>Ninaatigook, ninaatigook, gii-biimnagwaanaa. Maple trees, maple trees, drill the holes in the maple trees.</p> <p>Ninaatigook, ninaatigook, gii-biimnagwaanaa. Maple trees, maple trees, drill the holes in the maple trees.</p> <p>Megemakwaan, megemakwaan, gii-saanaanig. Spiles, spiles, we put the spiles in place.</p> <p>Megemakwaan, megemakwaan, gii-saanaanig. Spiles, spiles, we put the spiles in place.</p> <p>Kikoonsak, kikoonsak, gii-goonaanaanig. Pails, pails, we hang the pails up.</p> <p>Kikoonsak, kikoonsak, gii-goonaanaanig. Pails, pails, we hang the pails up.</p> <p>Ziwaagimide Gidaa'anaa. We have syrup.</p> <p>Mnopigwat! It tastes good!</p>
<p>MARY LOU MANITOWABI</p>	<p>WENESH MNIK KIDWASAN (COMPREHENSION CHECK)</p> <p>Wenesh mnik? Binoojiinyik wenesh mnik kidwaansan How many? Children how many small words</p> <p>gaa-kenmeg nongwa? Nswi ngii-noondaanaanin? Nswi do you all know now? We heard three. Three</p> <p>gaa-kenmeg. is what you all know.</p>
<p>JULIA</p>	<p>Nswi kidwinan. Three words.</p>
<p>MARY LOU AND COTNEE</p>	<p>Enh. Enh. Enh. Hey, hey, enh. Nswi. Nswi. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Hey, hey, yes. Three. Three.</p>
<p>DAVIS</p>	<p>Three.</p>
<p>MARY LOU AND COTNEE</p>	<p>Enh, enh, nswi, nswi. Wenesh gaa-kenmeg? Weneshii maanda? Yes, yes, three, three. What did you know? What is this?</p>

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
WREN	Kik. pail
MARY LOU AND COTNEE	Enh. Enh. Yes. Yes.
LELAND BELL	Enh. Mii i. Yes, that's it.
MARY LOU AND COTNEE	Enh. Zhi'e dish etemgak? Yes. And there that is there?
JULIA	Ziizbaakidaaboo. Maple sap.
MARY LOU AND COTNEE	Enh. Ziizbaakidaaboo. Nishin. Yes. Maple sap. Good.
LELAND BELL	Ziizbaakidaaboo. Maple sap.
MARY LOU	Enh. Wenesh dish maanda ezhchigeng? Maanda nike'ing? Yes. And what is done with this? In this direction/way?
COTNEE	Goonanaa. We hang (the pail) it.
MARY LOU	Ngii-goonanaa. We hung (the pail) it.
EVERYONE	Ngii-goonanaa. We hung (the pail) it.
COTNEE	Giin dash? Deanna. And you? Deanna.
MARY LOU	Nswi gegoo kidwaansan. Any three words.
DEANNA	Ok umm let's see. Kikoonsak, ninaatig...'ninaatig', mmmm Ok, umm, let's see. Pails, maple tree..., they all say 'ninaatig'.
MARY LOU	Niizh ninaatig... Two maple tree...
COTNEE	Megemakwaan... Spile...
DEANNA	...megemakwaan and ziizbaakidaaboo. ...spile and maple sap.
TEACHERS	Enh. Enh. Nishin. Enh ziizbaakidaaboo. Nishin. Nahaaw. Yes. Yes. Good. Yes maple sap. Good. Ok.

SPEAKER	TRANSCRIPT
COTNEE	<p>Nahaaw giin dash? Uumm, Wren. And you? Uumm, Wren.</p>
FORREST	<p>Giintam. What words do you know? Your turn. What words do you know?</p>
WREN	<p>Um Kikoons, kikoonsak, ziizbaakidaaboo. Um Kettle, kettles, maple sap.</p>
LELAND	<p>Enh. Nishin. Yes, Good.</p>
TEACHERS, MARY LOU	<p>Enh naa, nwii-nji-kinoomaage, enji-kinoomaageyaanh genii pine Yes, why I want to teach, that is why I teach me too always nike'ing. that way.</p>
WREN	<p>...Wiibid! ...Tooth!</p>
MARY LOU, TEACHERS	<p>Waa, wiibid, shtatahaa! Gii-naabgishkaa wiibid. Waa, tooth, wow! The tooth fell out. Wiibidens. The little tooth.</p>
WREN	<p>It doesn't even hurt at all, wow! It doesn't even hurt at all, wow!</p>
MARY LOU	<p>Aabdek naami naami-pkweshmoning ka-toon. For sure underneath underneath the pillow put it. Naami-pkweshmoning, ka-toon. Naa, naami-pkweshmoning, Underneath the pillow, put it. Right, under the pillow, Enh pkweshmoning. Yes, the pillow.</p>
DAVIS	<p>I really like this because I really like learning new things. I really like this because I really like learning new things.</p>
WREN	<p>My favorite class because it is for kids. My favorite class because it is for kids.</p>

Teaching and Learning Ojibwe For Kids

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Akinoomoshin Wiigwam in Atikameksheng Anishinawebek First Nation is a not for profit organization incorporated in 2017. Akinoomoshin teaching lodge is focused on learning from the land and the language. Akinoomoshin and the Elders and Knowledge Holders they work with, provide Anishinaabe centred education to young learners, nurturing teaching and learning through immersion in Anishinaabemowin and Anishinaabe ways of waadiziwin (being), izhichigewin (doing), inendamonwin (thinking) and kendaasowin (knowing). Together they have been working to develop an Anishinaabemowin immersion education model for early and elementary aged learners.

The development of the organization is guided by a dedicated and visionary board of directors. Akinoomoshin was successful in obtaining funding to offer daily instruction for 2018 and 2019. The virtual language nest was funded by the Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund from the Kinoomaadiwin Education Body Board of Directors for the Anishinaabek Education System, Akinoomoshin and its partners in the Education and Early Years Programs at Atikameksheng Anishinawebek First Nation.

SESSION DESCRIPTION

During the Covid pandemic, Akinoomoshin learners from many places have been meeting twice a week for online immersion sessions through zoom. As part of the Doing Immersion Differently project, Akinoomoshin's immersion language teachers Leland Bell, Cotnee (Francis) Kaboni and Mary Lou Manitowabi from Wikwemikoong join founding executive director Julia Pegahmagabow and some of their students to demonstrate three of their online teaching techniques and speak about what they do.

BIOS

Leland Bell (Loon Clan) is Anishinaabe from Wiikwemkong. He was raised at the reserve as well as in Toronto. He graduated from Laurentian University in Sudbury, where he majored in Native Studies. Bell is from the Loon Clan and is affiliated with the Three Fires Midewiwin Society. Leland Bell is a first language speaker who is an internationally recognized artist, writer, musician and teacher committed to language and culture. He himself was influenced in his youth through teachings, ceremonies, and art instruction at Cultural Art Camps on Manitoulin Island and through his art, music, writing and his teaching, he is now doing the same for youth today, engaging them in language learning using his artistic gifts and knowledge of the culture.

Cotnee (Francis) Kaboni (Loon Clan) is Odawa, a Potawatomi and Ojibwe first language speaker, Anishinaabemowin teacher and sometimes bingo caller from Wiikwemkong. Cotnee has a love for comedy and theatre. She has performed in several productions by Debajehmujig Theater Group. Her teaching style is interactive and focused on the sound of the language and laughter. She is always happy to help others to learn the language. In addition to teaching language in schools, in the summertime she goes to lots of language camps. She says she always liked visiting the elders, now she is there too, teaching, although she doesn't consider herself an elder.

Mary Lou Manitowabi (Loon Clan) is Anishinaabekwe, a first language speaker and teacher from Wiikwemikoong. She shares the language in a wide variety of ways. In addition to teaching the language in person and through zoom, she is also Edibaamdikwed "The Weather Forecast Lady" an online news personality reporting the weather in Anishinaabemowin, often from Slabville, Wikwemikoong and Kaboni. During the pandemic, she has also started her own cooking show in the language. She says it is learning to act with Debajehmujig Theater Group that helped her to feel more open to sharing her language. She says "I used to be real shy... but now... I'm there".

Julia Pegahmagabow (Caribou Clan) of Wasaukising First Nation is an Anishinaabekwe of the Three Fires Midewiwin Society, the Jingle Dress healing society and also the Buffalo Dance society. She has a background in Indigenous education and has worked as a Sharer of Knowledge for universities and a language strategy developer for Atikameksheng Anishinawebek First Nation. She is both Akinoomoshin Wiigwam's Niigaanizid (Executive Director) and a parent of the program herself. She is a dedicated Anishinaabemowin language learner and works hard to use what she has learned daily. Her commitment to Anishinaabe language and culture can be seen throughout the Akinoomoshin program.

FURTHER RESOURCES

Julia Pegahmagabow - Akinoomoshin: Learning From the Land and Language
<https://www.nccie.ca/story/akinoomoshin-learning-from-land-and-language/>

Da Vic Gallery, Native Canadian Art
<https://nativecanadianarts.com/artist/leland-bell/>

Anishinaabe artist Leland Bell explains the importance of his language.
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/living-languages-leland-bell-anishinaabe-artist-musician-1.5488177>

Cooking Shows Edibaamdikwed “The Weather Forecast Lady” Online News
Personality reporting in Ojibwe, often from Slabville, Wiikwemikoong and Kaboni.
Debajehmujig

<https://katilvik.com/browse/artists/4065-leland-bell/?indigenous=true>

Indigenous Insights - Interview with Cotnee Kaboni.
April 12, 2017.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rj2_H79gCXE

Crock Pot Cooking with Mary Lou Manitowabi. December 2, 2020.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4oKNC_NpJBU

Nishnaabemwin Odawa & Eastern Ojibwe Online Dictionary

<https://dictionary.nishnaabemwin.atlas-ling.ca/#/results>