## **Louis Riel Institute** Speaking Michif Resources: [Lessons, games and activities to accompany the DVD] Louise Gordey & Norman Fleury [2011] 103-150 Henry Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7 (204) 984-9480

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### How to use SPEAKING MICHIF at home and in the classroom:

**Speaking Michif** is an instructional DVD developed by the Louis Riel Institute to assist in teaching families the Michif language. The lessons are at a beginner level, on the theme of everyday family life. The lessons can be easily practiced at home since they involve everyday activities and conversations. The DVD can also be used in a language classroom.

The lessons and games on the Speaking Michif instructional DVD are at a beginner level, on the theme of everyday family life. The lessons can be easily practiced at home since they involve everyday activities and conversations.

This DVD features Norman Fleury as the speaker and teacher. The Michif used in this DVD is called Michif-Cree. It is the Michif Norman and his parents and grandparents spoke at home and in the community.

There are three modules on the DVD, as well as an Introduction, Hello Song, and a Closing. Use each module as a starter to your lessons. You can follow along and learn the vocabulary, repeating after the teacher to get the proper pronunciation.

After watching a lesson, use the activities, games and booklets included in this package to practice. The templates for the flash cards, the board game and the bingo game may be copied and used for practice in class or at home. We suggest laminating them or copying them onto heavy paper. Watch for additional support materials on the LRI web site. Enjoy! Mar-sii.

### A Message from Norman Fleury

• • •

Taan-shi kii-ya-wow.

Hello, how are you?

Norman Fleury di-shi-ni-ka-shoon.

My name is Norman Fleury.

Aen Michif niyapi aan Michif ni pii-kish-kwaan.

I am Michif and speak Michif.

Li Michif si ma laang.

My Language is Michif.

Gii kish-kayh-tayn li Michif oush-chi Nooh -koum,

Moushoum, pi ma faamii.

I learnt Michif from my Grandma and Grandpa.

Nutr laang li Michif ka-ta-waa-shi-shinn.

Our Michif language is beautiful.

Ooma li DVD oush-chi ka-kish-kayh-tayn-na-wow chi pii-kish-kway-yayk li Michif kii-ki-wahk-y-wow avik vutr famii.

From this DVD you will learn to speak Michif in your home with your family.

Mar-sii

• • •

### Games and Resources to Make Ahead of Time:

### Make your own Flash Card Pack.

- Copy and cut the cards included in the resource package. Add a
  heavy backing and then laminate or cover with packing tape to make
  them last.
- Choose cards from the Flash Card Pack to use in the different games,
   i.e., Musical Chairs and Taan-shi Koo-koum.
- Start with simple commands and phrases, adding more cards as you get comfortable with them.

### Make your own Household Bingo

- Make two copies of the original bingo set in your package.
- Use one to cut up into calling cards and laminate.
- Use the other set as the bingo cards. Laminate.

### Make your own game board for Taan-shi Koo-koum

- Laminate the 4 parts of the game board and attach with packing tape.
- Make a set of game cards using actions required to get ready to go to Koo-koums (i.e., 'get dressed')
- Add a set of dice and some counters and you are ready to play the game.
- Once every player makes it to Koo-koums, provide a treat and eat together, practicing some of the words and phrases learned.

### Song sheet

• Copy sheets to send home, or write out the songs on large paper in the classroom. You will find the song sheet on page 8.

### Michif Booklets to go with each Module:

- 1. Cut and fold booklets (otherwise known as 'hotdog books')
  - The cut and fold books are fun and easy to make.
  - You are allowed to print copies of them and send them home for extra reading practice.
    - o Miit-shook / Eat Up, is found in Module 1
    - o La Pchit Fii / The Little Girl, is found in Module 2
    - o <u>Pa-piw / Laughing</u>, is found in Module 3

### 2. Mini Booklets

- These half size booklets require a bit more reading, and provide more vocabulary, introduce basic sentences and Michif grammar.
- You may copy these books to hand out
- Colour copies are also available from Louis Riel Institute
  - o Wa-nish-ka / Wake Up, found in Module 1
  - o Lii Pchi Gar-soon, is found in Module 2
  - Ka-kway Oo-shi-ta-yenn Anoosh? / What Are You Doing <u>Today?</u>, is found in Module 3

**NOTE:** These books are read by Norman Fleury on the DVD. The two song books, <u>La Pchit Fii</u>, and <u>Lii Pchi Gar-soon</u> are sung by Al Desjarlais.

### Taan-shi Kiiya – Hello Song

Listen to the song Taan-shi Kiiya on the DVD together. Sing along with Norman, Brandon, Ethan and Katherine.

Singing is a great way to learn a language and to become comfortable with the sounds of a language.
Singing also encourages repetition, and repetition is an integral step to learning.

### **Practice Saying Hello:**

"Taan-shi" = Hello

Practice asking each other:

### Taan-shi Kiiya

Taan-shi, Taan-shi kiiya, Taan-shi, Taan-shi kiiya Taan-shi, Taan-shi kiiya Taan-shi kiiya anoosh?

Hello, how are you
Hello, how are you
Hello how are you
How are you today?

"Taan-shi kiiya?" = Hello, how are you?

Answer, "Ni-ma-naan-dow" = I am fine.

To say hello to two or more people together, say, "Taan-shi kiiya-wow".

### **Introduce Yourself:**

"Taan-shi, Katherine niiya." = Hello, I am Katherine.

Or "Taan-shi. Katherine di-shi-ni-ka-shoon." = Hello, my name is Katherine.

### **Michif Song Sheet:**

### Taan-shi

By Verna Demontigny, sung to: Skip to My Lou My Darling

Taan-shi, Taan-shi kiiya? Taan-shi, Taan-shi kiiya? Taan-shi, Taan-shi kiiya? Taan-shi kiiya anoosh?

Hello, how are you? Hello, how are you? Hello, how are you? How are you today?



### Kiish-pin Ki-sha-ki-hin (If you love me)

Sung to the tune of the Heel Toe Polka

Kiish-pin Ki-sha-ki-hin, She-mak o-chay-min Kiish-pin ki-pa-kwa-shin She-mak ka-na-ka shin.

(If you love me Kiss me now If you don't Leave me now)



### Oh it's Time to say Taan-shi to Our Friends

Sung to: If You're Happy and You Know it

Oh it's time to say taan-shi to our friends Oh it's time to say taan-shi to our friends Oh it's time to say Taan-shi Piih-ti-kway, api (come in, sit down) Oh it's time to say taan-shi to our friends. TAAN-SHI!



### **MODULE 1 Menu:**

Aash-tum! Nakii! Commands for Playing Games	Make Your Own Hotdog Book
Api Sil-vou-play, Commands for the Classroom	Let's Read Miit-shook / Eat Up
Let's Play Musical Chairs	Let's Play a Board Game – Taan- shi Kou-koom
Let's Read <u>Wa-nish-ka / Wake Up</u>	Flash Cards – Apray Niiya Itwayk (repeat after me)
Reading <u>Action</u> Flashcards	Tea With Koo-koum (a skit)

### **Instructions for the Faciltator:**

The lessons for Module are explained below. Watch each lesson in the order that follows and then try the activities or games with your class or family.

### 1. Aash-tum! Nakii! Commands for Playing Games

Norman will take you through basic commands such as sit, stand, come here and stop. You can find the commands in your flash card pack and in the chart on the following page. Add more cards each time you play and see if everyone can do what they are told in Michif!

Next Norman plays Ashtum! Na-kii! (Come and Stop!) with the kids. It is played the same way as Red Light-Green Light is played. Try to touch the caller before he turns!

### 2. Api Sil-vou-play, Commands for the Classroom

Norman teaches us more commands that are useful for the classroom, such as 'sit down please' and 'listen quietly'. Use them everyday in the classroom or at home to get used to the sound of the Michif words. (See the chart on the next page)

### 3. Let's Play Musical Chairs

Musical Chairs is a fun game for children, and an active way to learn and practice recognizing some action words. Norman starts the game by reviewing 4 action words: pi-moh-tay (walk), pim-bah-ta (run), kwaash-kwa-ti (jump), and la jig nii-mi (dance the jig). Add more words as you get comfortable with these.

Play some fiddle music and start. Use Apik! (sit down) Or na-kiik! (stop) when the music stops. Use 'ni-pa-wii' (stand up) and 'mii-na' (again) when starting the music again.

### 4. Let's Read Wa-nish-ka / Wake Up

The book <u>Wa-nish-ka</u> introduces the daily routine of a child from waking up, playing, eating and bedtime. Read along with Norman to practice pronunciation. The actions and phrases in the book are simple and repeated 3 times to help you practice. These same words will be used in lessons and games to follow.

### 5. Reading Action Flashcards

Norman chooses a few familiar actions from <u>Wa-nish-ka</u> and quizzes us on the Michif. Do the actions and repeat along with the children in the video.

### 6. Make Your Own Hotdog Book

Follow Norman on the DVD to learn to fold and cut the one page 'hotdog' book, <u>Miit-sho!</u> You will also find written instructions in your resource package. These books are easy and inexpensive to copy and send home for practice reading.

**IDEA**: Make a blank book and have the class make their own dictionary or other Michif book from the vocabulary they have learned so far.

### 7. Let's Read Miit-shook / Eat Up

Norman has the students read from Miit-sho. He helps them with pronunciation and reading. Give each person in your group a copy of <u>Miit-sho</u> and read together.

**Practice Idea**: (have a treat for your group and have them practice the words, miit-sho, sil-vou-play, and mar-sii, or act out each page from the book. Notice when the sentence is singular or plural.

### 8. Let's Play a Board Game – Taan-shi Koo-koum

Your resource package has the game board for the game Taan-shi Koo-koum in 4 pieces. Tape it together and cover with plastic. The game cards can be made by choosing flash cards with actions such as 'get dressed' 'eat breakfast' etc. The back of the cards are included also, with the name of the game printed on them.

### **Instructions**:

Roll the die, and move the spaces.

Count in Michif; 1,2,3,4,5,6: "Hen, deu, trwaa, kaatr, saenk, sis".

Pick a card, read it, and do the action.

When you all reach Koo-koum's house, you will all have tea and bannock together.

### **Vocabulary** for playing a board game:

My turn = Niiya aykwaa

Shake the dice = Itay-way-pi-nik lii dii

Your turn = Kiiya aykwaa

1,2,3,4,5,6 = Hen, deu, trwaa, kaatr, saenk, sis

### Game Cards:

The templates to make game cards are on page

Use the actions from the book <u>Wa-nish-ka</u> on the flip side of the game cards and the Taan-shi Koo-koum graphic on the top of the game card.

### 9. Flash Cards – Apray Niiya Itwayk (repeat after me)

Norman goes through the entire flash card pack under the following headings:

- 1. Action words
- 2. Basic Commands
- 3. Stern Commands
- 4. Good Manners
- 5. Personal Care

You may wish to study just one section at a time and then have students practice on their own or with a partner. Remember, repetition is important. Listen to Norman, and play many games to get comfortable with the language.

### 10. Tea With Koo-koum (a skit)

Ethan Katherine and Brandon made up a skit about having tea with Kookoum. Your group or family can make up their own skit and tape it to watch later. It can be about anything they want, using the books and games for ideas and vocabulary.

Commands	Singular	Plural
Stop	naa-kii	Naa-kiik
Go	Nii-yaan	Nii-yaak
Sit down	Api	Apik
Sit quiet	Kiyaam api	Kiyaam apik
Listen	Naa-touh-ta	Naa-touh-ta-mouhk
Look (at this)	Ka-na-wa-paah-ta	Ki-na-wa-pah-ta-mouhk
Come here	Aash-tum oota	Aash-tum-mik
Stand up	Nii-pa-wi	Nii-pa-wik
Do it again	Kiit-waam	Kii-twaam
Your turn	Kiiya-aykwaa	Kiiya-wow-akwaa

### **Some Basic Words:**

Yes	Wii
No	No
Please	Sil-vou-play
Thank you	Mar-sii
I	Niiya
You	Kiiya

# Taan-shi Koo-koum Taan-shi Koo-koum Activity cards Activity Cards

### Taan-shi Koo-koum



Activity cards

### Taan-shi Koo-koum



**Activity Cards** 

Copy these cards with actions on the flip side in Michif only. Choose from the flash cards provided in your package.

### **COMMAND CHART for Module 1**

### From the book Wa-nish-ka:

Wa-nish-ka	wake up	
Shii-pii	Stretch	
Ka-shii-kway	Wash your face	
Miit-sho	Eat	
Wa-way-yii	Get dressed	
Doo-ma-ta-way	Go play	
Pa-ka-shi-moo	have a bath	
Amish-chi-kay	Read	

Li broshii tii daan	Brush your teeth	
Daan toon lii	Into bed	Z Z Z

Other everyday commands:		
Aashtum oota	Come here	
Ka-kway-ya-hou	Hurry up	<b>3</b> 2
Vaa-taan	Go away	ш
Poo-yoo	Stop it	
Piih-ti-kway	Come in	
Kii-yaam-a-ya	Be quiet	#

A-pi	Sit down	
Nii-pa-wi	Stand up	Î
Shii-ka-ha tii zhveu	Comb your hair	
Taah-kou-pi-ta tii sou-yii	Tie your shoes	
Wii-chi-hinn	Help me	
Si-vou-play	Please	
Maar-sii	Thank you	
Ship-way'h-tay-taak	Let's go	
Kaa-ya taa-shiih-kaa	Don't touch	

Na-touh-ta	Listen	
Itaa-pi	Look	<b>∑</b>
Mi-yoo-too-ta	Be good	
La vi-sel ki-shii-pay-ki-na	Wash the dishes	FOI
Toon lii oush-ta	Make your bed	
Ou-chaem-minn	Kiss me!	
Bienvenue	Welcome	
Nipaa	Sleep	F37
Ka-wi-shi-mo	Go to bed	

Ki-shii-pay-ki-na tii maen	Wash your hands	
Bonn ou-vraazh	Good job	
Bonn luck	Good luck	3
Na-kii!	Stop	
Nii-yaan	Go	
Pi-moh-tay	Walk	
Pim-bah-ta	Run	
Kwaash-kwa-ti	Jump	
Kak-way-ahoo	Hurry up	Le A

Plus vite or Ki-shii-pa-yi	Faster	
Na-wut pa-pay-chii or Plus slow	Slow down	
Nii-mi	Dance	The state of the s
La jig nii-mi	Dance the jig	
Mii-na	Again	

### **MODULE 2 Menu:**

Let's Sing, <u>La Pchit Fii</u>	Let's Play Household Bingo
Let's Sing, <u>Lii Pchi Gaar-soon</u>	More Bingo Words
Faamii – Let's Learn About Family	Let's Sing and Dance "Kish-pin Ki-sha-ki-hin"

### **Instructions for the Facilitator:**

### 1. Let's Sing, La Pchit Fii

This is one of the Cut and fold 'hotdog books'. Hand one out to each person, and if you need to go back to module 1 to see how to make the book.

The song in this little book is sung to the tune of Frere Jacques. It is about a little girl helping with the house work.

This is a good book for beginners as it repeats many words and phrases to help you to learn the pronunciation and to recognize the word in print.

### 2. Let's Sing, Lii Pchi Gaar-soon

This is a mini-book with more pages and more vocabulary than the cut and fold book. This time you will learn about plural and singular as well as many playtime activities.

### 3. Faamii – Let's Learn About Family

You will find a card representing each family member in the Bingo card templates. Use them to play the following game, Awaana (Who is This?). Hold up cards showing each family member and say "Awaana?" Have the group name them. Try it again, but cover the text.

### 5. Let's Play Household Bingo

Norman calls Bingo with Brandon, Ethan and Katherine. Use the template in the resource package to make your own Bingo game. Your group can each have a Bingo card and play along.

Notice that most of the household items sound more like French than Cree. This is because in Michif, most of the nouns are French (or sometimes English) and the verbs are Cree. The grammar is also more related to Cree.

### 5. More Bingo Words

Norman reads ALL the Bingo cards in this section. You can play as he reads, and just pause the game if someone gets Bingo.

This is also great for practicing pronunciation and learning new vocabulary. Try using some of these words in your next skit or role play.

### 6. Let's Sing and Dance – "Kish-pin Ki-sha-ki-hin"

Do you know how to do the Heel Toe? Follow along with the kids on the DVD and learn the Heel Toe and sing a silly song about love! The words for Kish-pin are on the song sheet on page 8.

### Extra Lesson Idea: Make sentences

Divide bingo and flashcards into 3 pots as follows;

- People or pets
- Action words (verbs)
- Things (nouns)

Each person picks out 1 card from each container.

Students will put them into a sentence: (even if it is a silly one)

Ie. "La pchit fii a-toosh-kew avik soon vacuum."

Review the books La Pchit Fii and Lii Pchi Gaar-soon for sentence ideas.

Options: Act out the sentence or practice writing sentences.

### **MODULE 3 Menu:**

Let's Read, <u>Kay-kway</u> <u>Oo-shi-ta-yenn Anoosh?</u>	Let's Read Pa-piw / Laughing
Let's Play Charades	Let's Write a Skit

### **Instructions for the Facilitator:**

### 1. Read <u>Kay-kway Oo-shi-ta-yenn Anoosh? What are You Doing Today?)</u>

This booklet is the longest and most advanced in the series. It introduces the grammar for 'I am...', and 'We are...' sentences. It adds to the vocabulary learned in the last two modules with more on playtime, chores, and many household items.

Listen to the entire book read by Norman the first time. After that choose sections to study and read. Read along with Norman to practice pronunciation.

### 2. Let's Play Charades

### **Instructions:**

- Charades is a good game to play in a group. Divide the group into
   2 teams if you have enough people. Otherwise each person can
   play as an individual.
- Use an extra copy of the book to cut into some game cards to put in a hat. Include the photo to help the person read the sentence.
- This is a simplified version of Charades. No fancy hand signs are required, just act out the action.
- One person on the team person pulls one card and has to act it out for their team. You may use a timer and give them a minute to guess. They have to say the entire sentence.
- Start with 'I am' sentences. i.e., I am reading. I am building.
- Then play a second round with 'we are' sentences. Have them work in pairs to act these sentences out.

### 3. Read Pa-piw/ Laughing

In this lesson Norman reads the little cut and fold book, Pa-piw with the kids. This book teaches us how to start sentences with not only 'I am', but also, 'he or she is' (that person is) and we are. Missing from the DVD lesson is 'you are' and 'they are'. We have added them to the chart below and apologize for the omission.

Practice the following verbs in sentences: play, laugh, read, dance, sleep

Verb	I am	He or she is	We are	They are	You are
playing	Ni	Ni	Ni	Ma-ta-way-	Ki ma-ta-waan
	ma-ta-waan	ma-ta-wew	ma-ta-waa-naan	wuk	
laughing	Ni paah-pin	Paah-piw	Ni paah-pi-naan	Paah-pi-wuk	Ki paah -pin
reading	Ni	Amish-chi-	Ni	Amish-chi-	Ki –amish-chi-
	amish-chi-kaan	kew	amish-chi-ka-	kay-wuk	kaan
			naan		
dancing	Ni nii-min	Nii-miw	Ni nii-mi-naan	Nii-mi-wuk	Ki nii-min
sleeping	Ni ni-paan	Ni-pow	Ni ni-pa-naan	Ni-pa-wuk	Ki ni-paan

**Lesson Idea** – make a chart with more verbs used in the books from this module. Can you fill in the entire chart?

### 4. Write a skit:

Write a simple script about going to a friend's house to visit. What activities would you do at your friends? What is the family busy doing? Include your new vocabulary. Make a short video of your skit.

**Lesson Ideas:** Make a blank hot-dog book (cut and fold books). Draw pictures of what you like to do at home with your family. Write a sentence on each page.

 Make a video book with your own photos or pictures you have drawn. Write the sentence at the bottom and read it out loud for the camera.

### Follow-Up:

- o Keep practicing your Michif at home and in your language class.
- Read along with Norman and the class to perfect your pronunciation.
- o Quiz yourself and your classmates.
- o Check out our Website for new resources, games and lessons.
- Create new games and language activities. Send your ideas to Louis Riel Institute by email. You may soon see them added to our Website.
- o If you have been learning on your own at home, get a small group together.

Have fun learning Michif. Mar-sii,

Louise Gordey

Nutr laang li Michif ka-ta-waa-shi-shinn. Ooma li DVD oush-chi ka-kish-kayh-tayn-na-wow chi pii-kish-kway-yayk li Michif kii-ki-wahk-y-wow avik vutr famii.

Mar-sii,

Norman Fleury

### **Appendix**

### Flash cards

• copy, fold over to make 2 sided, cut, and laminate

### Household Bingo sheets

- copy 1 set to use as bingo cards laminate
- Copy another set to cut up into calling cards laminate

### Board design for Taan-shi Koo-koum game

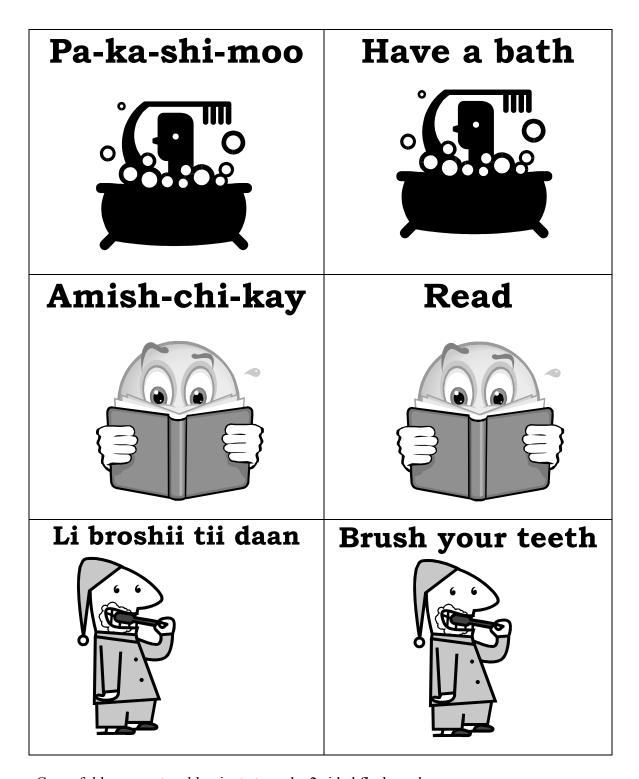
• Copy 4 sheets, and laminate into one large board game.



Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards



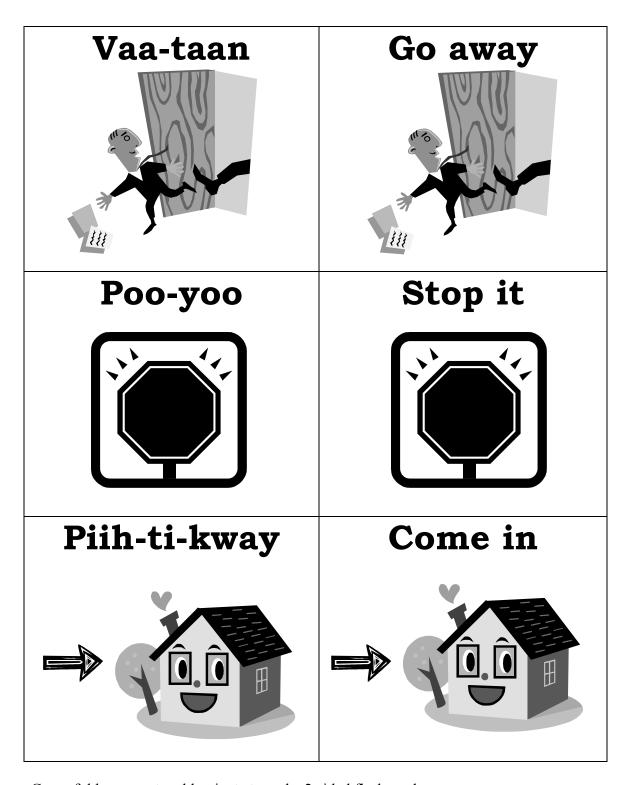
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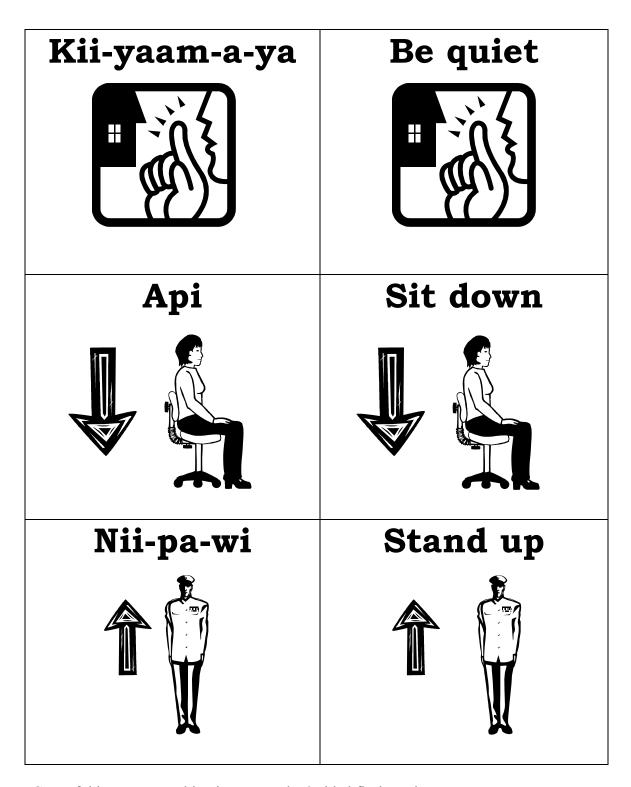
Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards

### Daan toon lii Into bed Ka-kway-ya-hou Hurry up Aashtum oota Come here

Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards



Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards



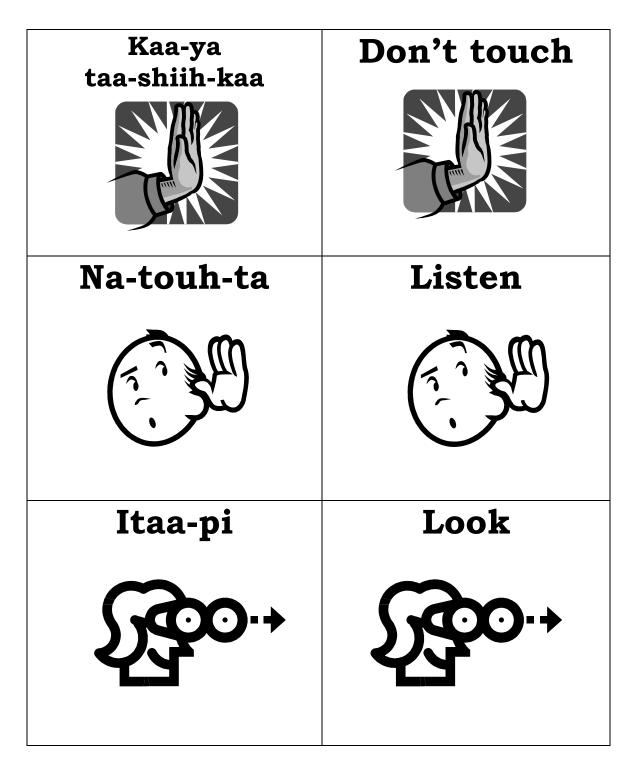
Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards

# Shii-ka-ha tii zhveu Comb your hair Taah-kou-pi-ta Tie your shoes tii sou-yii Wii-chi-hinn Help me

Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards



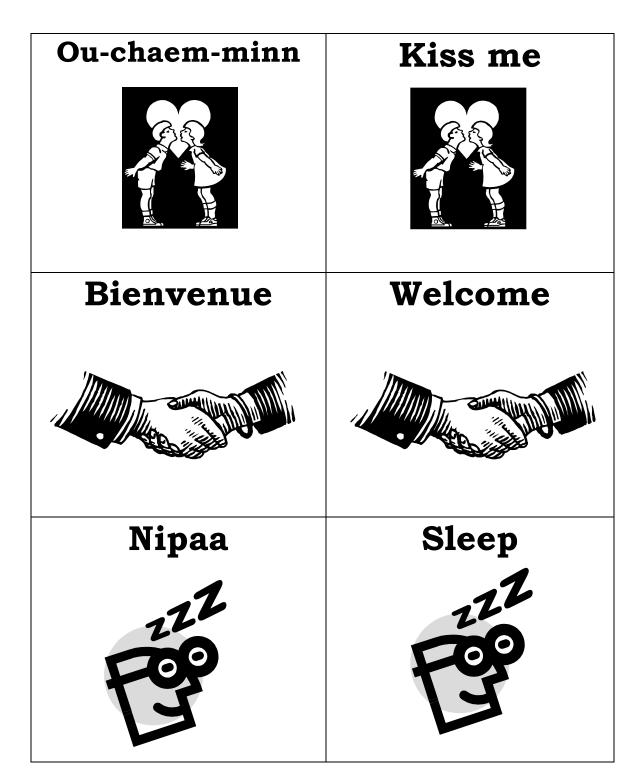
Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards



Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards

## Mi-yoo-too-ta Be good La vi-sel Wash the dishes ki-shii-pay-ki-na Toon lii oush-ta Make your bed

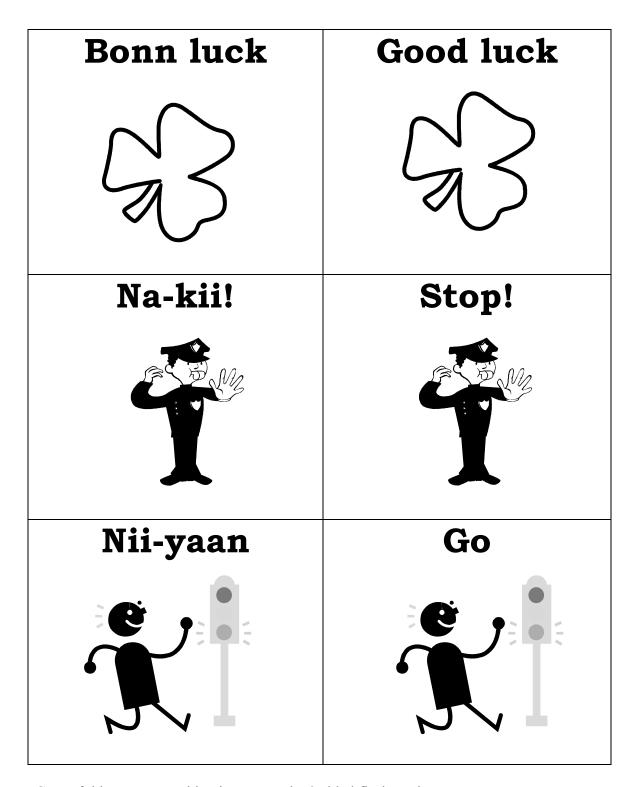
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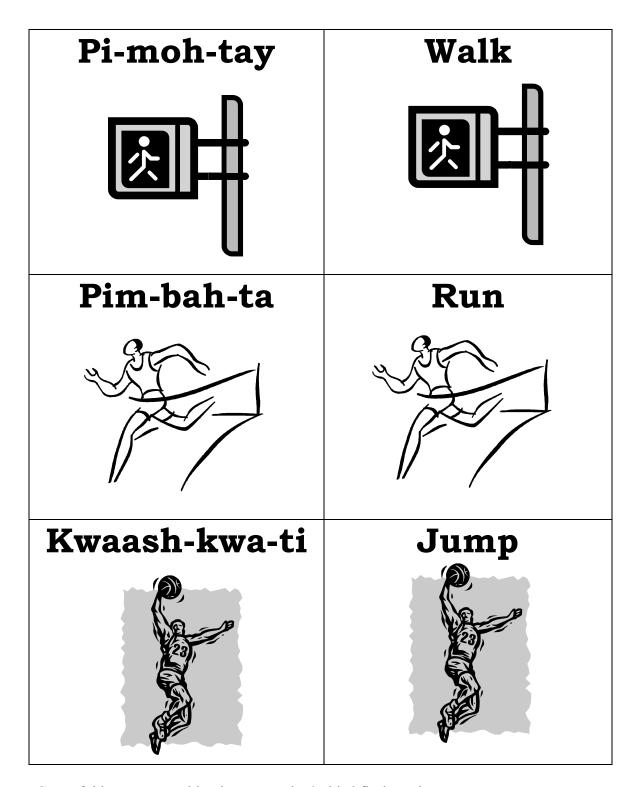
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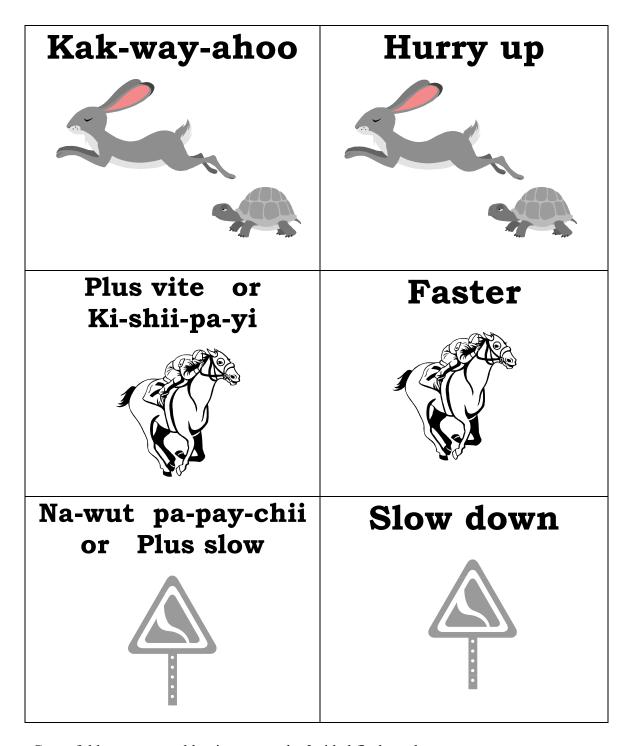
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Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards



Copy, fold over, cut and laminate to make 2 sided flash cards

Michif



Michif



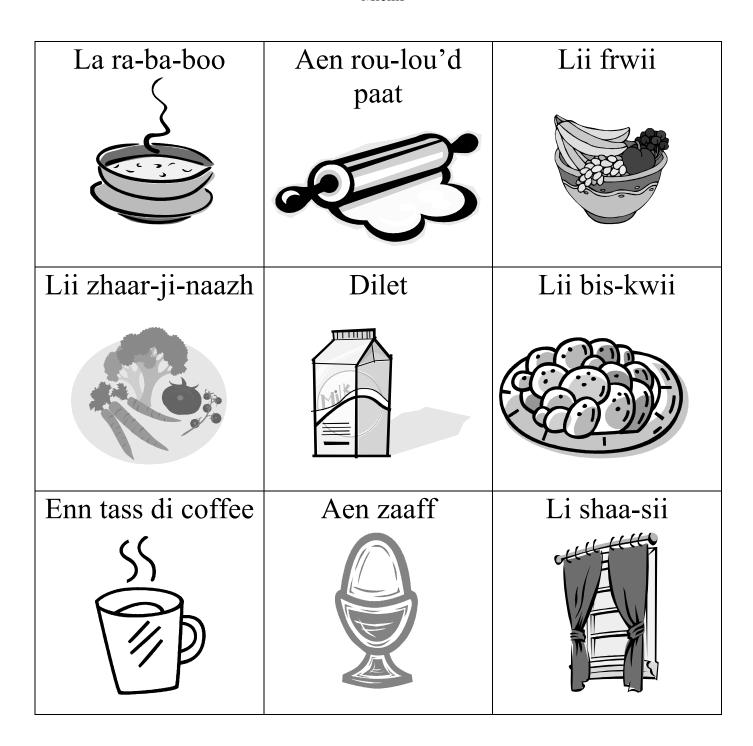
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Michif

Li ra-goo	Li shaa	Li shyaen
Aen payng	Enn brush	Li zhaar-daen
Enn koovaart	Lii fleur	Aen aarbr

Michif



Michif

