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Acknowledgements

This book would not be possible without Veronica Atwin for her vision and Bob Atwin for his leadership and friendship. Veronica left behind a phonetic writing style we have graciously adopted for non-speaking parents to pass the language sounds onto their children. Keep practicing.

Reading the book out loud will provide the best benefit in gaining the sounds and spelling for the reader, but the listener will be getting the sounds and sentence structure much needed for conversational fluency. We've heard many adult readers say that reading unlocked the sounds and words their Grandparents used to speak to them when they were younger. It's not that the words were forgotten, but rather asleep. Keep at it, wake the language, it's the legacy to keep alive.

To that end, Nancy and Jason Jones have been wonderful to work with. It is very exciting we are able to provide tools to help the Anishinaabe Nation reclaim their loss.

We'd also like to thank the work of HRH's Prince's Charities for their dedication to working with youth in the area of Aboriginal literacy.

Heather, Scott and David, you motivate me to continue wanting to help.

How to use this book

There are three different versions of each sentence as described below:

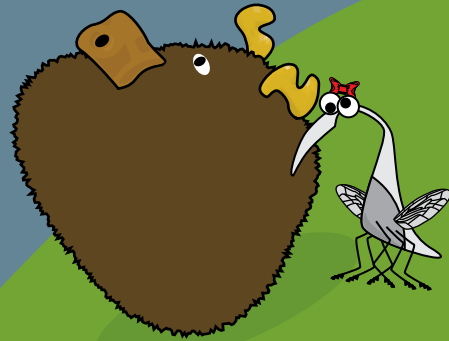
1. English translation

2. Ojibwe translation

3. Veronica's Simplified phonetic pronunciation of Ojibwe translation, **BOLD** means hang onto the letter just a little longish.

“What is that?” Brad asks Ian.

**“It must be a visitor from beyond
the sky,” Ian says.**





“Wegenen iwe?” Bred gagwejjimaan iiyanan.

“Ayaa’aag maawiin igiwe awasaanakwad,”
liyan ikido.

“Way-gay-nayn ih-way?” Brad guh-gway-jih-mawn ee-yuh-nunn.

“Uh-yaw-awg maw-ween ih-gih-way uh-wuh-saw-nuck-wudd,”
Ee-yunn ih-kih-doe

“Some people believe a man lives on the moon,” Ian says.



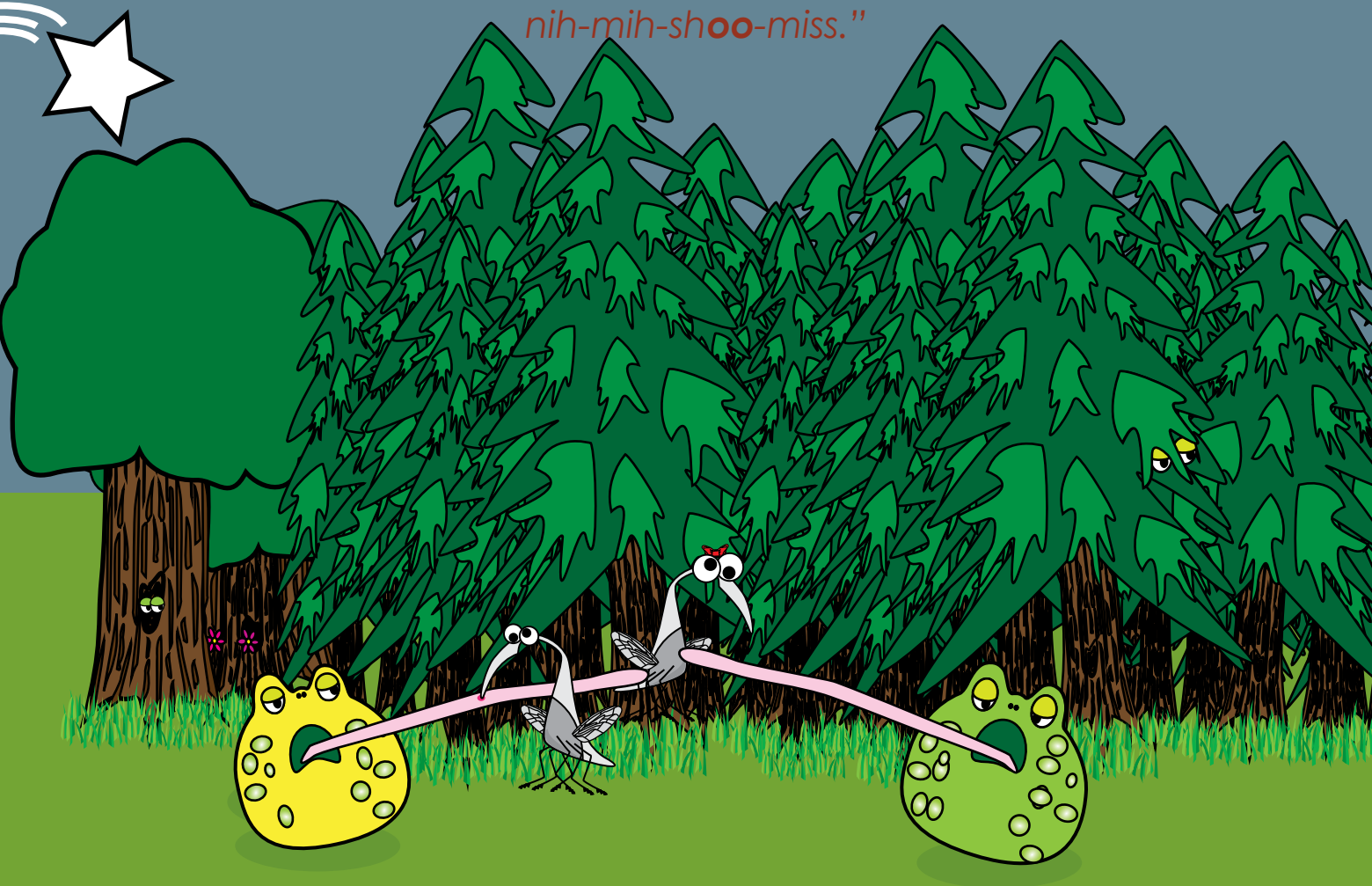


**“Aanind awiya odebwetaanaawaa
inini daad dibiki-giizisoong,”
liyan ikido.**

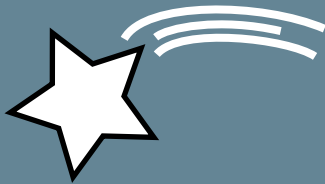
**“Aw-nind uh-wih-yuh oe-dayb-way-taw-naw-waw
ih-nih-nih dawd dih-bih-kih-gee-zih-soong,”
Ee-yunn ih-kih-doe.**

“Aanind awiya debwetamoog aanind
aadizookaanag gii-pi-onji-ayaawaad
anangokaang,” liyan inaaajimo. “Nashke
giga-wiindamawin gaa-inaajimotawid nimishoomis.”

“Aw-nind uh-wih-yuh dayb-way-tuh-moog aw-nind
aw-dih-zoo-kaw-nugg gee-pih-own-jih-uh-yaw-wawd
uh-nun-goe-kawng,” Ee-yunn ih-naw-jih-moe. Nush-kay
gih-guh-ween-duh-muh-winn gaw-ih-naw-jih-moe-tuh-widd
nih-mih-shoo-miss.”



“Some people believe some Spirits came down from the stars,” Ian exclaims. “Let me tell you what my Grandma told me.”



“Gichi-mewinzha, anishinaabeg
gaawiin aapiji gii-mashkawizisiwag.”

“Gih-chih-may-winn-zhuh, uh-nih-shih-na**w**-begg
gaw-ween **aw**-pih-jih gee-mush-muh-wih-zih-**see**-wugg.”



“In the old days, our People were not very strong.”



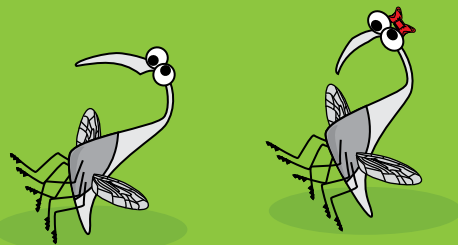
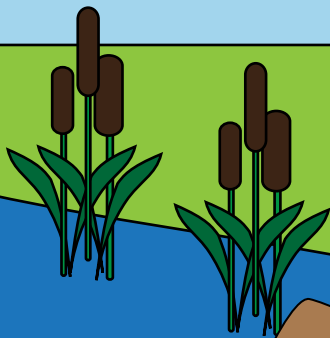
**“Aadizookaanag
gii-pi-onji-ayaawag gaagige
giizhigong ji-wiiji’inangwaa.”**

**“Aw-dih-zoo-kaw-nugg
gee-pih-own-jih-uh-yaw-wugg gaw-gih-gay
gee-zhih-gong jih-wee-jih-ih-nung-waw.”**



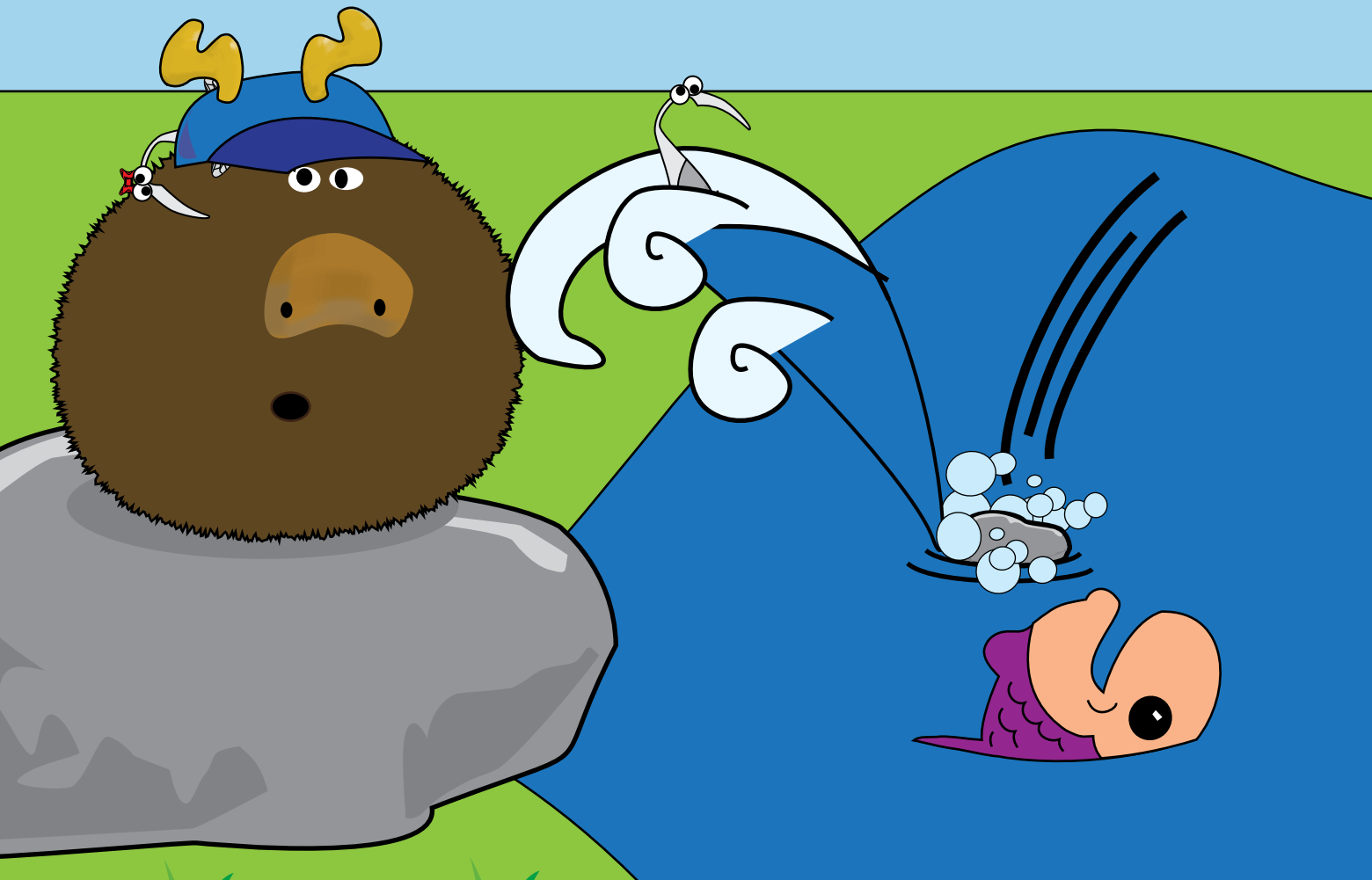


“The Spirits came from outer space to help us.”

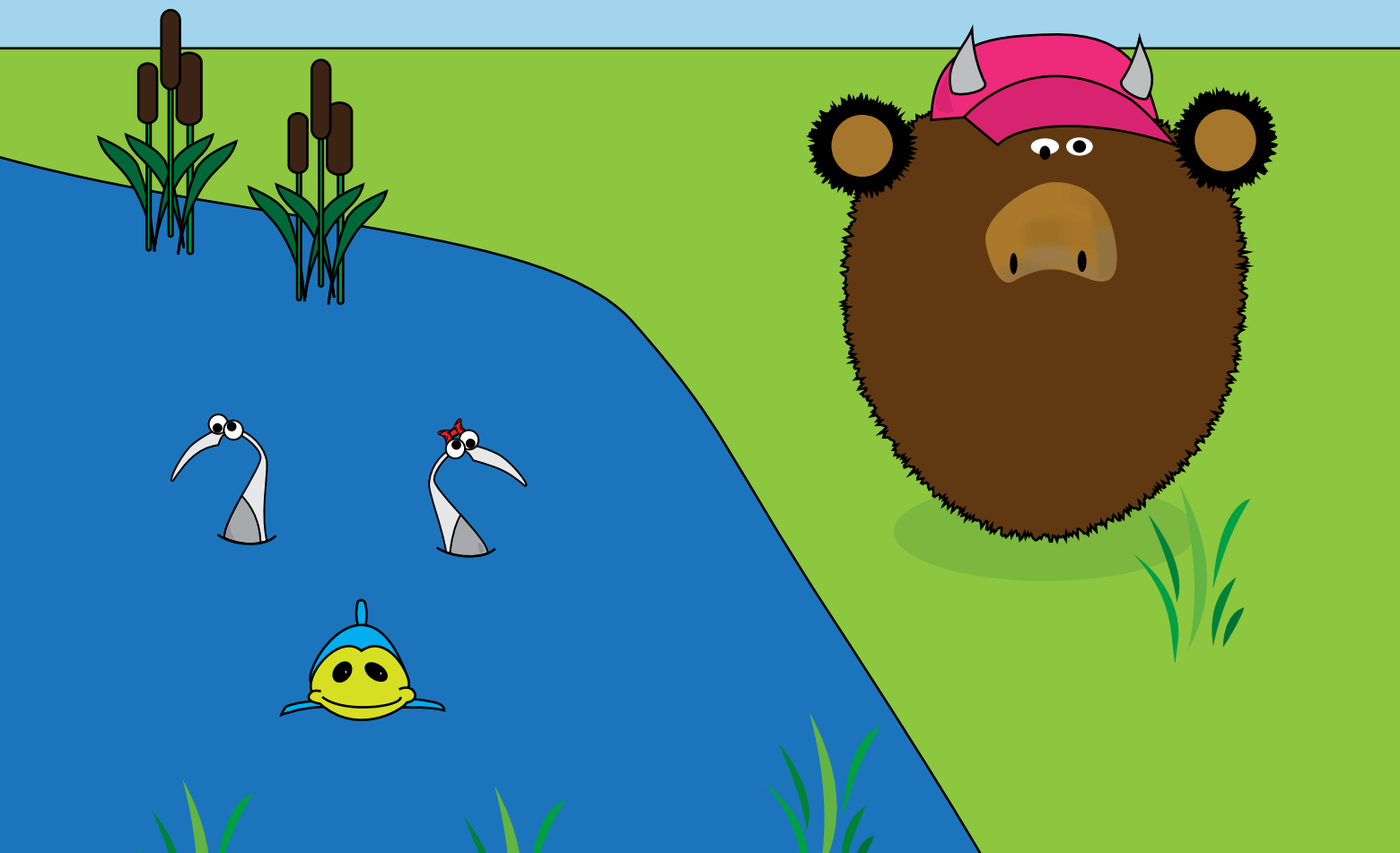


**“Gii-pi-onjibizowag ishpimiing
dibishkoo anangwag
gii-pakobiibizowag.”**

**“Gee-pih-own-jih-bih-zoe-wugg ish-pih-meeng
dih-bish-koo uh-nung-wugg
gee-puh-koe-bee-bih-zoe-wugg.”**

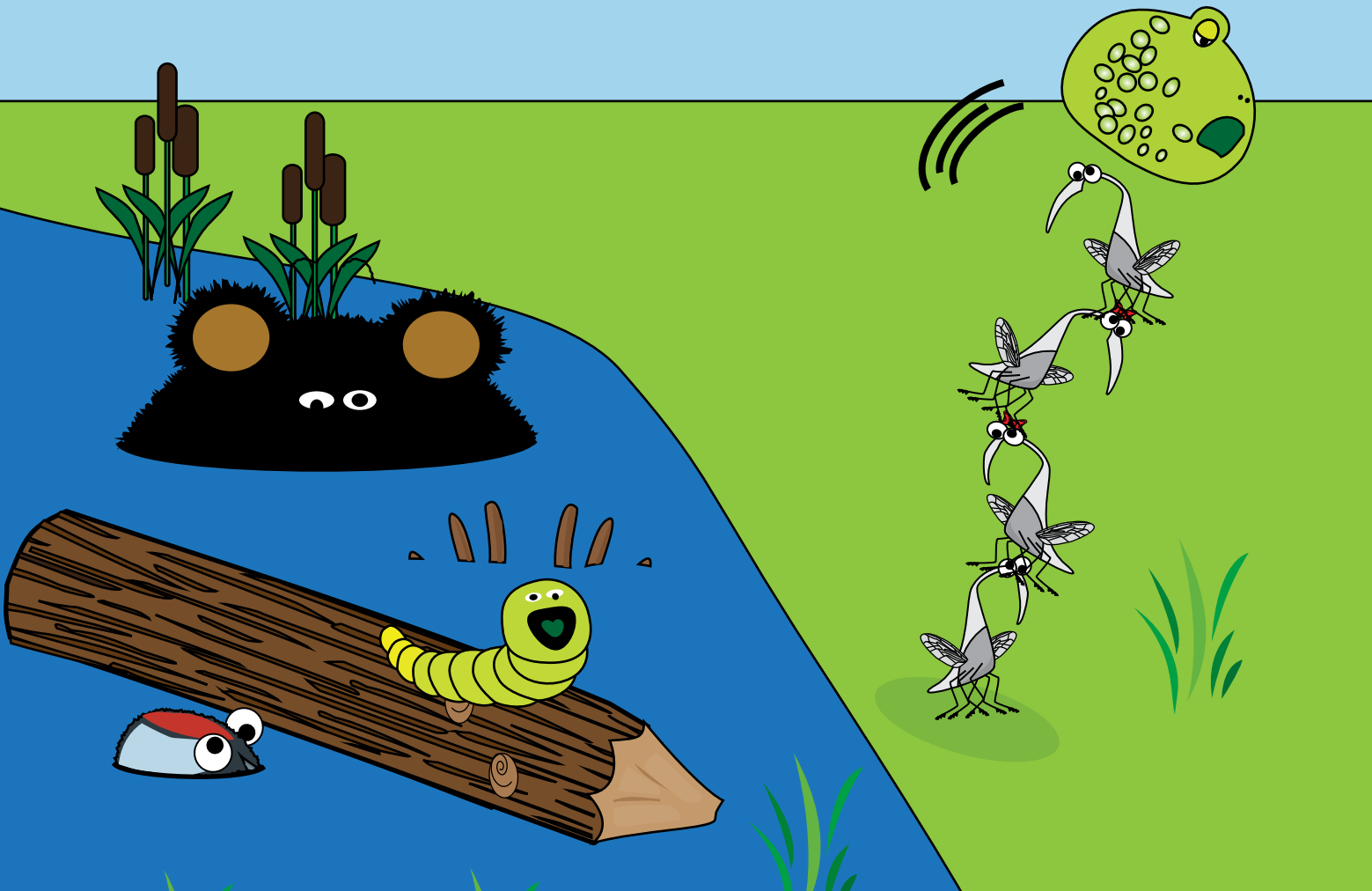


**“They fell out of the skies like
comets and landed in the
water.”**

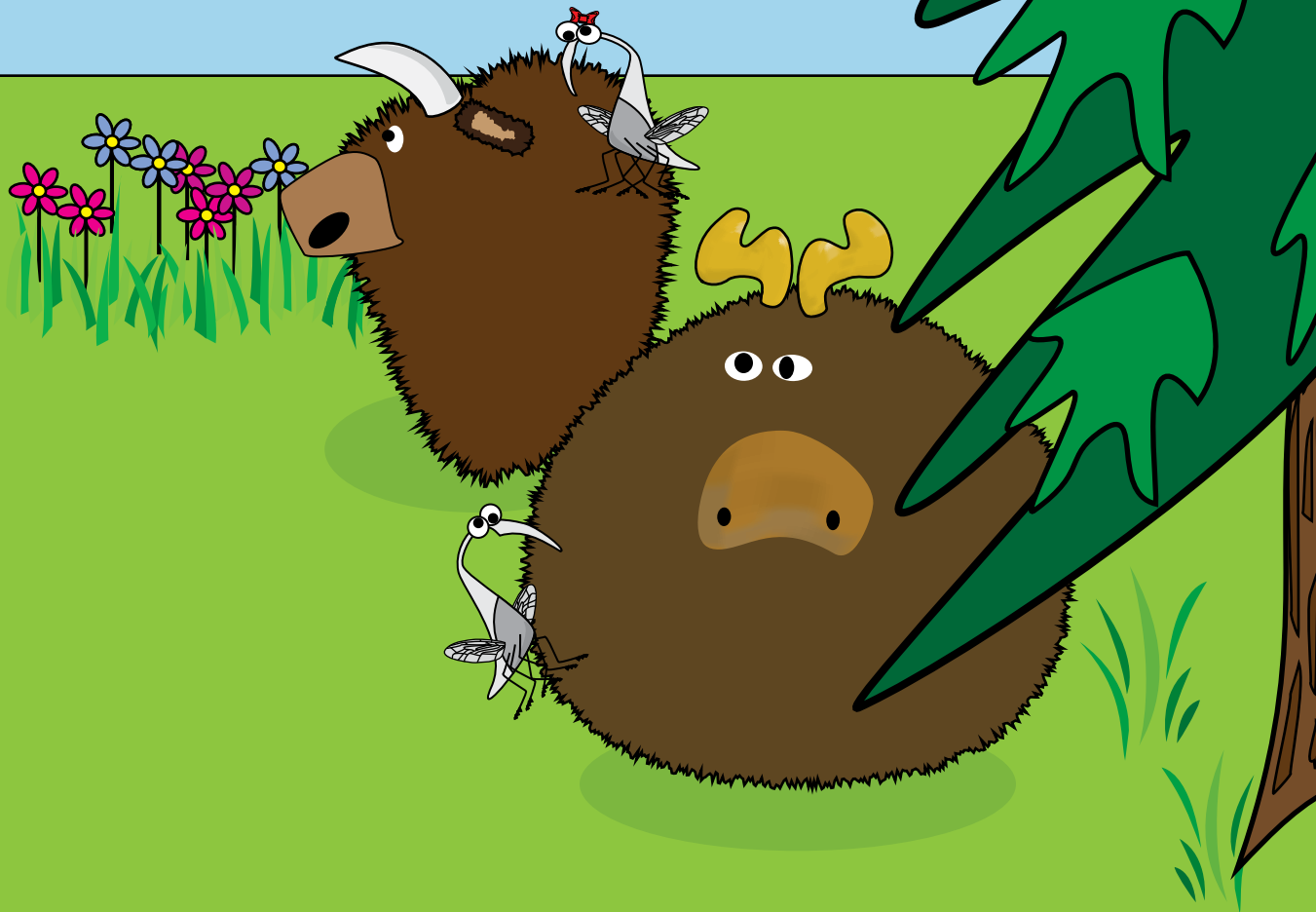


**“Aanind igo awesiinying gii-izhinaagoziwag
ji-segi’aasigwaa anishinaabe. Miiwag
igiwe gaa-inindwaa odoodemag.”**

“Aw-nind ih-goe uh-way-seen-ying gee-ih-zih-naw-goe-zih-wugg
jih-say-gih-aw-sigg-waw uh-nih-shih-naw-bay. Mee-wugg
ih-gih-way gaw-ih-nind-waw oe-doo-day-mugg.”

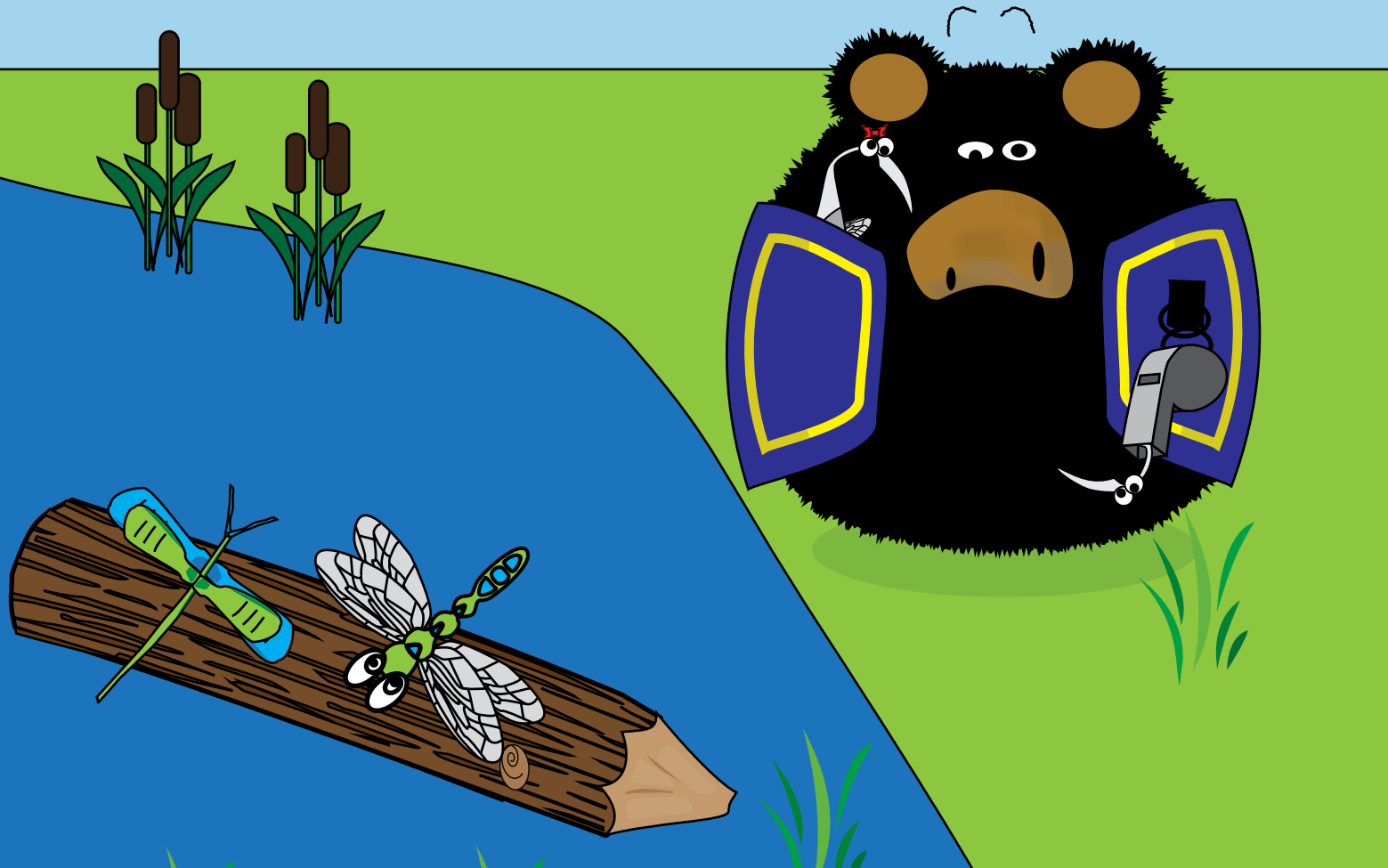


“Then they took the form of animals so they wouldn’t scare people. These forms are called totems.”

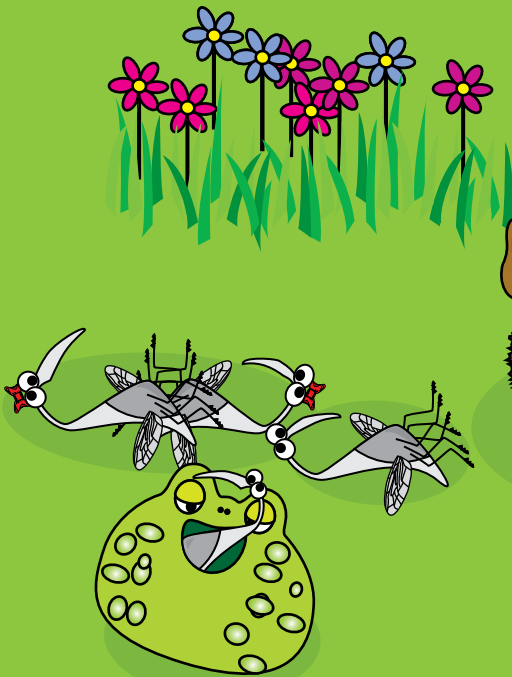


**“Nitam a’awe gaa-pi-ayaad makwa,
dakoniwewinini izhi-ganawendaaso.
Oganawendaan noopiming omikaanan
mashkikiwan ge-onji-mino-ayaayang.”**

*“Nih-tum uh-uh-way gaw-pih uh-yawd muck-wuh,
duh-koe-nih-way-wih-nih-nih ih-zhih-guh-nuh-wayn-daw-soe.
Oe-guh-nuh-wayn-dawn noo-pih-ming oe-mih-kaw-nunn
mush-kih-kih-wunn gay-own-jih-mih-noe uh-yaw-yung.”*

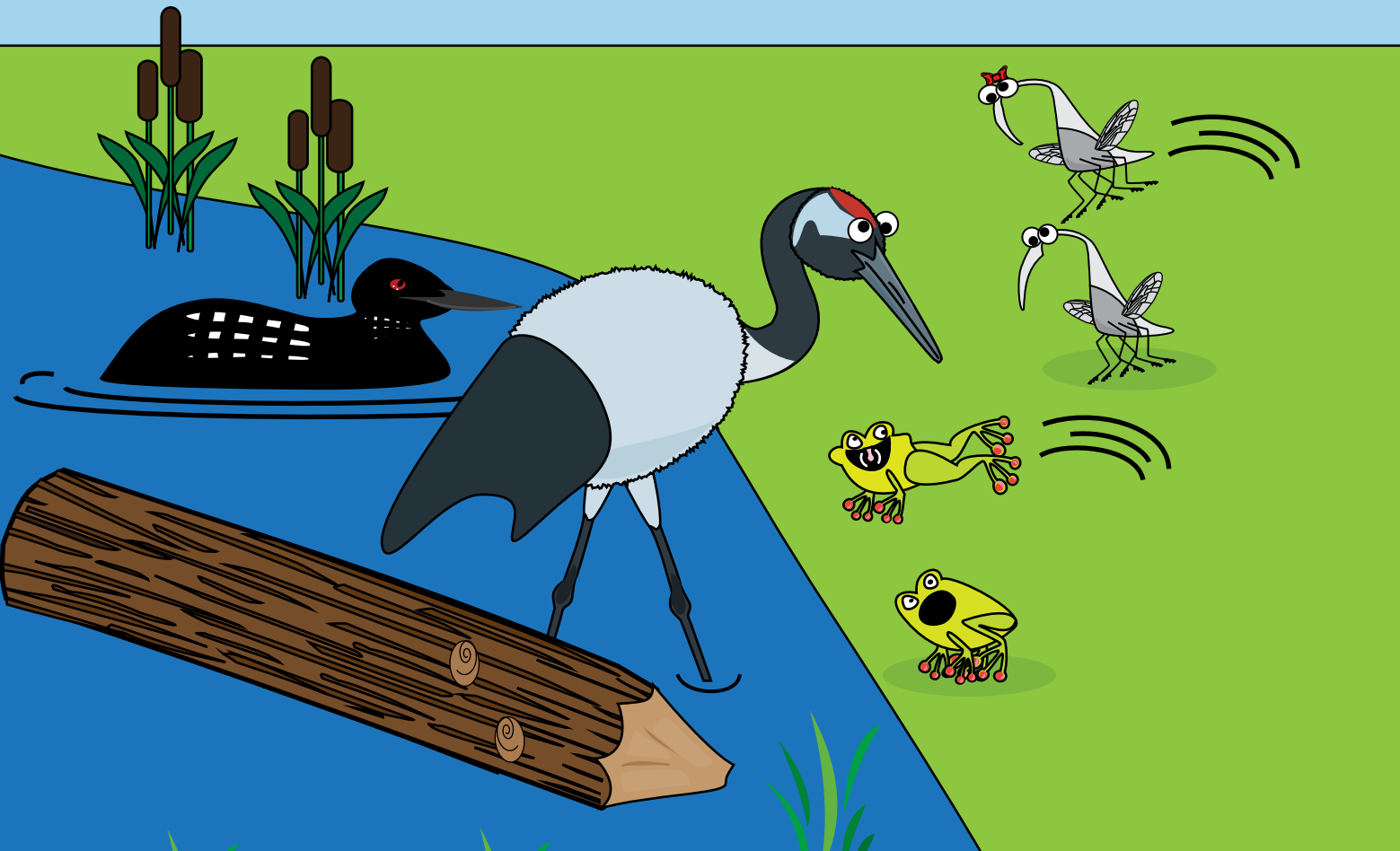


**“The first Sprit took the form of the bear,
the guardian and police. It patrolled the
forests and found medicines that kept
us healthy.”**

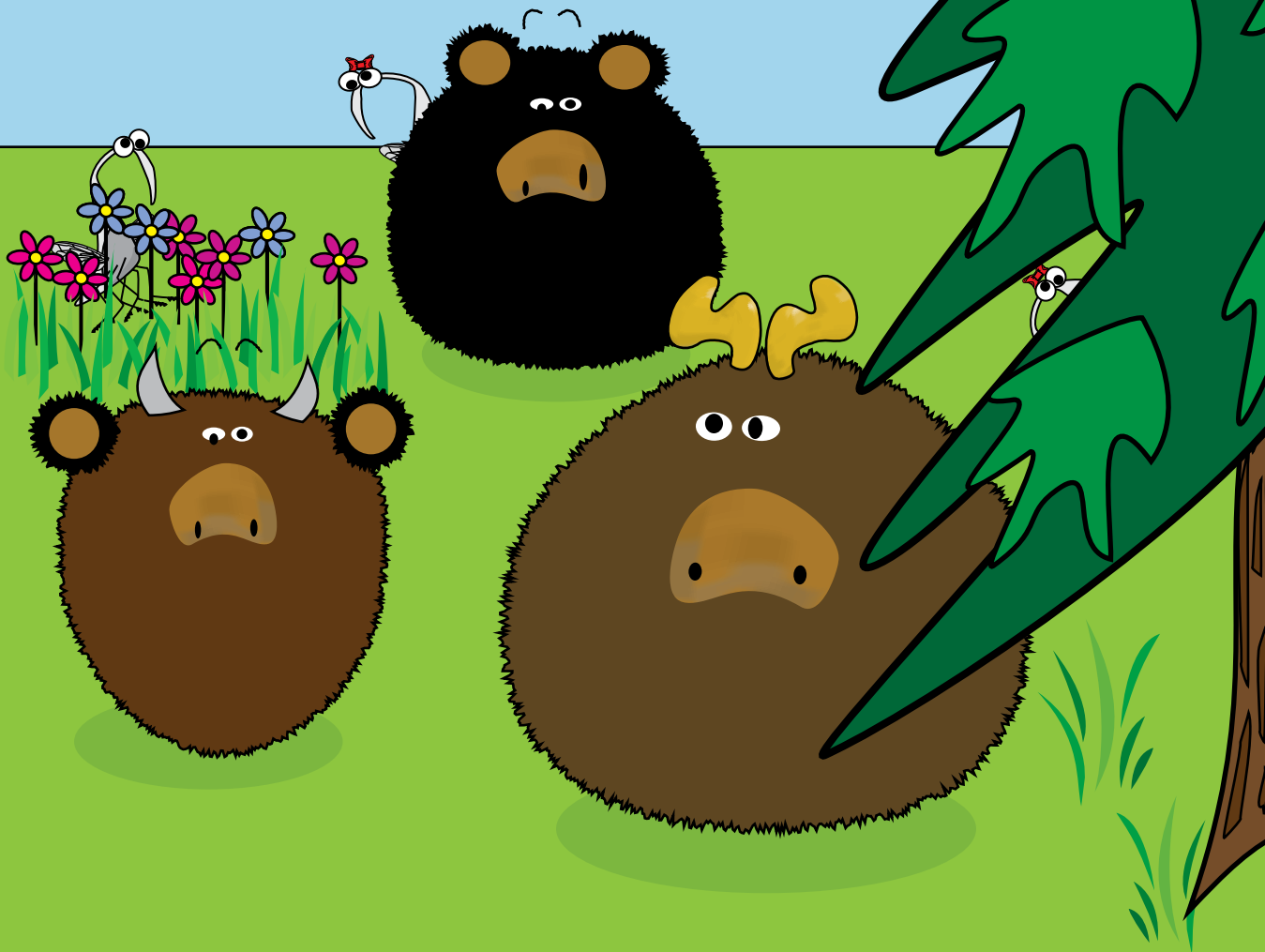


“Eko-niizhiwaad niswi miinawaa
izhinaagozi Maang miinawaa Ajjjaak.
Maamawi wiijitwaawag, apane
wiidanokiidiwag ge-izhi-minoseg gegoo.”

“Ay-koe-nih-zih-wawd nis-wih mee-nuh-waw
ih-zih-naw-goe-zih Mawng mee-nuh-waw Uh-jih-jawk.
Maw-muh-wih wee-jih-twaw-wugg, uh-puh-nay
wee-duh-noe-kee-dih-wugg gay-ih-zih-mih-noe-sayg gay-goo.”

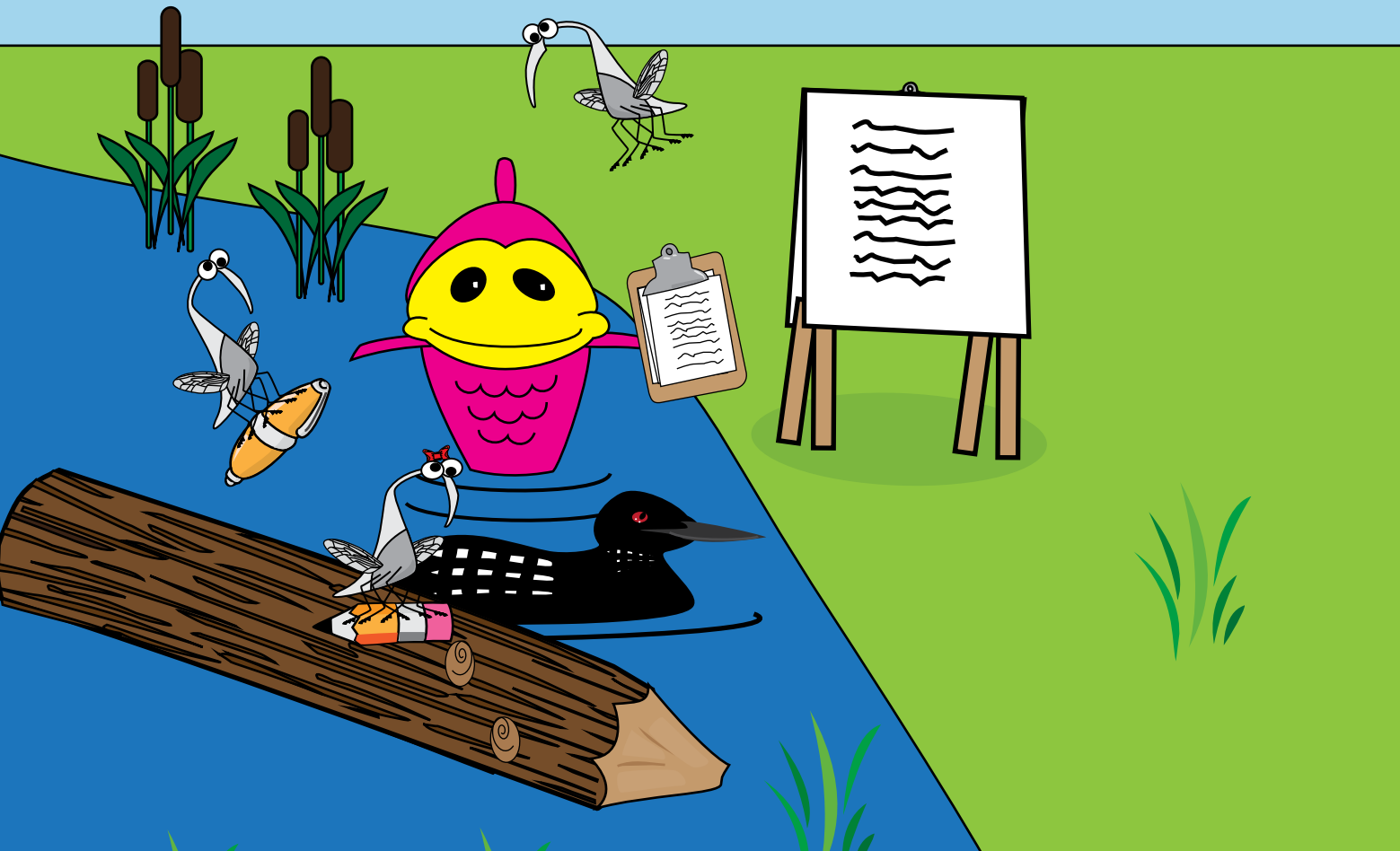


“The second and third Spirits took the form of a loon and a crane. These Spirits practised co-leadership, always working together to get things done.”

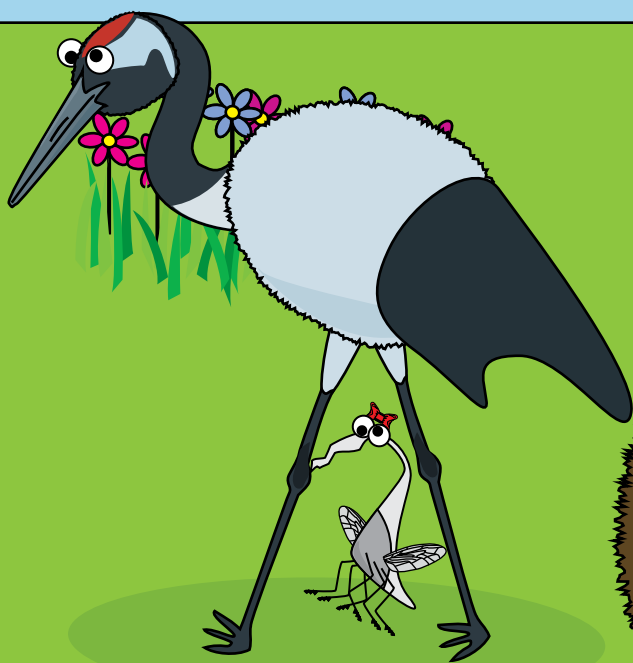


“Eko-niiwid aadizookaan giigoonying
izhinaagozid, Gekinoo’amaaged. Owiji’aa’
Maangwan gaye Ajjaak ji-niigaaniinid.”

“Ay-koe-**nee**-widd **aw**-dih-zoo-kawn gee-goon-ying
ih-zih-n**aw**-goe-zidd, Gay-kih-noo-uh-m**aw**-gayd. Oh-wee-jih-aw
M**aw**n-gwunn guh-yay Uh-jih-j**aw**k jih-**nee**-gaw-**nee**-nidd.”

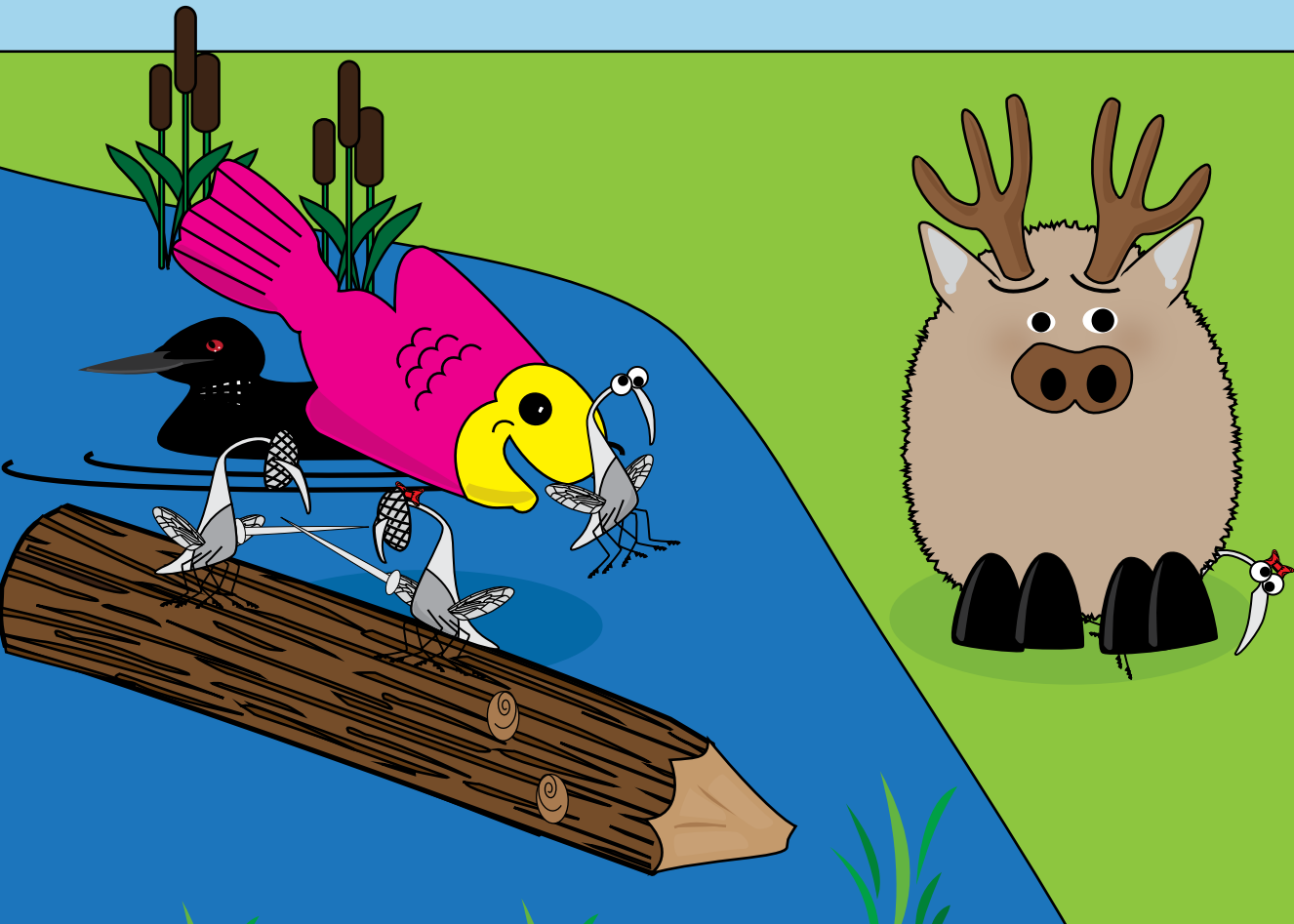


**“The fourth Spirit took the form of the fish,
the teacher. It helped the loon and crane
to lead.”**

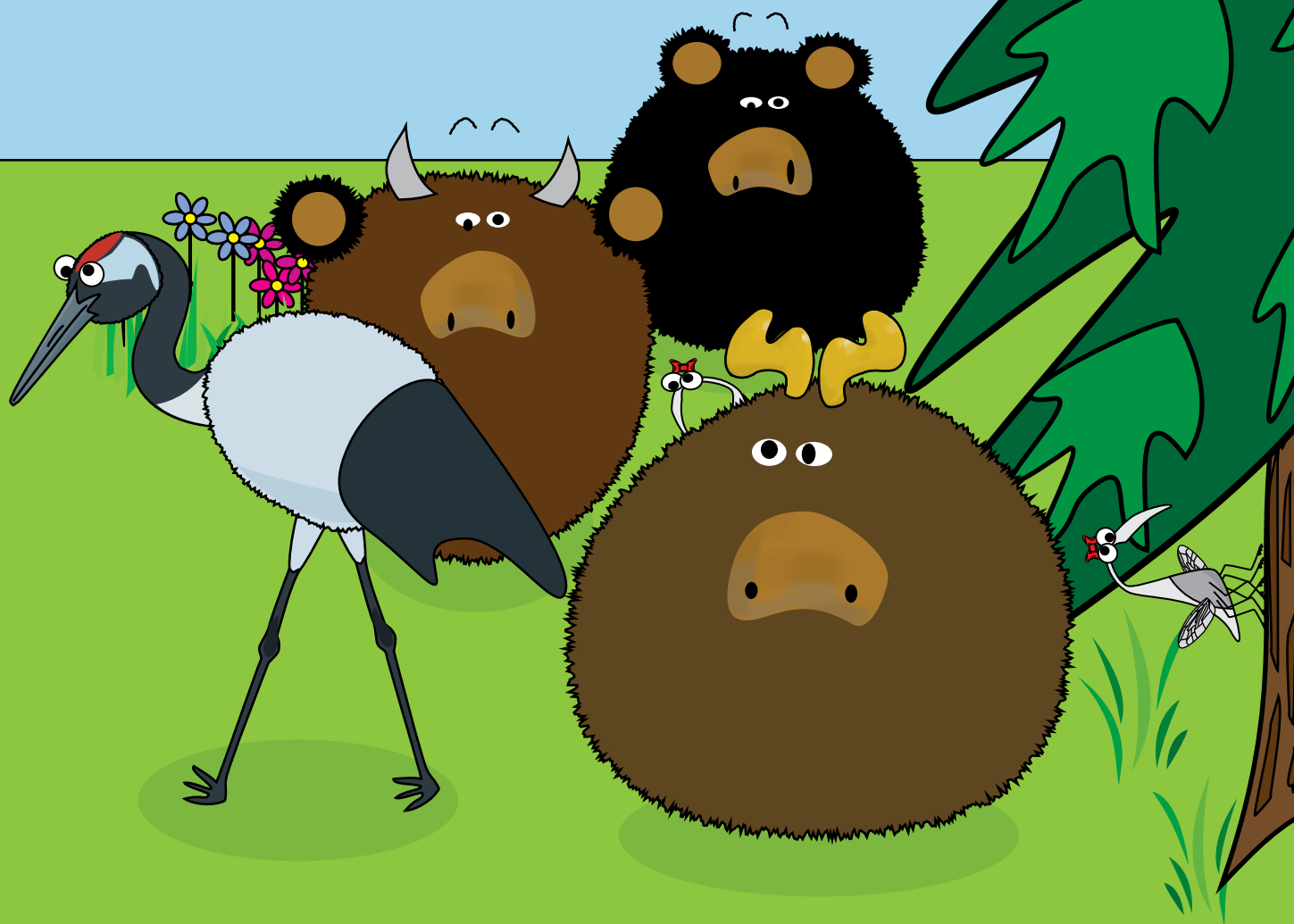


“Eko-naanan ezhi-waanasadaad awesiinh,
gaa-waangawizid. Apane inendang
ge-izhi-mashkawaanig endaawaad gaye
niibowa gegoo ge-izhichigewaad.”

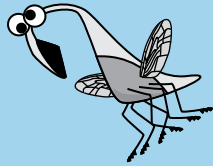
“Ay-koe-**naw**-nunn ay-zhih-**waw**-nuh-suh-**dawd** uh-way-**seen**,
goo-wawn-guh-wih-zidd. Uh-puh-nay ih-nayn-dung
gay-ih-zhih-mush-kuh-**waw**-nigg ayn-**daw-wawd** guh-yay
nee-boe-wuh gay-**goo** gay-ih-zhih-chih-gay-**wawd**.”



“The fifth Spirit took the form of a hoofed animal, the gentle one. It always made sure people had good houses and lots of things to do.”



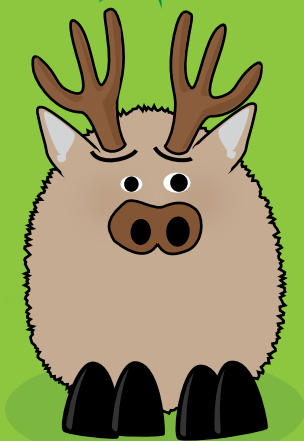
“Eko-ningodwaaso gii-izhinaagozid
Waabizheshi Ogichidaa. Owijji’aa’
ji-andawejigenid ge-onji-wiisiniwaad.
Weweni gaye ogii-kanawenima’
ji-mino-ayaanid Anishinaabe.”



“Ay-koe-nin-goe-dwaw-soe gee-ih-zih-naw-goe-zidd
Waw-bih-zhay-shih Oe-gih-chih-daw. Oh-wee-jih-aw
jih-un-duh-way-jih-gay-nidd gay-own-jih-wee-sih-nih-wawd.
Way-way-nih guh-yay oh-gee-kuh-nuh-way-nih-muh
jih-mih-noe-uh-yaw-nidd Uh-nih-shih-naw-bay.”



**“The sixth Spirit took the form of a marten,
the warrior. It learned to hunt to provide
food. The marten defended as well, to
keep the people safe.”**

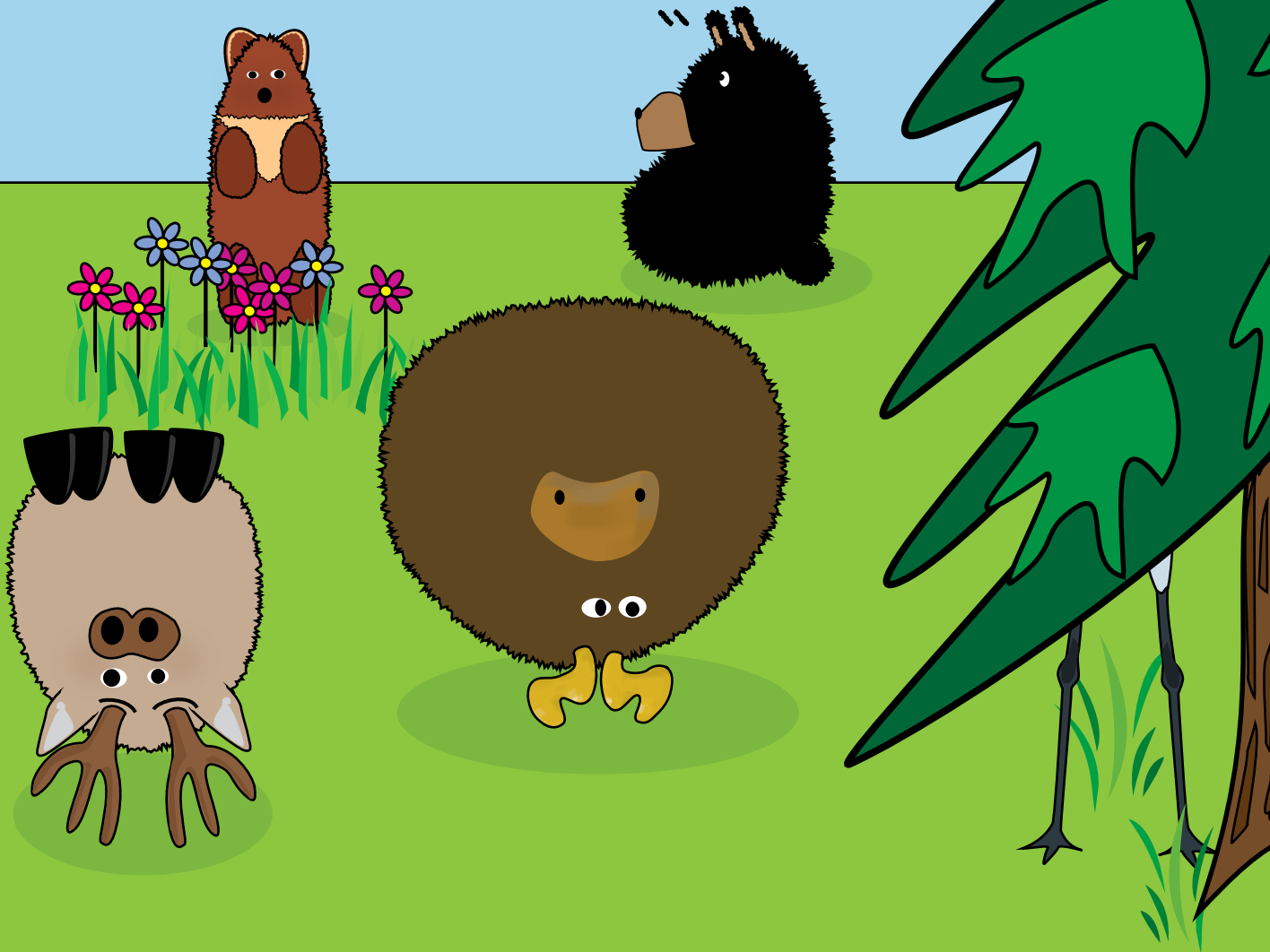


“Eko-niizhwaaswi bineshiing izhinaagozi,
aadizookaaninaagozi. Ogikendaan
anishinaabezhitwaawin gaye
ji-mino-bimaadiziyang.”

“Ay-koe-**nee**zh-w**aw**-swih bih-nay-s**ee**ng ih-zhih-n**aw**-goe-zih,
aw-dih-zoo-kaw-nih-n**aw**-goe-zih. Oe-gih-kayn-dawn
uh-nih-shih-n**aw**-bay-zhith-tw**aw**-winn guh-yay
jih-mih-noe-bih-m**aw**-dih-zih-yung.”



“The seventh Spirit took the form of the bird, the Spiritual one. It learned to develop the Spirituality and practise of well being.”



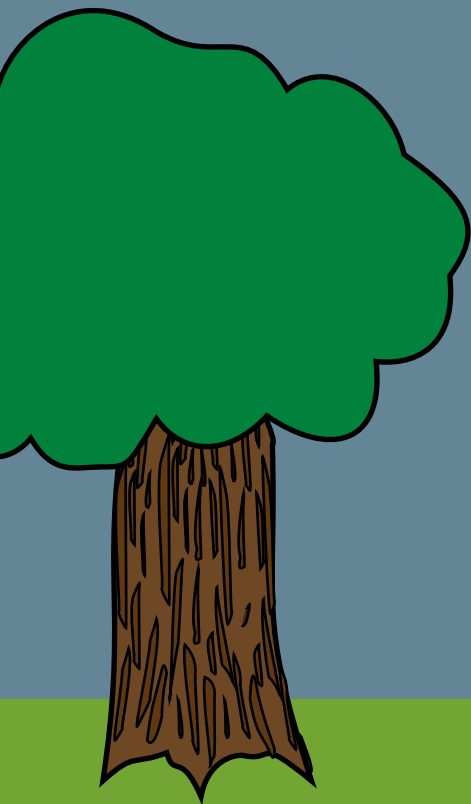
"Gakina igiwe gigii-kikinoo'amaagonaang
ge-izhitwaayang ji-mino-ayaayang.
Gigii-waabanda'igonaang
ge-izhi-ganawendamang endawendamang,
omaa akiing gaye gaa-izhi-aandakiing."

"Guh-kih-nuh ih-gih-way gih-gee-kih-kih-noo-uh-maw-goe-naw-nigg
gay-ih-zhitt-waw-yung jih-mih-noe-uh-yaw-yung.
Gih-gee-waw-bun-duh-ih-goe-naw-nigg
gay-ih-zhih-guh-nuh-wayn-duh-mung ayn-duh-wayn-duh-mung,
oe-maw uh-keeng guh-yay gaw-ih-zhih-awn-duh-keeng."



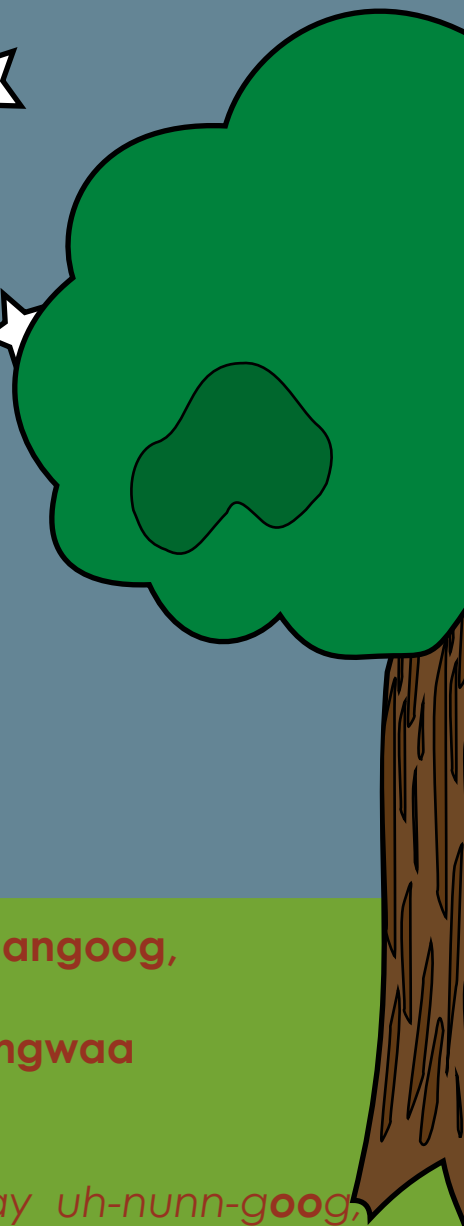
“Together these Spirits taught us to form our government and ways of being. They taught us to take care of our needs, both in this world and in the Spiritual world.”





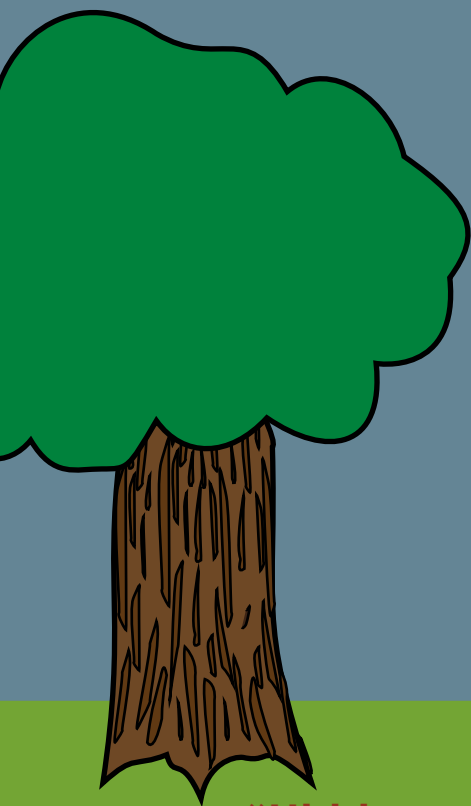
**“So when I see those stars, I
am reminded how the visitors
helped us to become strong.”**





**“Mii dash gii-waabamangwaa igiwe anangoog,
mii imaa minjimendamang
gaa-mawadisinaangwaa ezhi-wiiji’inangwaa
ge-onji-mashkawendamang.”**

**“Mee dush gee-waw-buh-mung-waw ih-gih-way uh-nunn-goog,
mee ih-maw min-jih-mayn-duh-mung
gaw-muh-wuh-dih-sih-nung-waw ay-zhih-wee-jih-ih-nung-waw
gay-own-jih-mush-muh-wayn-duh-mung.”**



“Hhhmmm maagizhaa geget nindebwetam
igiwe gaa-pi-onjiiwaad gaagige
giizhigong,” Bred inendam.

“Hm **maw**-gih-zhaw gay-gett ninn-dayb-way-tumm
ih-gih-way **gaw**-pih-own-jee-wawd **gaw**-gih-gay
gee-zih-gong,” Brad ih-nayn-dumm.

**“Hmmm, maybe I do believe
in visitors from beyond the sky,”
Brad thinks.**



Glossary

A

A'awe pr (dem) *that (animate singular)*
 Aijjaak na crane
 Aki ni 1. earth, land, ground 2. a country, a territory
 3. moss
 Anang na start
 Anangokaa vii there are many stars
 Andawenjige vai 1. s/he needs, wants things 2. s/he hunts
 or fishes for food
 Anishinaabe na 1. a person, a human (in contrast to a
 non-human being) 2. an Indian (in contrast to a non-Indi-
 an), a Native (in contrast to a non-Native) 3. an Ojibwe
 Anishinaabetwaawin ni native beliefs/culture
 Apane adv (tmp) all the time; always; continually
 Awasaanakwad ni otherside of the cloud
 Awesiinh na a (wild) animal
 Awiya pr (indef) somebody, someone, anybody, anyone
 Ayaa vai 1. s/he is (in a certain place) 2. [with a lexical
 preverb] s/he is in a state or condition 3. [with a preverb]
 s/he moves a certain way
 Ayaa'aa na adult, person
 Aadizookaan na 1. a sacred story (a legend, a myth). 2.
 a spirit
 Aadizookaan vai 1s/he appears to be a spirit
 Aandaki ni changed earth/ground
 Aanind adv (qnt) some
 Aapiji adv (deg) very, quite

B

Bakobiibizo vai s/he falls, drives, plunges into the water
 Bi- pv2 (dir) here; hither; this way; toward the speaker
 Bineshiinh na bird
 Bred na Brad

D

Dakoniwewinini na a policeman; a sheriff
 Dash adv (conj) but; and, and then, then
 Daa vai s/he lives, dwells in a certain place
 Debwetam vai2 s/he believes, agrees (with what is heard)
 Debwetan vti believe it
 Dibiki-giizis na moon
 Dibishkoo adv (man) directly; equal; even; just like, seems
 like

E

Eko-naanan adv (num) fifth

Eko-ningodwaaso adv (num) sixth
 Eko-niwi vai s/he is third
 Eko-niizhi vai s/he is second
 Eko-niizhwaaswi adv (num) seventh
 Endawendan vti need, want it under initial change
 Endaawaad vai their home; their house
 Ezhi- pv3 (rel) in a certain way; so; there; thus; to a certain
 place under initial change

G

Ga- pv1 (tense) future tense (definite)
 Gagwedwe vai s/he asks, asks a question, inquires
 Gagwejim vta ask, question h/
 Ganawendan vti take care of, protect, keep it
 Ganawendaaso vii taken care of s.t., protected s.t. , kept
 s.t.
 Ganawenim vta take care of, protect, keep h/
 Gaye adv (conj) as for, also, too, and
 Gaagige- pv4 (lex) forever
 Gaa- pv1 (tns) past tense prefix under initial change
 Gaawiin adv (neg) no, not
 Ge- pv1 (tns) future tense prefix under initial change
 Geget adv (man) sure, certainly, really, indeed
 Gegoo pr (indf) something, anything
 Gekinoo'amaaged na-v (participle) a teacher
 Gichi- pv4 (lex) very, quite; big; great
 Gikendan vti know it, know about it, find it out, realize it
 Gii- pv1 (tense) past tense
 Giigoonyi vai s/he is being a fish
 Giin pr (per) you [singular]
 Giizhig na day; heaven; sky

I

Igiwe pr (dem) those [animate plural demonstrative]
 Igo pc (emph) emphasis
 Ikido vai s/he says, speaks so
 Imaa adv (loc) there
 Inaajimo vai s/he tells a certain way
 Inendam vai2 1. s/he thinks a certain way 2. s/he de-
 cides, agrees, consents
 Inini na a man
 Ishpimiing adv (loc) in the sky, above, in heaven
 Iwe pr (dem) those
 Izhi/iN vta say to h/, speak so to h/
 Izhi- pv3 (rel) in a certain way; so; there; thus; to a certain
 place

Izhichige vai s/he does, makes things a certain way
Izhinaagozi vai s/he has a certain look or appearance
liyan na lan

J
Ji- pv1 (tns) that, so that, in order to; future and modal
prefix in unchanged conjunct

M
Makwa na bear
Mashkawaa vii it is strong, is hard, is dense
Mashkawendam vai2 s/he is strong minded
Mashkawizi vai s/he is strong, hard, dense
Mashkiki ni medicine, a medicine, a drug
Mawadish/mawadiS vta visit h/
Maagizhaa adv (man) maybe; I think that..., perhaps,
maybe
Maamawi adv (man) together
Maang na loon
Maawiin adv (man) probably, maybe
Mewinzha adv (temporal) a long time ago, long ago
Mikan vti find it
Minjimendan vti keep it in h/ mind, remember it
Mino-ayaa vai s/he is good, is fine, is well
Mino-bimaadizi vai s/he lives well, leads a good life, has
good health
Minose vii it goes well
Mii adv (pred) it is thus that..., it is that...
Mii dash adv (conj) and then
Miinawaa adv (conj) also; and; again
Miiwag pr (dem) those are the ones (animate plural)

N
Nashke pc (disc) look!
Nimishoomis nad my grandfather
Niswi adv (num) three
Nitam adv (loc) first
Niibowa adv (qnt) a lot; many; much
Niigaanii vai s/he leads, goes ahead
Noopiming adv (loc) in the bush; in the woods; inland
also; Noopimiing

O
Odoodeman nad h/ clan
Ogichidaa na a ceremonial headman; a warrior, a
veteran

Omaa adv (loc) here
Onji- pv3 (rel) from a certain place, for a certain reason,
because
Onjibizo vai s/he drives, speeds, falls from a certain place
Onjii vai s/he comes from a certain place

W
Waabam vta see h/
Waabanda' vta show (it) to h/
Waabizheshi na marten
Waangawizi vai s/he is tame
Waanasadaa vai s/he forms
Wegonen pr (inter) what
Weweni adv (man) properly, correctly, carefully
Wiidanokiidiwag vai they work together
Wiiji' vta 1. help h/ 2. play with h/
Wiijitwaa vai s/he helps out, assists
Wiindamaw vta tell h/ about (it), inform h/ about (it)
Wiisini vai s/he eats

Z
Zegi' vta scare, frighten h/