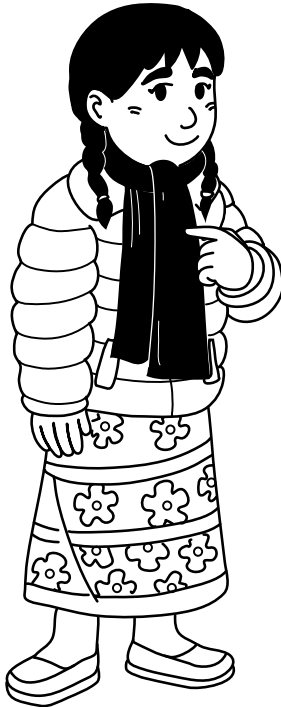




ayâw ikwa ayâ



Written by
Connie Twin and Tanya Fontaine



Acknowledgement

The inspiration for this book originated when the authors attended the late Emily Hunter's nîhiyawîwin (Cree language) class in 1989. Traditionally, reading and writing Cree was uncommon, as the language was primarily transmitted orally. Over time, however, the use of nîhiyawîwin has decreased significantly. Given the fundamental connection between language and identity, the decline of nîhiyawîwin is a matter of serious concern. Incorporating nîhiyawasinahikîwin (written Cree) provides an additional way to engage with the language and ensure its preservation for future generations. May this book serve as a bridge connecting generations, honoring those who came before us and empowering those yet to come to carry nîhiyawîwin proudly into the future.

mistahi ninanâskomonân

Connie and Tanya



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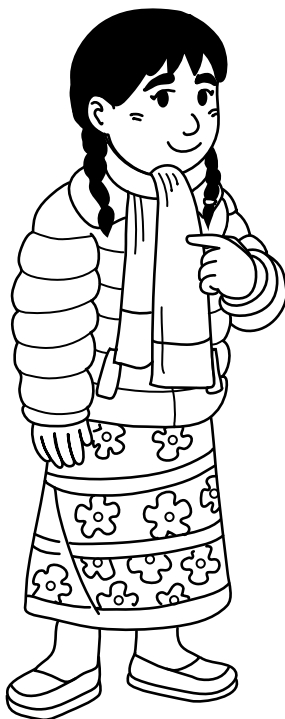
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ayâw





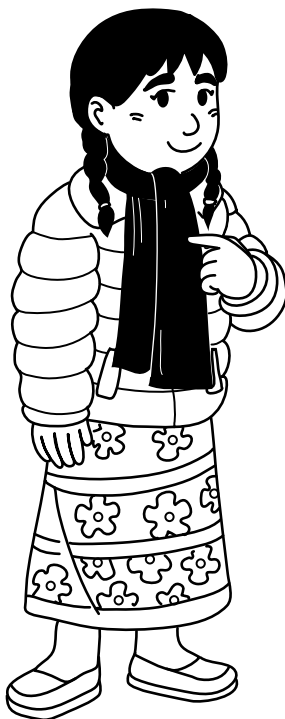
ni-ayâwâw i-wâpiskisit
kîsowahpison.





ni-ayâwâwak
i-wâpiskisitwâw
kîsowahpisonwak.



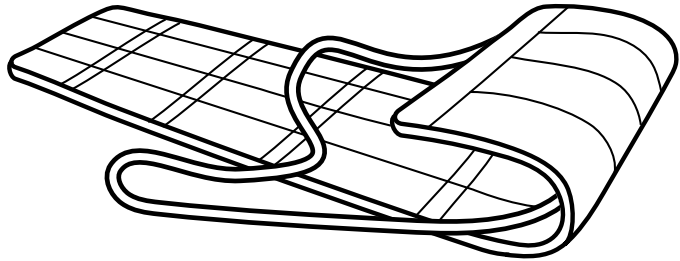


ni-ayâwâw i-kaskitîsit
kîsowahpison.



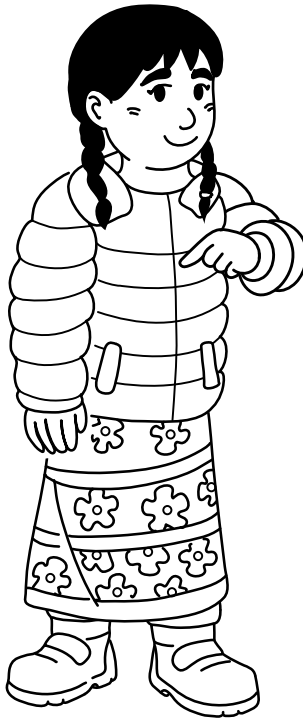
ni-ayâwâwak
i-kaskitîsitwâw
kîsowahpisonwak.





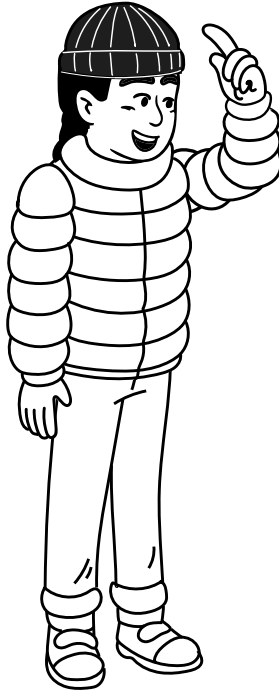
ni-ayâwâw napakitâpânâsk.





ayâ





ni-ayân i-kaskitîwâk sîstak
asciconis.

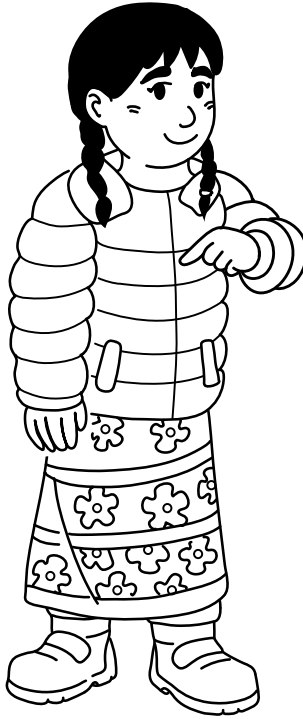




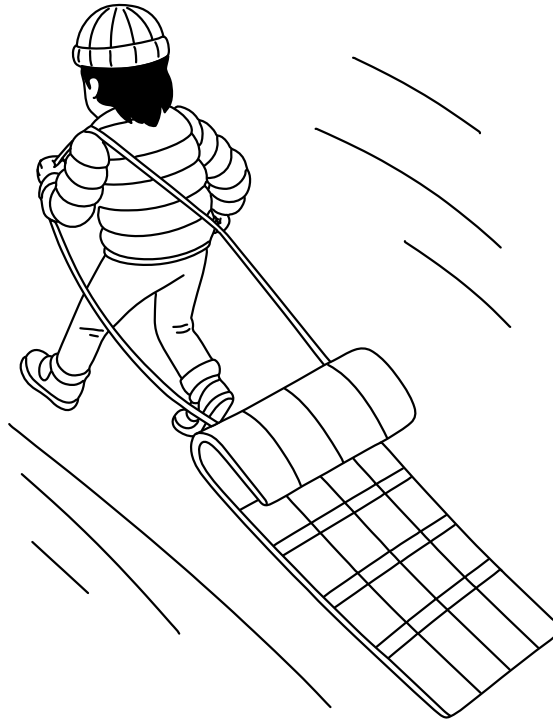
ni-ayân i-wâpiskâkwâw
sîstak asciconisa.



ni-ayân i-wâpiskâkwâw
piponaskisina.



ni-ayân i-wâpiskâk
piponasâkay.



niwî-nitawi sôskwaciwân.





Glossary



ayāw

have it (animate object)

**ni-ayāwāw i-wāpiskisit
kīsowahpison.**

I have a white scarf.

**ni-ayāwāwak i-wāpiskisitwāw
kīsowahpisonwak.**

I have white scarves.

**ni-ayāwāw i-kaskitīsit
kīsowahpison.**

I have a black scarf.

**ni-ayāwāwak i-kaskitīsitwāw
kīsowahpisonwak.**

I have black scarves.

ni-ayāwāw napakitāpānāsk.

I have a toboggan/sled.

ayā

have it (inanimate object)

**ni-ayān i-kaskitīwāk sīstak
asciconis.**

I have a black toque.

**ni-ayān i-wāpiskākwāw sīstak
asciconisa.**

I have white toques.

**ni-ayān i-wāpiskākwāw
pionaskisina.**

I have white winter boots.

**ni-ayān i-wāpiskāk
pionasākay.**

I have a white winter jacket.

niwī-nitawi sōskwaciwān.

I will go sledding.

nîhiyawî

