

Ojibwe vowel pronunciation guide

a	<u>b</u> ug
aa	<u>j</u> aw
i	<u>i</u> t
ii	Hawai <u>i</u>
e	café <u>e</u>
o	n <u>o</u> te
oo	<u>o</u> wn

Out of respect of Nookomisag (my grandmothers), the 'o' and 'oo' are noted above. However, they occasionally sound simliar to a book and spoon.

Dikinaagan	a cradleboard
Dikinaaganan	cradleboards (plural)
Dikinaagoning	on, near, by the cradleboard
Dakobinaawaswaan	a baby in a cradleboard
Nashke, dakobinaawaswaan!	behold, a baby in a cradleboard!
Dakobinaawaso	she/he has a baby in a cradleboard
Indakobinaawas	I have a baby in a cradleboard
Gidakobinaawas	You have a baby in a cradleboard
Gidakobinaawas na?	Do you have a baby in a cradleboard?
Dakobinaawasowag	They have a baby in a cradleboard
Dakobizo	She/he is (tied up) in a cradleboard
Gidakobizo	You are (tied up) in a cradleboard
Dakobizowag	They are (tied up) in a cradleboard
Apizideyaakwa'igan	a cradleboard footrest
Apizideyaakwa'iganan	cradleboard footrests (plural)
Aagiingwe'onaak	a cradleboard hoop
Aagiingwe'onaakoon	cradleboard hoops (plural)
Aagiingwe'onaakoke	She/he makes a cradleboard hoop
Indaagiingwe'onaakoke	I am making a cradleboard hoop
Gidaagiingwe'onaakoke	You are making a cradleboard hoop
Gidaagiingwe'onaakoke na?	Are you making a cradleboard hoop?
Aagiingwe'onaakokewag	They are making a cradleboard hoop
wawezhichigaade	it is being decorated (by someone)
dakobide	it is tied/bound
dakobijige	she/he is tying something
indakobijige	I am tying something
Gidakobijige	You are tying something
Dakobijigewag	They are tying something
waabooyaan	a blanket
waabooyaanens	a little blanket
waabooyaanike	she/he makes a blanket
aasaakamig	moss
aasaakamigoon	moss (plural)

Prepared by Liz Julio, *Anishinaabe Studies*, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College



odaminwaagan	a doll
odaminwaaganag	dolls (plural)
odaminwaaganens	small doll
odaminwaaganing	near, by the doll
odoodaminwaagani	she/he has a doll
indoodoodaminwaagan	I have a doll
gidoodoodaminwaagan	you have a doll
odoodaminwaaganiwag	they have a doll
odaminwaaganike	she/he makes a doll
odaminwaage	she/he plays with doll/toy
indoodaminwaage	I am playing with doll/toy
gidoodaminwaage	You are playing with doll/toy
odaminwaagewag	They are playing with doll/toy
bashkwegin	leather
bashweginoon	leather (plural)
bashkwegin-moozhwaagan	leather shears
bashkwegin-moozhwaaganan	leather shears (plural)
biiminakwannaens	string
makadewaanikwe	she/he has black hair
okaaden	braid his/her hair
biizikonaye'	you put clothes on/dress him/her
imbiizikonaye'aa	I put clothes on him/her
wawezhi'	you decorate, dress up, adorn him/her
niwawezhi'aa	I dress him/her up
majigoodenh	a dress
oshkagoode	she/he has a new dress
zaangwewe-magooday	jingle dress
zenibaanh-majigoodenh	ribbon dress
miikawaadizi	she/he is handsome/beautiful

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anokiiwin	work
anokiiwinan	work (plural)
anokii	She/he is working
indanokii	I am working
Gidanokii na?	Are you working?
Gaawiin indanokiisii	No I am not working
inanokii	she/he does a certain kind of work
Indinanokii	I do a certain kind of work
Gidinanokii na?	Are you doing a certain kind of work?
andawanokii	She/he is looking for work
Ninandawanokii	I am looking for work
Gidandawanokii na?	Are you looking for work?
Gaawiin ninandawanokiisii	No, I am not looking for work
Adaawaage	she/he sells/is selling
Indadaawaage	I am selling
Gidadaawaage na?	Are you selling?
Gaawiin indadaawaagesii	No, I am not selling
Anokaajigan	a product/craft item
Anokaajiganan	products/craft items (plural)
Anokaajiganing	near, by the product/craft item
Zhooniyaa	money
Zhooniyaawaabik	coin
Zhooniyaawaabikoog	coins (plural)
Daga	Please
Daga miizhishin zhooniyaa	Please give me money
Meshkwadoonamaage	She/he trades things
Nimeshkwadoonamaage	I trade things
Gimeshkwadoonamaage na?	Do you trade things?
Gaawiin nimeshkwadoonamaagesii	No I do not trade things
Miikawaadendaagwad	It is considered beautiful
Nitaawichige	She/he is skilled at making things
Ninitaawichige	I am skilled at making things
Ginitaawichige	You are skilled at making things

Aaniin ezhi-ayaayan?

Minwendam
Niminwendam
Giminwendam na?
Gaawiin, niminwendanzii
Gashkendam
Ingashkendam
Gigashkendam na?
Gaawiin, ingashkendanzii
Aakozi
Indaakoz
Gidaakoz na?
Gaawiin indaakozisii
Ayekozi
Indayekoz
Gidayekoz na?
Gaawiin indayekozisii
Zegizi
Inzegiz
Gizegiz na?
Gaawiin, inzegizisii
Nishkaadizi
Ninishkaadiz
Ginishkaadiz na?
Gaawiin, ninishkaadizisii
Miigwechiwendam
Nimiigwechiwendam
Gimiigwechiwendam na?
Gaawiin, nimiigwechiwendanzii

How are you feeling?

she/he is happy
I am happy
Are you happy?
No, I am not happy
She/he is sad
I am sad
Are you sad?
No, I am not sad
She/he is sick
I am sick
Are you sick?
No, I am not sick
She/he is tired
I am tired
Are you tired?
No, I am not tired
She/he is scared
I am scared
Are you scared?
No, I am not scared
She/he is angry
I am angry
Are you angry?
No, I am not angry
She/he is feeling thankful
I am feeling thankful
Are you feeling thankful?
No, I am not feeling thankful