

Chivaree at Nohkoms

A Northern Michif Play

Instructions: let's learn Northern Michif together! After every Northern **Michif** word, we will pause. Please repeat the word!

nôsisim: **tân'si nohkom** and **nimoshôm!** Thank you for coming to our school to share what being Métis means to you! I am so excited to share my heritage with my classmates! Can you tell me about the Métis?

nimoshôm: Ahaha of course **nôsisim!** Being Métis can look different for everyone, but I will tell you about our experience as Métis! Where do we begin?

nohkom: My family comes from a loooooong line of Métis jiggers! We would have large celebrations with bannock and jigging every buffalo hunt!

* Nohkom jigs

nimoshôm: Your **nohkom** was the best jigger of all time. I fell in love with her just watching her dance when we were young.

nohkom: **wah wah.** At every celebration, **nipâpâ** would play the spoons, and **nimâmâ** would play the fiddle!

nôsisim: I play the fiddle too!

nimoshôm: My family lived very close to **nohkom witsanak.** Our Grandfathers would carry all the supplies for the buffalo hunt in our red river cart! **nimâmâ** and **nimis** would make shawls to bring to my aunts and cousins!

nohkom: My family would hand weave sashes for all of our relatives. The sash is a wool belt with frayed ends.

*Nohkom shows her sash



nimoshôm: The color can vary, but my favorite colors are **lirrôsh**, **l'blô** and **l' jöñ**! The sash was a multipurpose tool! For example, **nipâpâ** would use it as a tourniquet for injuries during the buffalo hunt.

nôsisim: **nimâmâ** uses hers as a scarf in the winter! And **nisîmis** uses his as a belt! There is so much to learn about the Métis! Can you tell us about Michif?

nohkô: Of course, **piyahtak natohta**! Listen carefully. How the Michif language is spoken, varies from community to community! We speak Northern Michif. Would you like to learn some Northern Michif?

nôsisim: **âha!**

nimoshôm: Does anyone know how to say hello?

***Angel raises their hand

Angel: **tân'si!**

nohkô: That's awesome! Let's build on that! Can anyone say 'Hello, how are you?'

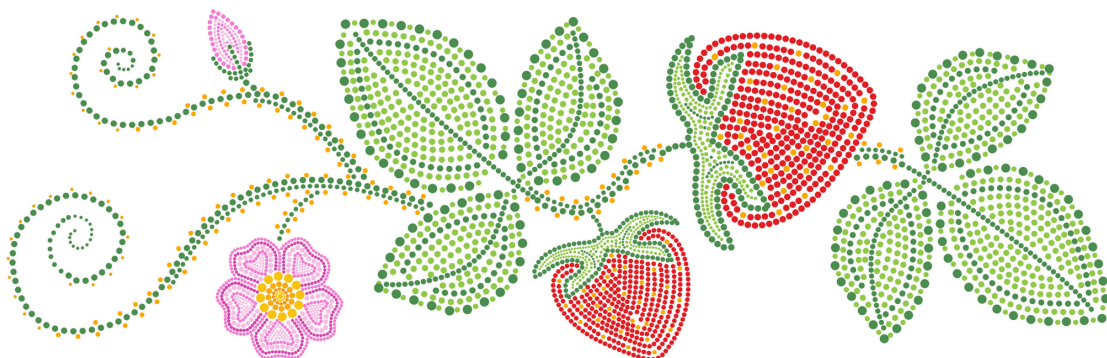
nôsisim: Is it "**ki miyokîsikan'sin?**"

nimoshôm: That was a great try! '**ki miyokîsikan'sin**' means 'Did you have a good day?' How about Sandra, do you know how to say 'hello, how are you?'

Sandra: **tân'si êkwa kiya!!!!**

nohkô: That's right! **marrsî** class, for helping us learn Northern Michif! Our time is up for the day.

nôsisim: **marrsî!** I learned so much about the Métis today! We are diverse, and I am so proud to be Métis! I hope you all enjoyed learning with me!



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A Northern Michif Play: Dictionary

aha (ah-ha): Yes, I am.

ki miyokîsikan'sin (key mee-yo-gi-see-gone-sin): Did you have a good day?

l' jöñ (leh zh-on): yellow

l'blô (leh bluh): Blue

lirrôsh (li-roh-sh): Red

marrsî (mar-si): Thank you

chivaree (shiv-a-ree): Party

nimâmâ (knee-mama): My mom

nimis (knee-me-s): My younger brother/sister

nimoshôm (knee-mo-shoom): My grandfather

nipâpâ (knee-papa): My father

nisîmis (knee-see-me-s): My younger brother/sister

nohkôm (nuh-kuhm): Grandma

nohkôm witsanak (nuh-kuhm wits-ah-nak): Grandma's family

nôsisim (no-see-sim): My grandchild

piyahtak natohta (pee-ya-tac na-toe-tah): Listen carefully

tân'si êkwa kiya (tan-say egg-wah key-ah): Hello, how are you?

tân'si (tan-say): Hello

wah wah (wuh waa): a way to express surprise; i.e. wow

