

Rules Of Thumb-Helpful Hints
With
“The Understanding That There May be Exceptions”

The ending of the words will give you a clue as to whom or what you are referring too.

The ending “Daa” will tell you that you are including yourself in the action. When you add “oo” at the beginning it tells you that you are going somewhere to do the action.

Daa – Let’s or let us all

Ex: Wiisini-is to eat, Wiisini/daa-let’s eat,
 Bmiptoos – is running, Bmiptoos/daa – let’s run
 Bmase – is walking, Bmase/daa – let’s walk
 Biinchige – is cleaning up, Biinchige/daa – let’s clean up
 Jiibaakwe – is cooking, Jiibaakwe/daa – let’s cook
 Nbaa – is sleeping, Nbaa/daa – Let’s sleep

When you become familiar with this, you can add “oo” at the beginning. Your sentence now says “oo wiisinidaa” “Let’s go and eat”. You would use this if you were perhaps in another room or outdoors. When this becomes natural for you to say add another word.

Kaa – means abundance or lots of

 Miin-blueberry, Miinkaa-lots of blueberries

Locative – iing, aang, oong

 Baawtiing - Wikwemikong

Diminutive – iinhs, anhs, aanhs, oonhs

 Nini-man, niniinhs-little/young man,
 Kwe-woman, kwesanhs-little/young woman

Ke - at end of word changes from noun to verb (action)

 Giigoonh-fish, giigoonhke-fishing

Plural - Animate - k, ik, ak, wak, wok

 Kwe-woman, Kwewok-women

Plural – Inanimate - an or nan

 Pabwin- chair, pabwinan-chairs

I– N – Ni – Niin

You -- G - Gi – Giin

He/She – W – Wi- Wiin

N - at end of word changes to command.

Nmadabin – you sit – person you are talking to

Win - at the end of a word makes the word something, a noun

Debwe – he/she tells the truth, debwewin-truth

Negation - Gaawiin _____ sii verb or root word in middle for animate negation

Gawiin nzhaasii-I didn't go

Animate

Inanimate

this-maaba, that-wi

this-maanda, that-niwi

these-? those-?

these-? those-?

Tense markers – doo (am) – gii (did) – wii (will do) – gaa – waa (want to)-

N-doo – I am

N-gii – I did

N-wii – I will