GLIFWC’s 2019 Calendar

**Gichi-manidoo-giizis (January)**
Great Spirit Moon

**Namaabini-giizis (February)**
Sucker Moon

**Oonaabani-giizis (March)**
Hard Crust on the Snow Moon

**Ikejigamizige-giizis (April)**
Maple Sugar Moon

**Waabigwani-giizis (May)**
Flower Moon

**Aabita-niibino-giizis (July)**
Half Way Through the Summer Moon

**Binaakwi-giizis (October)**
Falling Leaves Moon

**Gashkadino-giizis (November)**
Ice is Forming Moon

**Manidoo-giizisoons (December)**
Little Spirit Moon

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**Mazininibaganjigan**

The artist then bites delicately to create a design that has been visualized in the mind. Birch bark biting is a pre-contact Ojibwe art form. In an oral history story shared by birch bark biter Awanigiizhik (Roderick) Bruce of the Turtle Mountain Ojibwe, he says he was told that birch bark biting was taught by the babies. “Small teething toys were made of paper birch and were filled with maple sugar. If the baby was sick, other medicines were added. When the babies would bite the toys, small indentations from their developing teeth were imparted onto the birch bark surface. The parents saw this and the art of birch bark biting was born.” Bitings may have been used to create hunting and fishing maps, or to pass on cultural and ceremonial knowledge between generations. Other sources describe the art as being used similar to wampum belts to commemorate exchanges between different groups.

Bruce was taught the practice and oral history of birch bark biting by Denise Lajimodiere, Turtle Mountain Ojibwe. The Ojibwe words on the bottom changes between different groups.

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For additional copies of the calendar or poster contact lynn@glifwc.org.