

# Gekinoo'amaadiiwigamig Ojibwemowin Lesson 18: Review: VAI Plurals

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Giishpin ganawendan gidinwewininaan, giga-  
ganawenimig aadizookaan gaa-ganawendang  
Anishinaabemowin.

If you take care of the language, the spirit-keeper  
of the language will take care of you.

Tobasaanakwad Kinew

Personal Pronouns	Singular Formula	Plural Formula
First Person (me)	<b>Ni</b> + verb <b>In</b> + verb <b>Nin</b> + verb <b>Nim</b> + verb <b>Nind</b> + verb	<b>Ni</b> + verb + <b>min</b> (exclusive) <b>Gi</b> + verb + <b>min</b> (inclusive)
Second Person (you)	<b>Gi</b> + verb <b>Gid</b> + verb	<b>Gi</b> + verb + <b>m</b> <b>Gid</b> + verb + <b>m</b>
Third Person (he/she)	verb	Verb + <b>wag</b> Verb + <b>oog</b>

## VAI 1<sup>st</sup> Person Plural - We's

Unlike the English language, there are two types of 'we':

- ▶ **We (exclusive)**, which excludes the person that you are talking to.
- ▶ **We (inclusive)**, which includes the person that you are talking to.

Examples in English?



## VAI 1<sup>st</sup> Person Plural - We's

For We (exclusive), we begin with the 'niin' pronoun and attach the 'min' ending to the verb.

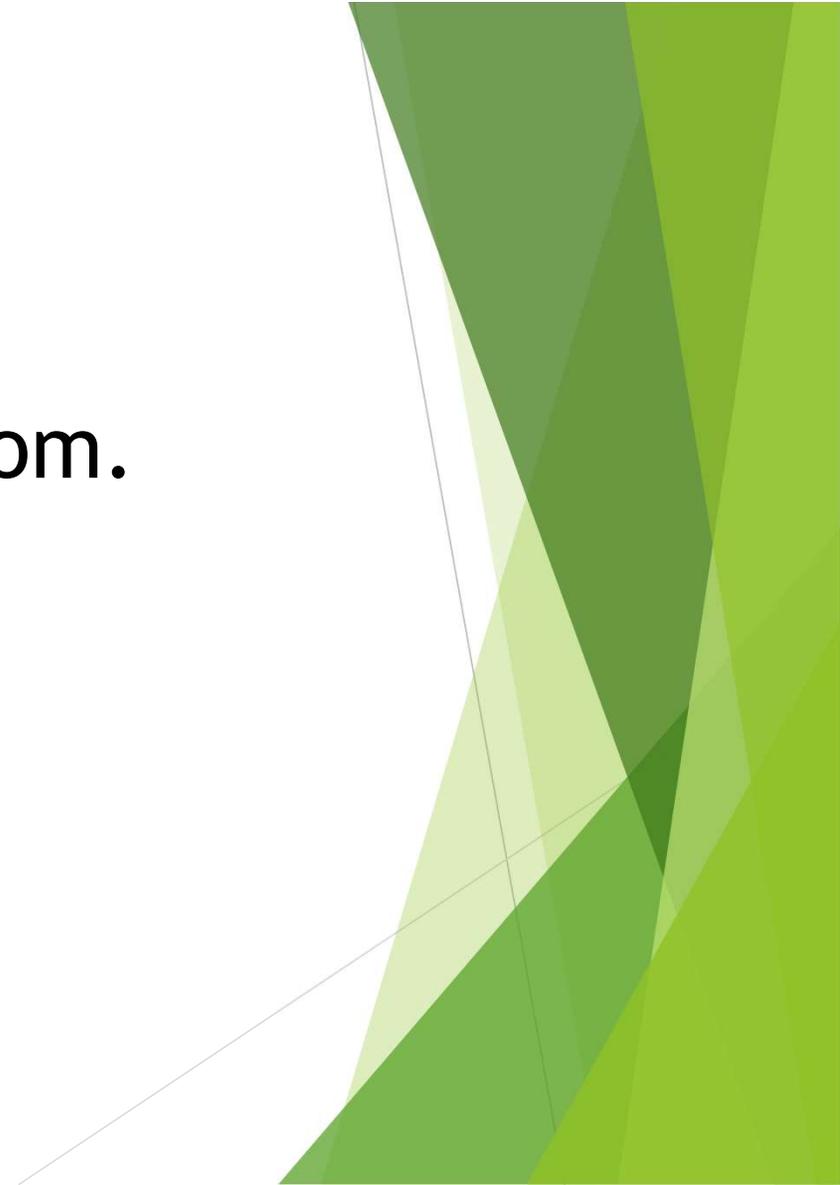
▶ Nindojibwemomin.      'We speak Ojibwe language.'

For We (inclusive), we begin with the 'giin' pronoun and attach the 'min' ending to the verb.

▶ Gidojibwemomin.      'We speak the Ojibwe language.'

Nindayekozimin noongom.

We are tired today.



Ingii-ayekozimin bijiinaago.

We were tired yesterday.

Gidayekozimin niibowa.

We are very tired.



Giga-ayekozimin waabang.  
We will be tired tomorrow.



Gigii-ayekozimin niibowa bijiinaago.  
We were very tired yesterday.

## VAI 1<sup>st</sup> Person Plural: We ‘endam’ words

For We (exclusive), we begin with the ‘niin’ pronoun, change short ‘a’ to a long ‘aa,’ and attach the ‘min’ ending to the verb.

▶ Niminwendaamin.      ‘We are happy.’



For We (inclusive), we begin with the ‘giin’ pronoun, change short ‘a’ to a long ‘aa,’ and attach the ‘min’ ending to the verb.

▶ Giminwendaamin.      ‘We are happy.’



## VAI 1<sup>st</sup> Person Plural: We 'endam' words

- ▶ Ningashkendaamin. We are sad.
- ▶ Nindinendaamin. We are thinking.
- ▶ Ninjiikendaamin. We are glad.

Ingii-gashkendaamin bijiinaago.

We were sad yesterday.



Ningashkendaamin noongom.

We are sad today.



Ingii-jiikendaamin gabe-giizhig.

We were happy all day.

Giga-minwendaamin waabang.

We will be happy tomorrow.

Ingii-inendaamin onzaam bijiinaago.  
We were thinking too much yesterday.

## VAI 2<sup>nd</sup> Person Plural: 'You all'

For 'you all,' begin with the 'giin' pronoun and attach the 'm' ending to the verb.

- ▶ Gidojibwemom.                      You all are speaking Ojibwe.
- ▶ Gidayekozim.                      You all are tired.
- ▶ Gibaapim.                          You all are laughing.

Gidayekozim noongom.  
You all are tired today.



Gigii-ayekozim bijiinaago.  
You all were tired yesterday.



Giga-ayekozim niibowa waabang.

You all will be very tired tomorrow.



Giga-ojibwemom waabang.  
You all will speak Ojibwe tomorrow.



Gigii-ojibwemom bijiinaago.  
You all spoke Ojibwe yesterday.



## VAI 3<sup>rd</sup> Person Plural: 'They'

Remember that VAIs are already in 3<sup>rd</sup> person.

When using 'they,' add the 'wag' ending to the verb. Use the 'oog' endings for 'endam' words.

Ayekoziwag

They are tired.

Ojibwemowwag.

They are speaking Ojibwe.

Baapiwag.

They are laughing.

Minwendamoog.

They are happy.

Gii-ayekoziwag bijiinaago.

They were tired yesterday.

Gii-**ojibwemowag** **bijiinaago**.  
They spoke **Ojibwe** yesterday.



Da-ojibwemowag waabang.  
They will speak Ojibwe tomorrow.



Gii-gashkendamoog bijiinaago.

They were sad yesterday.

Da-minwendamoog waabang.  
They will be happy tomorrow.



Gagwejim ina?

