



Learning Words in Cree

Meh twe dan!

Beginner: Play the “repeat after me” game and label items in English and Cree.

“Cree language is spoken in many parts of Canada and is often written in syllabics.”

[Tip]: Use pictures or the actual items.

Tree – Mistik
Water – Ni pee
Clock – Pee sih moo han

Fork – See stah seh poon
House – Was kiy gun
Sun – Pisim

Intermediate: Practice making short sentences in Cree. Say the sentences first in English, then translate into Cree.

[Tip]: Try your best to say the words with your child. A pronunciation guide can be used for assistance.

I love you – Ki sa ke hi tin
Let's Play – Meh twe dan
Hello – Tansi

Thank you – Ekosi
Friend – Ni chi wakan
Play – Me twe
Read – A mis chi ke

Experienced: Practice saying complete sentences in Cree.

[Tip]: Examples are listed below.

Hello, how are you today? - Tansi, kee nah anos
This is my friend. - Nee jaw gun awa
Come here and read. – Peya mis chi ke

[Brief] Why? Practicing a language together will make sure the words and culture are preserved.

[Detailed] Why? Through learning Indigenous languages like Cree, children will become aware that all First Nations have their own cultures, languages, beliefs and values.



References: Desjardins, D. (2017). Responding to the TRC's Calls to Actions for Early Childhood Classrooms. Our Spirit Soar. <https://www.ourspiritssoar.com/>

Caregiver Handbook: Cree Vocabulary