



# chi miigwech big thank you

## activity

chi miigwech means “big thank you” in anishinaabemowin. we can say chi miigwech for the natural world, the plants and animals and even the creatures we cannot see. chi miigwech for our basic needs and everything we feel and experience. chi miigwech for the seven grandfather teachings. and chi miigwech for you!

1. what do you say chi miigwech for? draw a picture.

chi miigwech for...

chi miigwech for...

chi miigwech for...

2. are there pages in the book that relate to the things you say chi miigwech for? if so, which pages?

(for example, if you said “chi miigwech for...sunny summer days,” that relates to the “chi miigwech for the sun, the moon” page.)

3. below are the gifts of the seven grandfathers, also called the seven (sacred) teachings or the seven grandfather teachings. these teachings are anishinaabe guiding principles for life. each concept is represented by an animal. see if you can find the following animals in the book’s illustrations:

truth – turtle

love – eagle

honesty – sabe  
(or sasquatch)

courage – bear

humility – wolf

wisdom – beaver

respect – buffalo



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**a note on capitalization:** as you can see in the book and this activity sheet, lowercase letters are used in some places where we might expect capitals. this is a deliberate choice made by the author to demonstrate capitalization rules are arbitrary complications and symbols of dominance. using a lowercase style is a form of linguistic resistance and is rooted in a rejection of colonial power structures associated with languages like english. discuss this choice and the effects in your classroom.