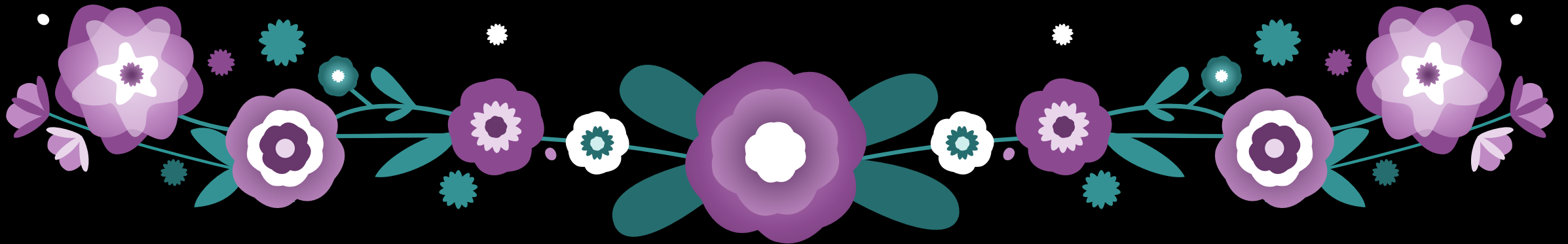


Ojibwemotaadidaa: Four Generation Model

Gaagigeziizhigookwe Nicole Kneeland
Netaa-niimid Aamookwe Persia Erdrich
March 6, 2024





Gaagigeigiizhigookwe Nicole Kneeland



- Forever Sky Woman-Anishinaabekwe, Ojibwe
- Migizi Clan, Mashkisiibing Bad River
- Raised with a focus of Land-based/Place-Based
- Language & Culture Identity work
- Teacher for over 20 years in both K-12 & Higher Education



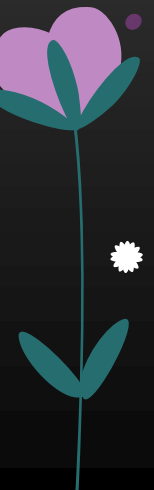
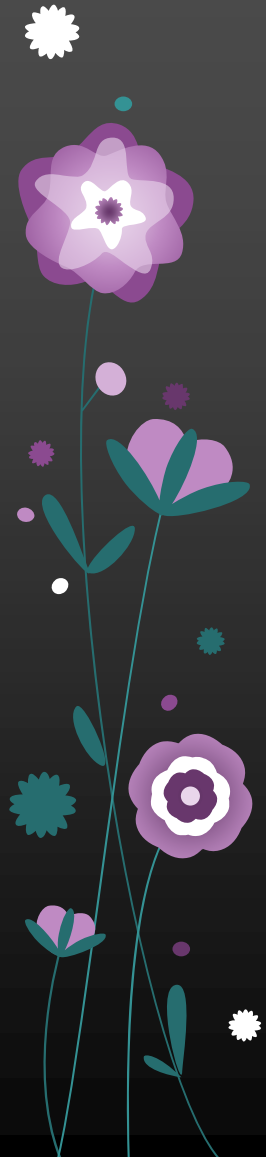
Netaa-niimid Aamookwe Persia Erdrich



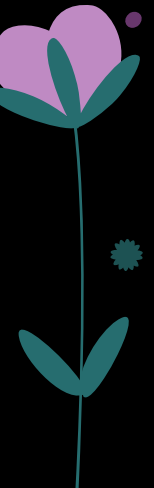
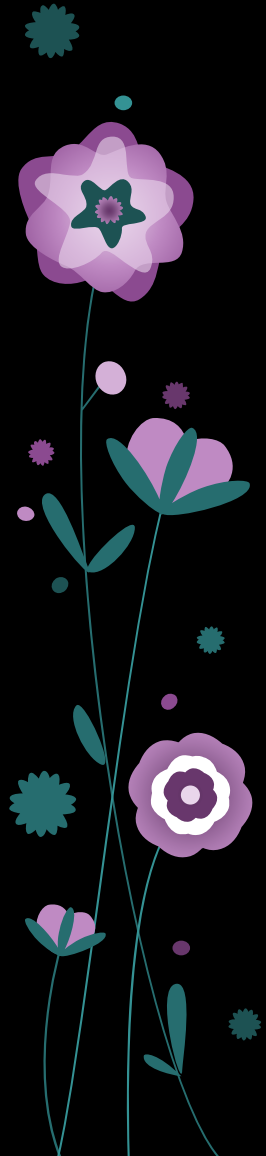
- Dancing Honeybee Woman, life-long Ojibwe language learner
- 7 years as an Ojibwe immersion Kindergarten teacher
- Trained aides and teachers
- Raising child as Ojibwe speaker
- Lead Ojibwe Immersion Teacher and Trainer at Gookonaanig Endaawaad

Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang

- Started 2011 as a summer adult Ojibwe immersion academy
- Added 1 weekend a month program for rest of the year
- Goal for 1:1 elder to learner, eventually this was no longer possible
- Participants are advanced speakers, many are teachers that need a place to go to continue their language proficiency



How do we raise
thriving Ojibwe
speaking children?



Ojibwe as First Language

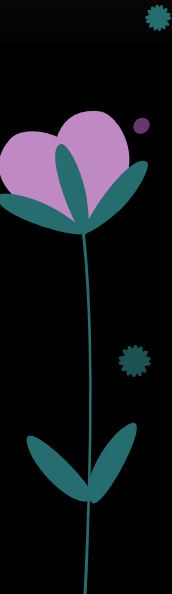
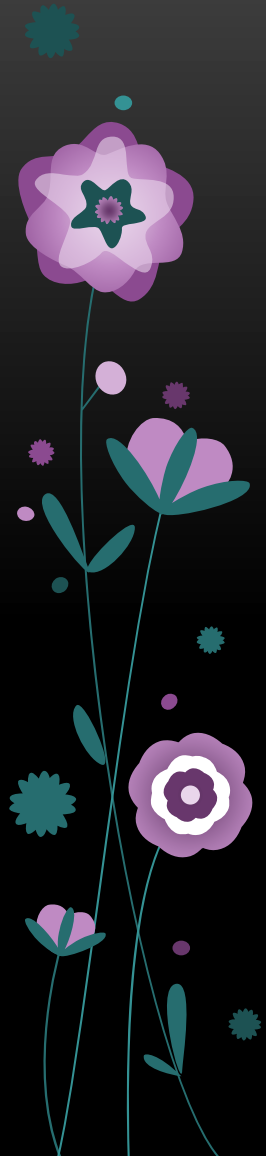


- Taught Ojibwe immersion kindergarten remotely in 2020
- Made decision to only speak to my son in Ojibwe
- Many awkward conversations and situations
- Needed more support



Gookonaanig Endaawaad

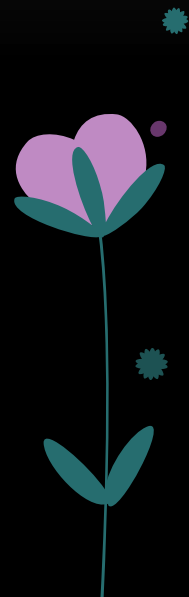
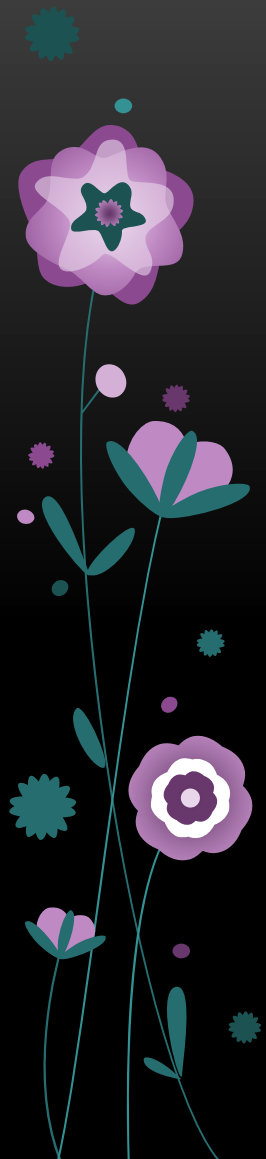
- Cohort of parents from OOG
- Parents supported with funding, language and parenting development opportunities
- Parents working together to speak Ojibwe in public spaces



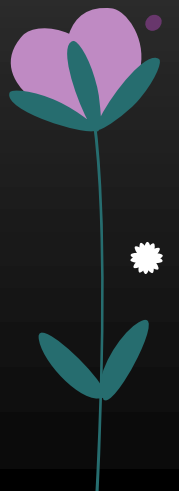
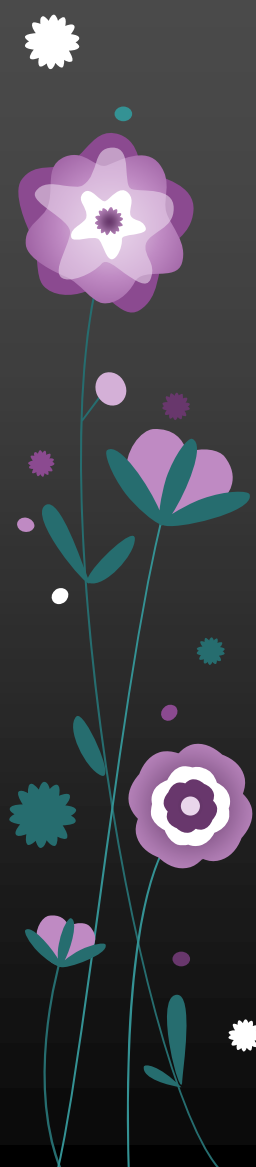
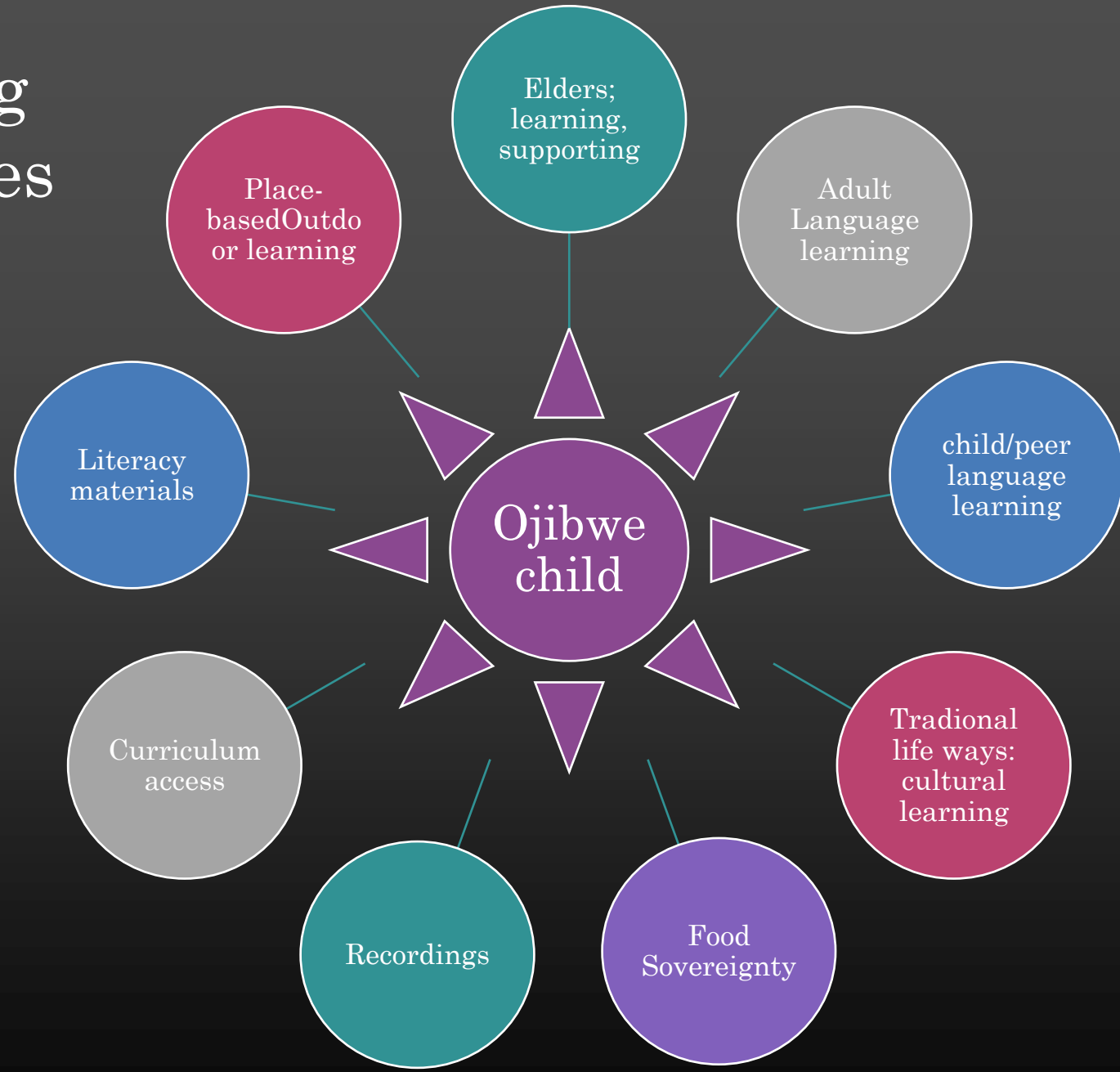
Learning Through Practicing Our Culture

- Opportunities for adults to learn and grow along with the children
- Curriculum creation
- Time with elders





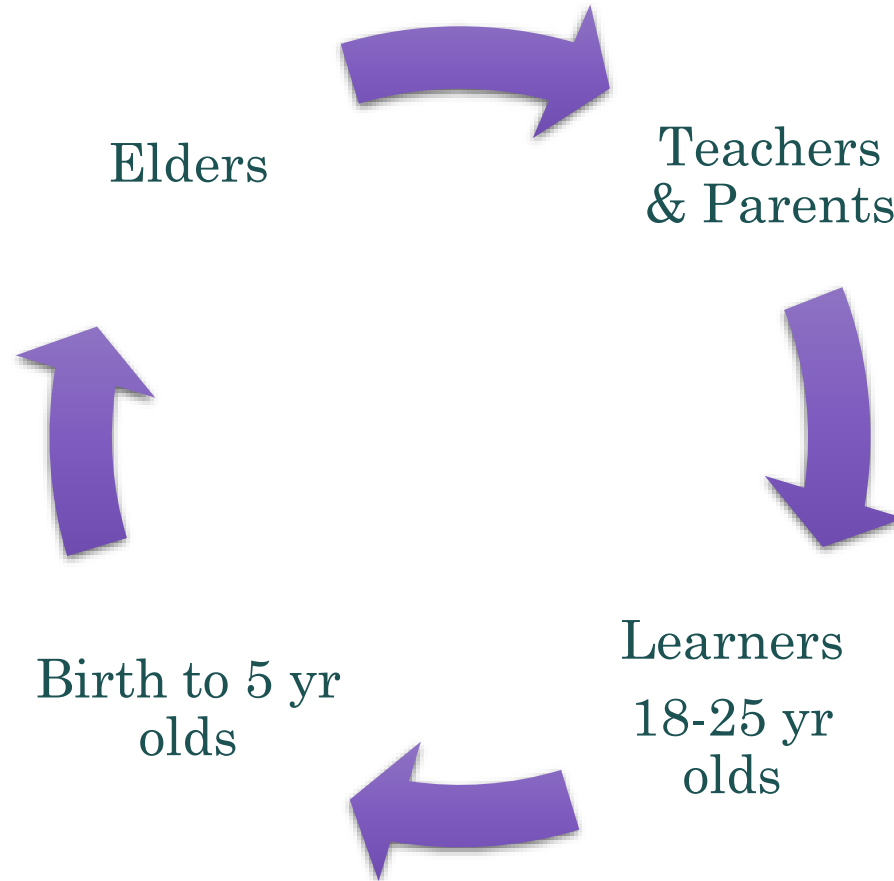
Programming Initiatives



- Drop-off Program for 3-5yr olds
- Opened 2023
- Family Group License
- Training teachers



Gookonaanig Endaawaad: Four Generation Model



**Intergenerational
Transmission of
Knowledge**

Indigenous Child Care Model

- We stopped trying to fit into Western child care models
 - Smudging
 - Building fires for ceremony/sugar bush/cooking
 - Nature-based/Land-based-even in inclement weather
 - Traditional foods-made intentional choice not to serve processed foods
- Focus is on Living a Traditional Anishinaabe Life in Community



Key Programming & Staffing Roles

- Elders/First Language speakers
- Experienced Language Teacher/Trainer- who can play a role in both teaching children, parents but also training new language teachers
- Family/Parent Support person-overcome barriers with support
- Parents-we worked to find funding to pay parents to attend programming with their baby
- Cultural Specialists-especially with local land



Funding the Program

- Retention of Professionals
 - need dedicated team members to pursue funding and report on it
 - Grant Manager-who can develop relationships with funders as well as communication within tribe and other tribal programs
- Pursuing funding that is not specific to Language Revitalization
 - Historical Trauma, Self Determination, Human Services



