

#### GCHI MIIGWECH BIG THANK YOU

Gchi Miigwech to Georgina Island First Nation community for sharing their knowledge, wisdom, experience, time, and talent to create this Zine for generations to come.

Special thanks to Tammy Barfett-Charles, Heather Charles, Dani Cotton, Natalie Priester, Alicia Trivett and Kelsey Trivett. We are thankful for the beautiful artwork created lovingly by Heather Charles for this zine, as well as other artists, as noted on each page. Zine designed by Gabrielle Giroux of Encore Graphics.

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We created this zine to be open to all genders and sexualities and we are always supporting the way people identify themselves.





This project has been supported through Women and Gender Equality Canada's Women's Program.



Women and Gender Equality Canada

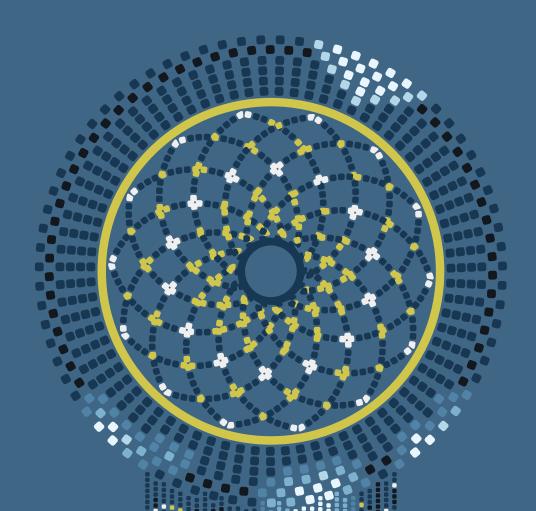
Femmes et Égalité des genres Canada



## BIINJI'ING MAZINIGAN WI TABLE OF CONTENTS

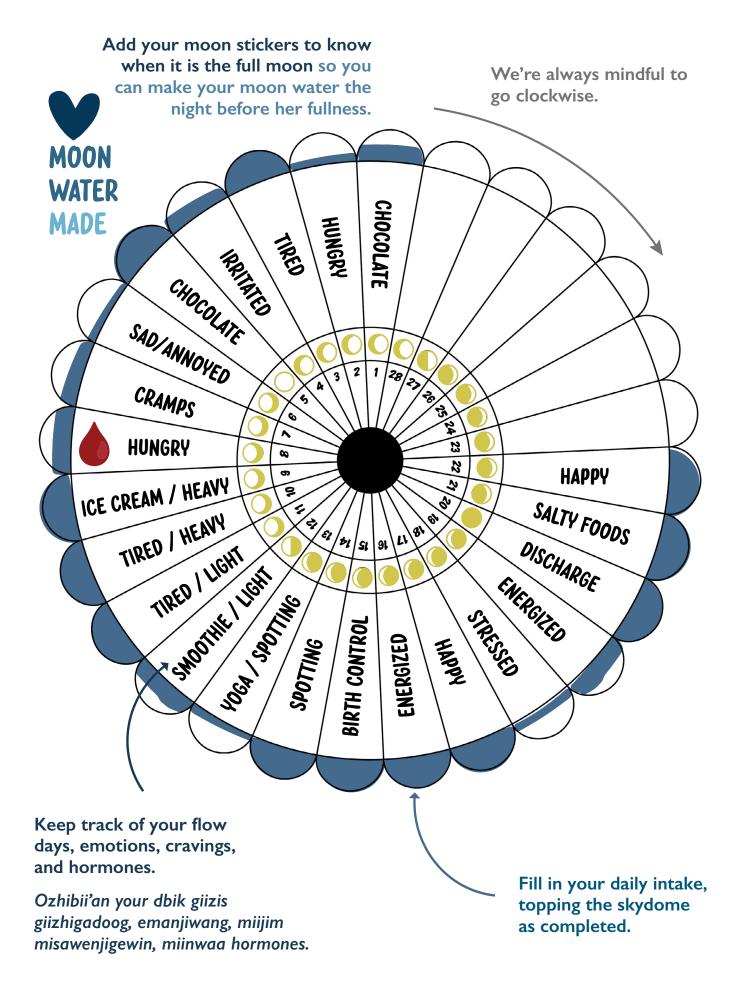
How To Use Your Moon Time Zine	2
How to Make Your Moon Water	4
Welcome To Your Moon Time	6
Manidoo Dbik Giizis / January	8
First Period Story	9
Mkwa Dbik Giizis / February	10
Premenstrual Signs	П
Ziisbaakdoke Dbik Giizis / March	12
Word Search	13
Namebin Dbik Giizis / April	14
Moon Cycles	15
Women's Medicine: Medicinal Bark	16
Waabgonii Dbik Giizis / May	18
Food To Match Your Cycle	19
Odemin Dbik Giizis / June	20
Sports + Movements While On Moon Time	21
Mskomin Dbik Giizis / July	22
Period Product Choices	23
Datgaagmin Dbik Giizis / August	24
Unscramble	25
Auntie Advice	26
Mndaamin Dbik Giizis / September	28
Back To School Period Pack	29
Binaakwe Dbik Giizis / October	30
Mshkawji Dbik Giizis / November	32
On Your Body	
Manidoons Dbik Giizis / December	34
Ceremony And Moon Time	35

PREPARATION. EDUCATION. NORMALIZATION. FOR THE NEXT GENERATION.



# JI-AABJITOON DIBIK GIIZIS MAAZINIGAN

HOW TO USE YOUR MOON TIME ZINE

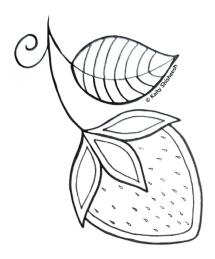


# JI-ZHITOON DBIK GIIZIS NIBI HOW TO MAKE YOUR MOON WATER

On the night before or the night that Grandmother reaches her fullness, put water in a glass jar and set it in the windowsill where it will receive her light.

Grandmother Moon gives us our 28 day cycle. She moves the water and her force creates tides both here on Mother Earth and within each and every person who experiences menstruation. We all carry water - we are the water that brings life. When her light pours over you, you will have an opportunity to see clearly. Shed what doesn't make you happy and move forward cleansed, humble and honest - your vision will be much clearer.





# BIINDIGEN TO YOUR MOON TIME!

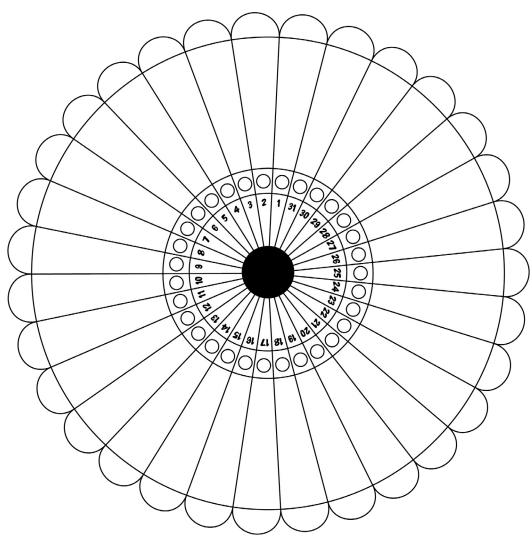
#### **WELCOME TO YOUR MOON TIME!**

Like all medicines, Grandmother Moon is available to everyone, she sees us all as equals and so should you. Love yourself, love your sisters, love all. Hang on to each other. Be kind and support each other through this monumental time. Learning to move with the moon is embracing your own magnificence.

Between these papers, you'll find your story. Lots of strong people came together to wrap you in this love and bring you these teachings. Hand picked gentle reminders to hydrate, meditate, reflect, and relax. Listen to advice from your aunties and others because everyone has their own story and experience. This is a tool as a safe place to share and discover your own.

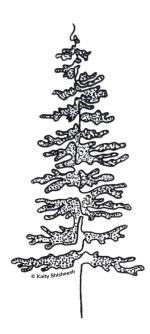
#### Take some time to sit with your thoughts. These blanks can be filled by anyone because everyone will have their own answers. Even brothers, dads, and boyfriends.

I was years old when I first learned what moon time was moon time kinoomaagewinan.	_ nigiibiboongiz pii nigii gikendan
I felt / Nigiizhiyaa:	
I wish I knew / Nigii begish nigii gikendan	
I trust / Niwaan'kiiyenmaa	
about "moon time" because / pii nigii giigidomin about moon time	onji
If I could go back, I would tell myself / Giishpin ngii zhaa gii zhiweba	k, ngii wiindamag "



### MANIDOONS DBIK GIIZIS

LITTLE SPIRIT MOON - JANUARY





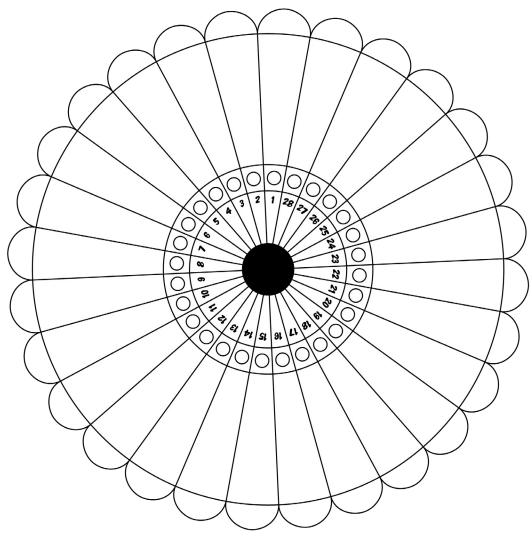
# WIKWANDIGOO! WE CELEBRATE YOU! WIJIWSHIGOO! WE SUPPORT YOU! NIIGAANIGOO! WE GUIDE AND LEAD YOU!

- GDI'AANIKOOBIJIGANAG
- YOUR ANCESTORS

When I had my first moon time, I remember / Niin nit	tam pii moon time, nigii mikwendaan
I was most embarraased about my moon time when /	Nigii ozaam-agazitaagoz pii
I wish I knew before / Indbegish nigii gikendaan jibw	aa

"THE STRENGTH OF WOMEN COMES FROM THAT LIFE FORCE INSIDE THEM. NOT ONLY PHYSICAL STRENGTH BUT THE STRENGTH THAT COMES FROM MANAGING THE MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL EFFECTS OF MENSTRUATION AS WELL AS THE SPIRITUAL TEACHINGS THAT COME WITH RECEIVING YOUR MOON TIME."

- Alicia Trivett



### MKWA DBIK GIIZIS

BEAR MOON - FEBRUARY



#### PREMENSTRUAL SIGNS

How do we know when it's coming? Aaniish ezhi-gikendan pii dagoshin?

Listening to our bodies is an important thing to learn What is there to expect at different stages? Inside these pages you begin learning your cycle, what feels good for your body, and some teachings along the way.

When I listen to my body, it tells me that it needs	

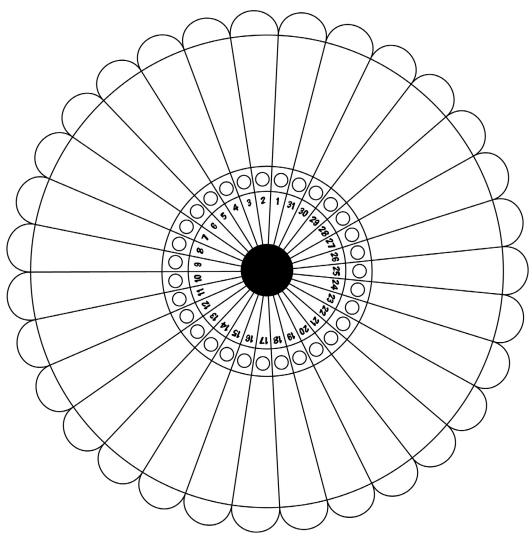
On any paper, notepad, or even on this page, make a grocery list of whatever it is that your body is telling you it needs. This space makes it a little easier to just show your parents (if it's still uncomfortable to ask).



odemin dekaag dbikad apishinan niibiishaaboo nwebi aabitoojiinan

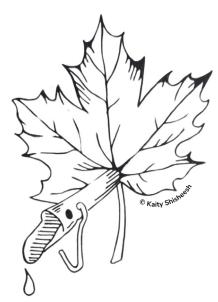


ICE CREAM
OVERNIGHT PADS
MOVIE NIGHT
TAMPONS
ODEMIN DEKAAG

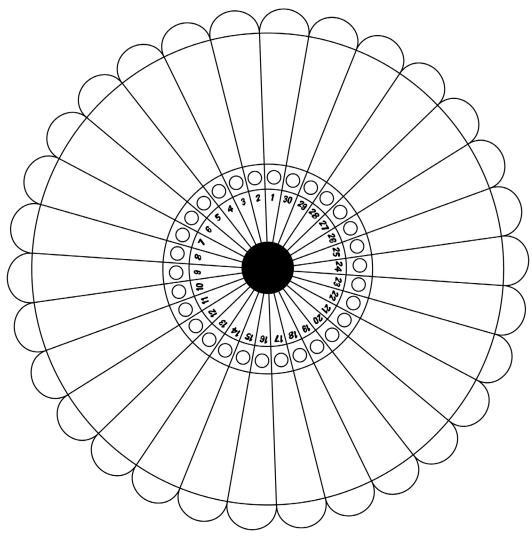


### ZIISBAAKDOKE DBIK GIIZIS

MAPLE SUGARING MOON - MARCH

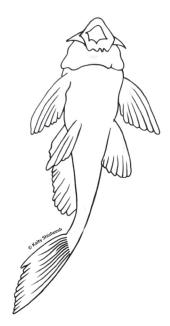


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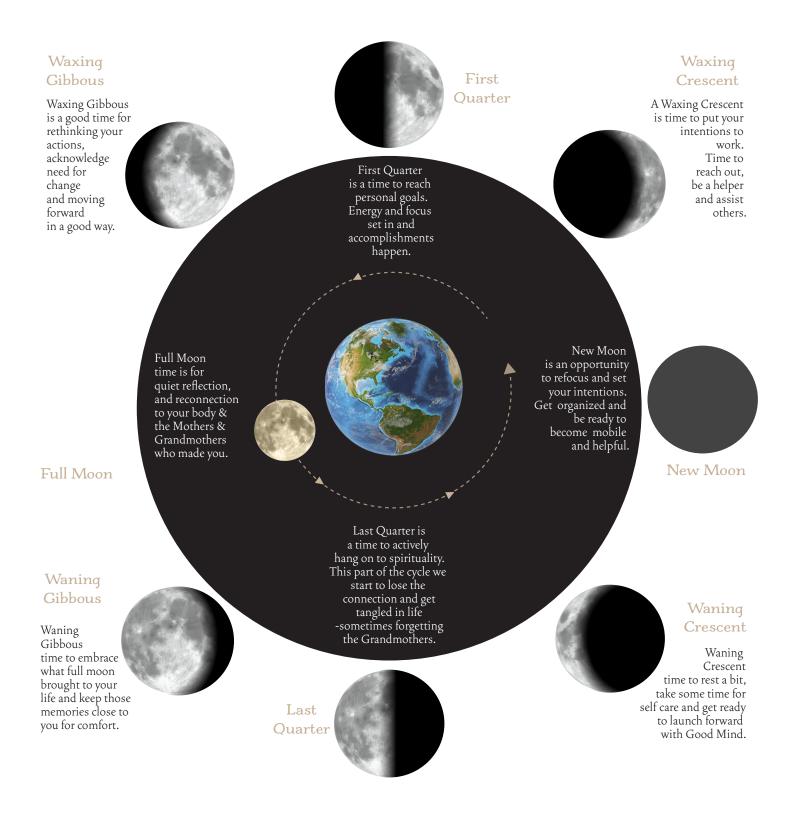


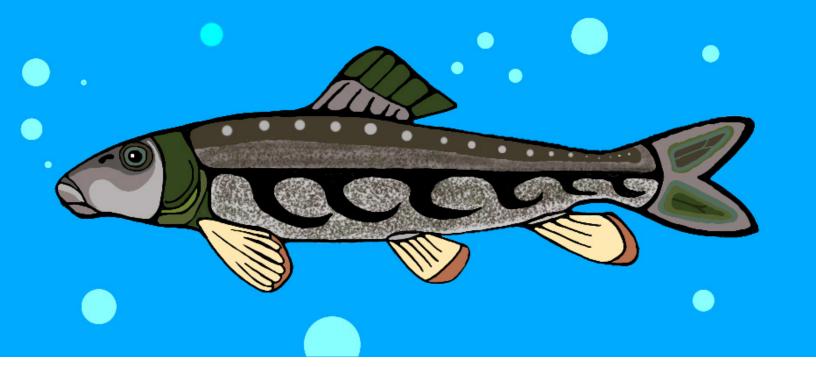
### NAMEBIN DBIK GIZIS

SUCKER FISH MOON - APRIL



#### **MOON CYCLES**



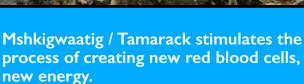


# KWE MSHKIKII WOMEN'S MEDICINE

As you begin to build your relationship with our traditional medicines, you can find a mentor that can teach you to say the names in Anishinaabemowin and you can learn how to identify it, what the medicine helps us with and how to ethically harvest it.

#### MEDICINAL BARKS







Wiisaagaak / Ash helps mediate growth hormones in the uterus, helps regulate our cycle with the moon.

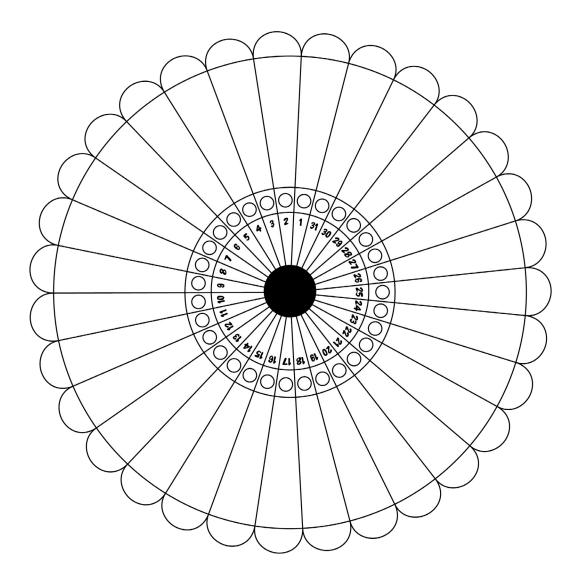


Miskwaabimiizh / Red Osier Dogwood alleviates pain, the pithe is used traditionally in childbirth for pain management.



Niibminaatigoons / Highbush Cranberry helps with cramping, helps keep magnesium in the body.

PHOTOS BY KELSEY TRIVETT 17



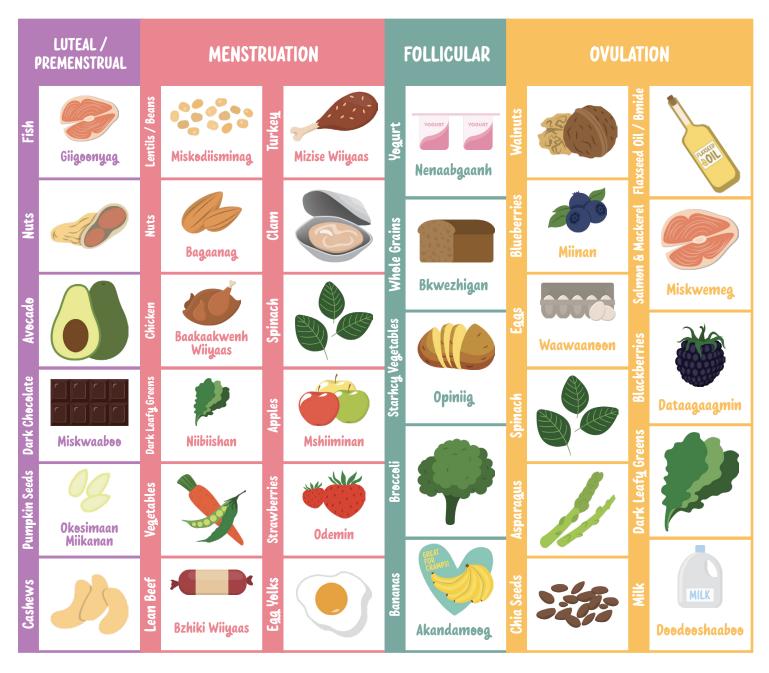
### WAABGONII DBIK GIIZIS

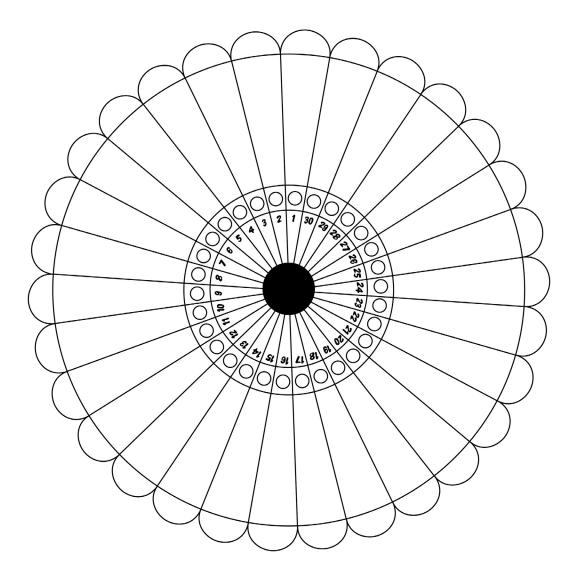
FLOWERING MOON - MAY



### MIJIM TO MATCH YOUR CYCLE FOOD TO MATCH YOUR CYCLE

Food is medicine and it's important to put the best food in your body. As we are shedding and losing blood, we must fuel ourselves with nutrient dense foods to help alleviate symptoms. Try to avoid spicy and fried foods, salt, sugar, alcohol, processed foods, red meat, and coffee during menstruation.





### ODEMIN DBIK GIIZIS

STRAWBERRY MOON - JUNE



### ZHICHIGEWIN MEGWAA MOON TIME MOVEMENT WHILE ON MOON TIME

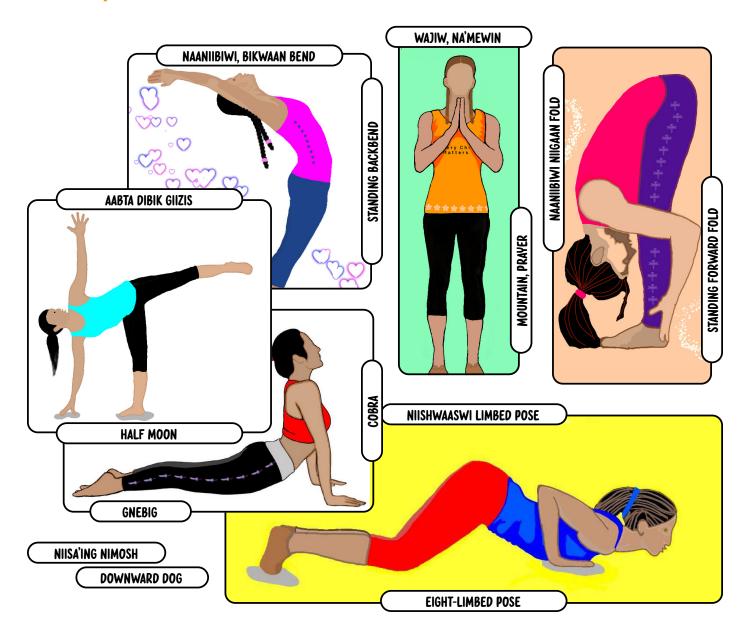
Being active during your moon time has many benefits. It could alleviate symptoms such as pain, cramps, bloating, depression, mood swings, irritability, fatigue, nausea. When working out, our body produces endorphins, or "feel good hormones", that will reduce anxiety/depression, resulting in improving your mood.

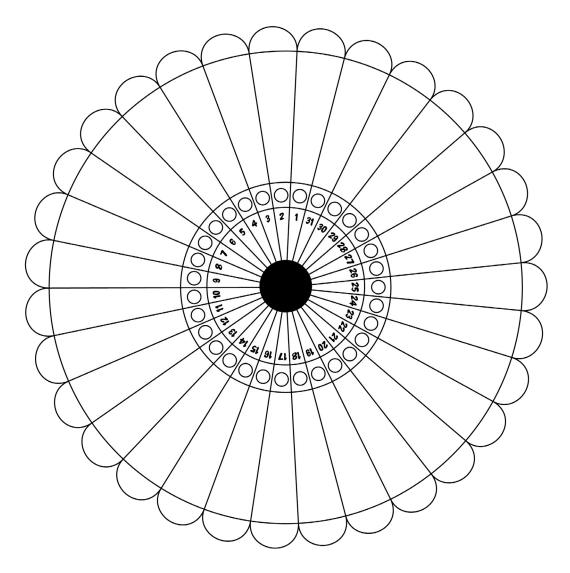
The key is to find balance.

It's also important to not overexert yourself during your workouts. Take frequent water breaks to stay hydrated.

#### Your after workout hygiene:

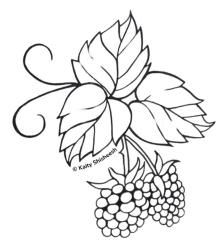
Shower, fresh underwear, fresh period products of your choice.



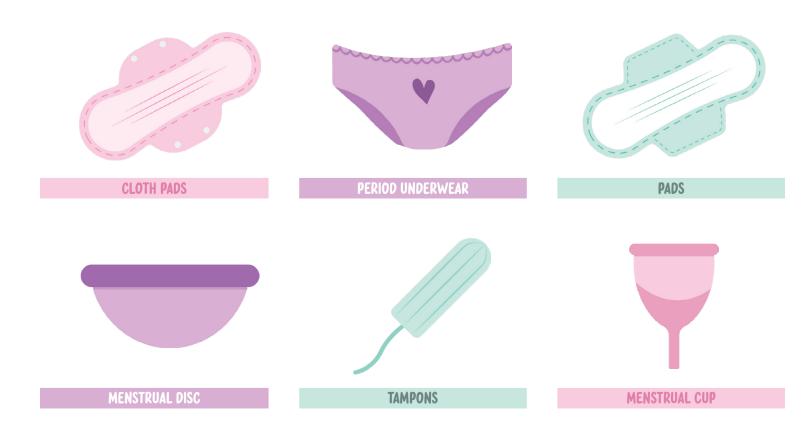


### MSKOMIN DBIK GIIZIS

RASPBERRY MOON - JULY

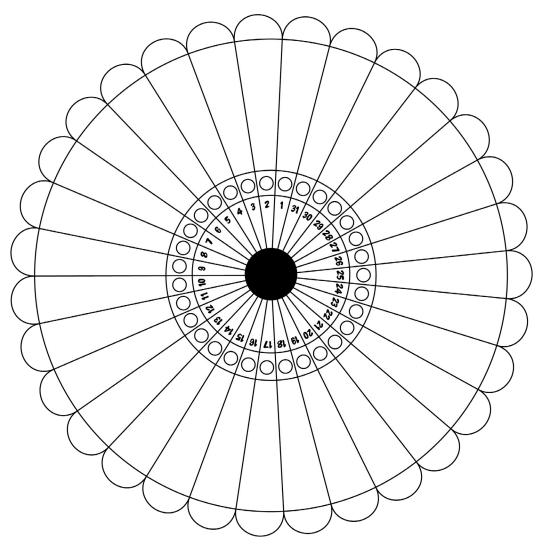


### PERIOD OZHICHIGAN CHOICES PERIOD PRODUCT CHOICES



"I WAS EMBARRASSED I WAS ONE OF THE LAST OF MY FRIENDS TO GET A PERIOD, EMBARRASSED TO GET MY PERIOD. AS I GOT OLDER AND SPOKE TO MORE FRIENDS ABOUT IT, I REALIZED EVERYONE'S BODIES ARE DIFFERENT AND EVERYONE HAS A DIFFERENT CYCLE AND YOU NEED TO LISTEN TO YOUR BODY REALLY WELL TO KNOW WHAT'S NORMAL FOR YOU."

- DANI COTTON



### DATGAAGMIN DBIK GIIZIS

BLACKBERRY MOON - AUGUST

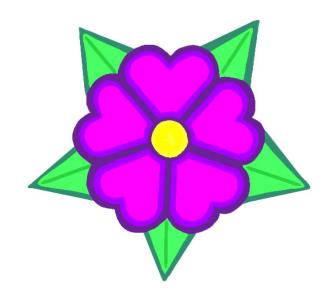


Without clarity on what's happening in different stages, things can feel all scrambled up. Unscrambled these words below to find the hidden message.

В T Ε Т I R Ε D Т ı S Ε M 0 R Т R Α В L C P R M Ν G Α F 0 L S Ε D D Ν G Н R Y D T Α Ε 0 L Α Ε T M T U R Ε Α

Ε

## ZIGOS NBWAAKAAWIN AUNTIE ADVICE



"Aunties are not just your blood relations; aunties will come into your life in many ways and at many different times throughout your life. Reach out to these women you consider aunties; they are here to help you along your path."

#### - TAMMY CHARLES

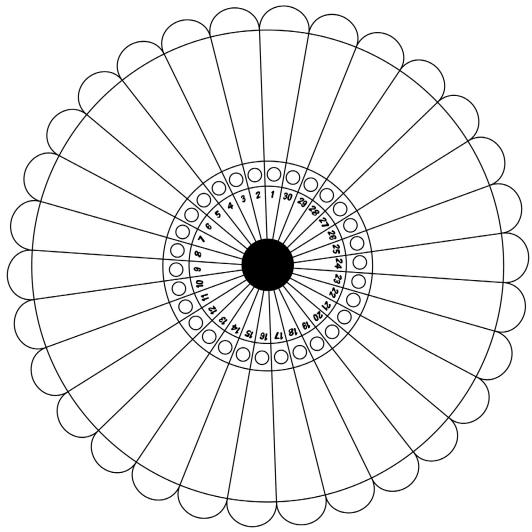
"Periods are normal. You are worthy. And your experience matters. Keep speaking up - the more you know, the easier it gets."

#### **LOVE THE PERIOD PURSE**

"'Ikwe' means a transitional state. The word for cooking food is 'jiibaakwe' and the word that describes the trees shedding their leaves in fall is 'binaakwe.' When we talk about a woman's transitional stages, there is the time we begin our menstrual cycle, and when we begin menopause. There is a physical and hormonal change and spiritually we are closest to the Creator at this time. We are able to change, be in flux, adapt and we learn a lot about ourselves. It is important to come together and share what we know and support one another."

- KELSEY TRIVETT





### MNDAAMIN DBIK GIIZIS

CORN MOON - SEPTEMBER



### GIIZHAA KINOOMAAGEGAMIGOONG MIINWAA BACK TO SCHOOL PERIOD PACK



Find a little makeup bag, add your preferred period products and even a new pair of underwear. Stick it in your backpack in case you or a friend need it.

#### **OZHIITAAWIN**

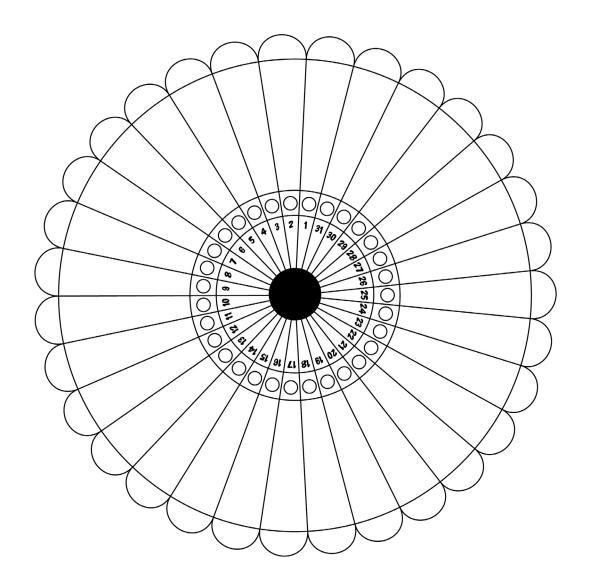
**Preparation** 

#### PII NOKOMIS DBIK GIIZIS NBWAACHWEYIN

When Grandmother Moon visits you

#### **INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE\***

INSTEAD OF	"becoming a womar	" SAY	"sta	rting puberty"		
INSTEAD OF	"feminine hygiene p	roducts"	SAY	"menstrual products	s"	
INSTEAD OF	"femcare" SAY "menstruation management"					
INSTEAD OF	"women's health"	SAY	"reprodi	uctive health"		
INSTEAD OF	"mothers and daugl	nters"	SAY	"parents and children"		
INSTEAD OF	"women" SAY	"people	99			



### BINAAKWE DBIK GIIZIS



LEAVES FALLING MOON - OCTOBER



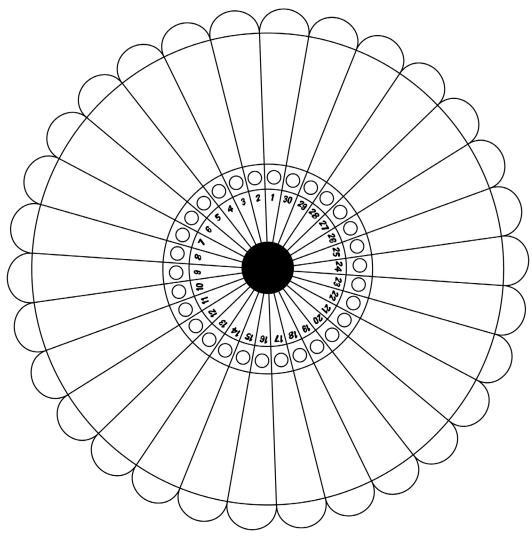
Zhitoon gdi dibaajmowin Aapchi gwaanajwan that even anangoog will Begishnaa you could touch them.

Zhitoon gdi dibaajmowin aapchi bzaante that you will even see

Nookomis Dbik Giziis zhoomengweni.

Zhitoon gdi dibaajmowin aapchi waaseyaa that you will Nistotam bneshiinyag, taste the mshkikii, smell noodin, Mnikwe nibi, face giizis, miinwaa embrace the storms. Zhitoon gdi dibaajmowin aapchi ewiskwibang that your Mistakes are glorious, your memories hilarious, Your pain fleeting and gdi zaagidiwin debwewin.

Zhitoon gdi dibaajmowin aapchi gwaanjwan...

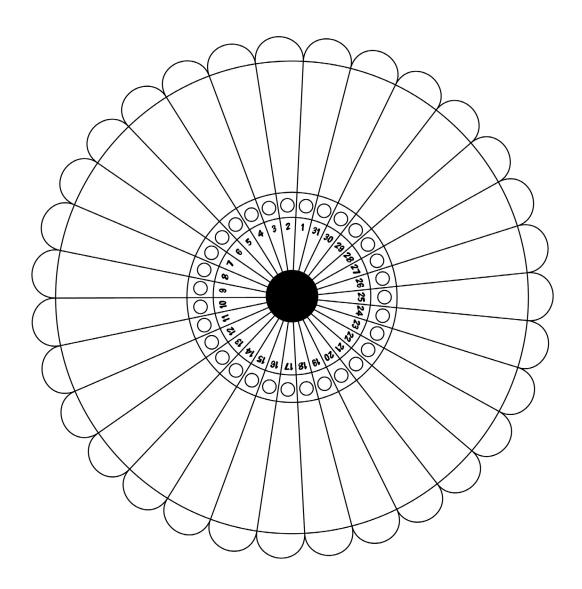


### MSHKAWJI DBIK GIIZIS

FREEZING MOON - NOVEMBER

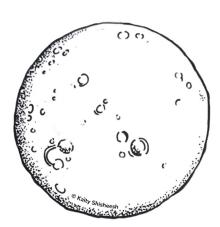






### MANIDOO DBIK GIIZIS

SPIRIT MOON O DECEMBER



#### MAANIDOKEWIN MIINWAA MOON TIME GWIIMIKWENIMIN

#### **CEREMONY AND MOON TIME: WE WILL REMEMBER**

It is said that people who menstruate have medicine inside them, while those who don't find medicine through outside things, like lacrosse, singing, and creating. You have powerful medicine within you and it's important to be mindful of it.

#### This is your medicine

You are the vessel that brings life from skyworld to Turtle Island. You are part of Grandmother Moon and her cycle as she watches over you. Here are some helpful reminders throughout your journey.

Lend a helping hand or extra supplies.

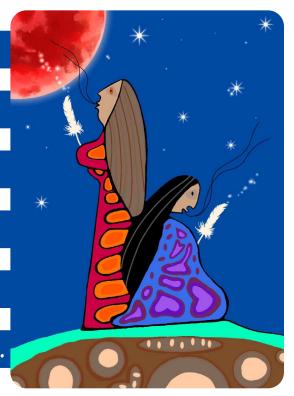
Practice self-care and moon water ritual.

Balance rest and movement

Avoid harvesting medicines for others on your moon.

Your body is naturally purifying itself.

You can smudge with women's medicines on your moon.



GII MSHKAWENDAM! YOU ARE POWERFUL!

