

Go easy on them.  
Ma naa ji'idiwin

# RESPECT

Honor yourself, the Creator,  
family, community, and all of life.  
Wahola



## TRIBAL SIGN WARRIOR

2021-2022

The North Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program (NDLTAP) asked me to spearhead this year's sign protection awareness program utilizing 4th grade students from native schools across North Dakota. I contacted educators and asked them to have their 4th graders submit drawings using the theme "RESPECT" that would provide important visual cues to drivers about how road signs protect and save lives.


A "Tribal Sign Warrior" cartoon superhero encourages 4th grade youth to focus on the four major dangers to North Dakota road signs: shooting, stealing, graffiti, and other damage. Young artists help us illustrate the dangers and the efforts of the Tribal Sign Warrior to protect the state's signs. With the help of NDLTAP, ND Western Liaison Matt Johnson and Dennis Houle, an artist from the Turtle Mountain Reservation, we chose the 16 drawings featured in the 2021-22 Tribal Sign Warrior calendar to be distributed across the state.

"**THE WARRIOR**, for us, is one who sacrifices himself for the good of others. His task is to take care of the elderly, the defenseless, those who cannot provide for themselves, and above all, the children — the future of humanity."

*(Sitting Bull, Hunkpapa Lakota)*

For the Anishinabe being a warrior includes not only being a protector but a provider. Men and women fill this role by protecting families, language, guarding the culture and traditions, providing food, shelter, education/teachings, healing, and protecting the ones that have no voice — the land our resources. Being a warrior is more than just going into battle. It is also being able to keep the peace and following the values that were given to us by the Creator.

*Joy Anne Armitte*  
Tribal Liaison




**Red** = Urgent message to pay attention to, such as stop and do not enter  
**Yellow** = Permanent hazard areas, such as crosswalks and traffic lights  
**Black and white** = Motorist advisories, such as speed limit or one-way streets  
**Blue** = Less urgent information, such as a rest stop or dining  
**Green** = Travel information, such as a freeway exit number or street name  
**Orange** = Temporary hazard area, such as road work and construction

Sign shape also plays an important role in capturing drivers' attention. Sign shapes and their messages include:

- **Diamond** = Curve ahead
- **Square** = Caution
- **Rectangle** = Speed limit
- **Circle** = Railroad crossing
- **Octagon** = Stop sign

*Thanks to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students who participated in our poster contest. Your efforts make this calendar possible and bring out the sign warrior in all of us. These new fourth grade superheroes are helping to get us all home safely every day. Way to go!*

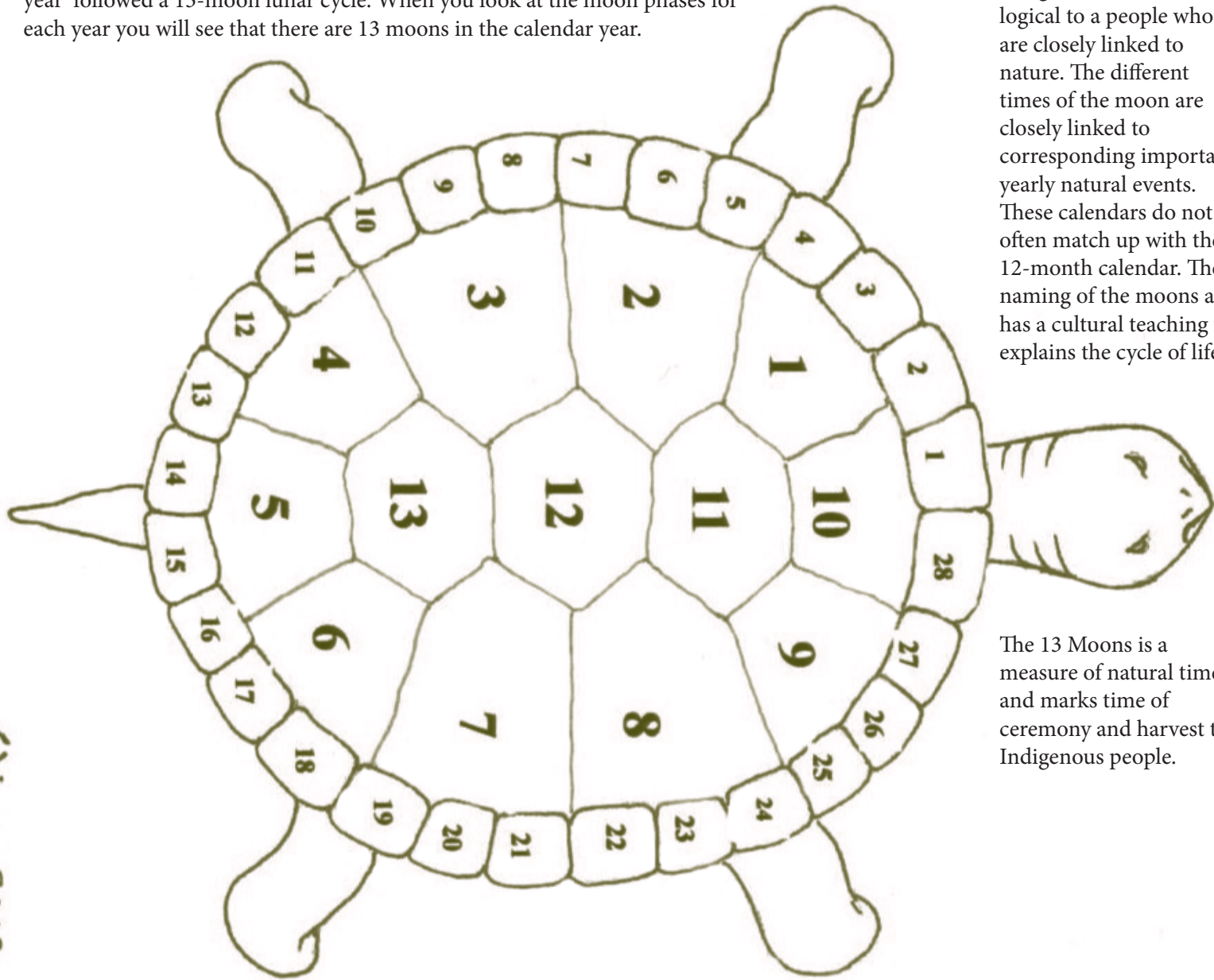


Proudly Supporting Sign Warriors



Most calendars today use the Gregorian 12-month cycle; an indigenous calendar year followed a 13-moon lunar cycle. When you look at the moon phases for each year you will see that there are 13 moons in the calendar year.

Indigenous calendars are logical to a people who are closely linked to nature. The different times of the moon are closely linked to corresponding important yearly natural events. These calendars do not often match up with the 12-month calendar. The naming of the moons also has a cultural teaching that explains the cycle of life.



The 13 Moons is a measure of natural time and marks time of ceremony and harvest to Indigenous people.

The Anishinabe sees on a turtle's back the pattern of scales which establishes the combination of numbers that define the lunar calendar cycle. The circle of scales that surround the edge add up to 28 – the number of days that comprise the lunar cycle (28 days from full moon to full moon). The center of the shell has a pattern of thirteen larger scales which represent the 13 moons of the lunar calendar.

Line 2003



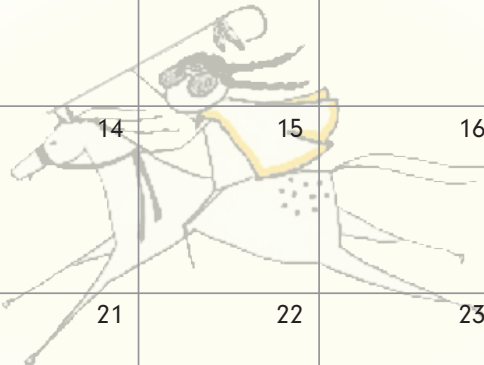
Quanah H.  
Tate Topa Tribal School

Maajirúa Mirish – Harvesting Moon  
 Manoominike Giizis – Wildrice Harvest Moon  
 Canwapegi Wi – Moon of Brown Leaves

The 9th moon is the time of harvesting. Wild rice is a food of great historical, spiritual, and cultural importance and has sustained the Anishinabe people for hundreds of years. Gathering of crops prepares the people for the coming winter months.

## September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Full Moon

# RESPECT

... means acceptance of all things, not only people and animals, but also of cultures, religions, governments, laws and rules, and gender differences.

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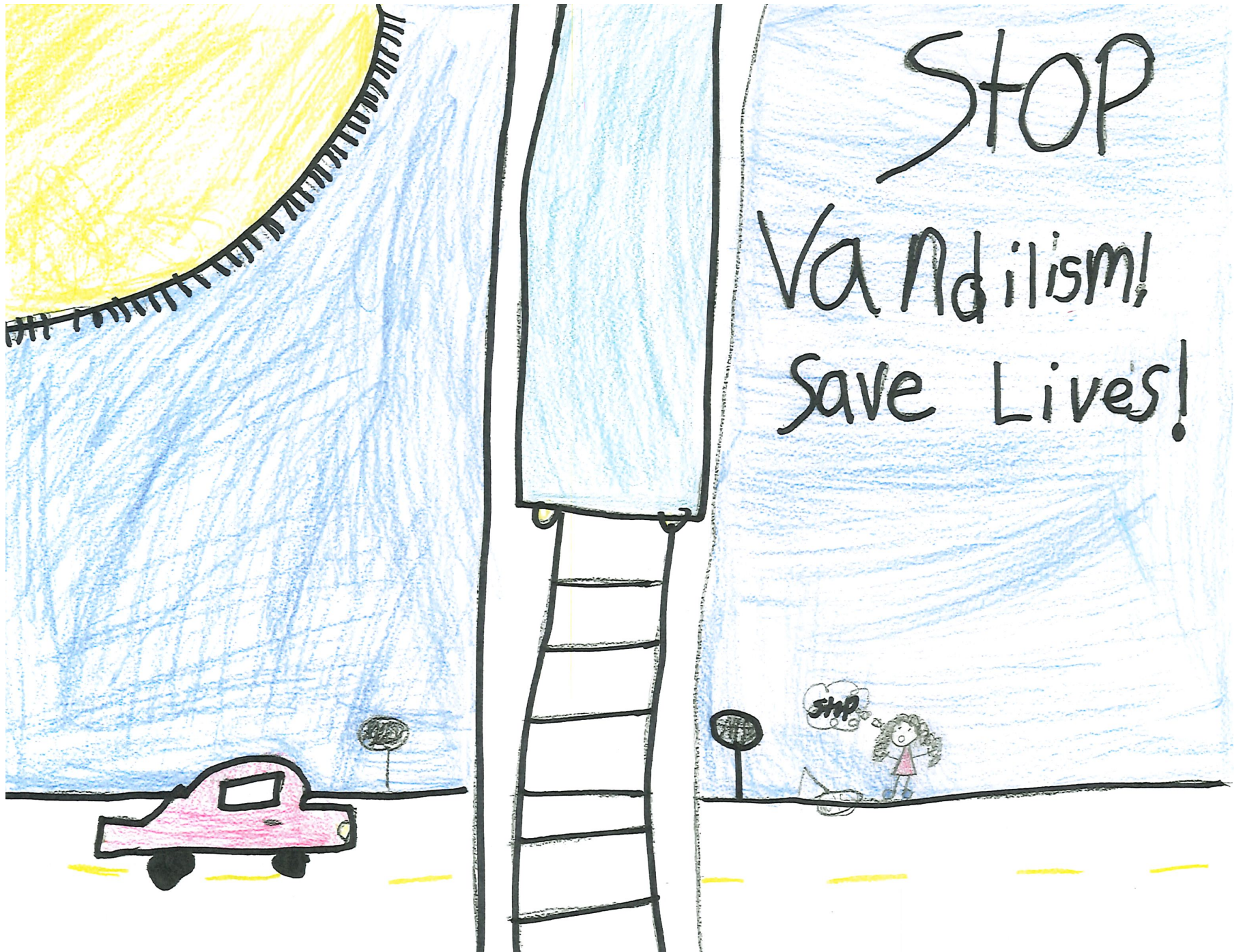
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Miráabu Xiiri Mirish - Moon of the Falling Leaves  
 Waatebagaa Giizis - Color Changing Moon  
 Canwapekasna Wi - Moon When the Wind Shakes Off Leaves

The 10th moon of the year is when leaves are changing.  
 It's a time when Mother Earth is honored with the grandest  
 colors. We become aware of all the miracles of creation before  
 us and our spiritual energies are once again awakened.

## October 2021

# RESPECT

... means taking action  
 to protect the dignity,  
 individuality, and rights  
 of others.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Full Moon

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Levi O.  
Tate Topa Tribal School



Miráaba Aruháaci Mirish – Moon When the River Freezes  
 Gashkadino Giizis – Freezing Over Moon or Binaakwi Giizis – Falling Leaves Moon  
 Waniyatu Wi – Moon of Starting Winter

The 11th and 12th moons are times when every creature prepares for winter. The people look to the spiritual path and learning sacred searchings.

## November 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



# RESPECT

... is to honor the Elders and the leaders who uphold the sacred laws of the Creator.

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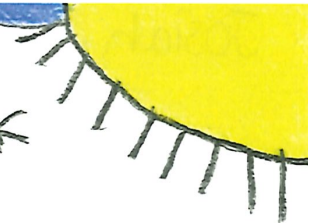
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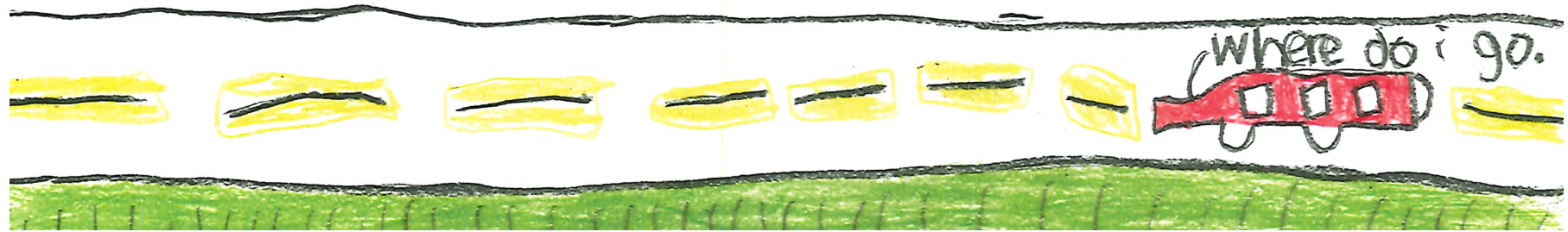
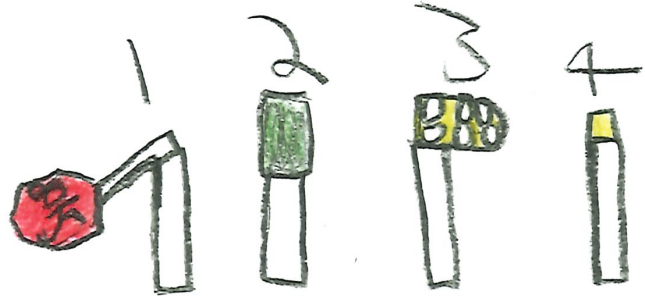
Be a friend to a sign don't break  
it's heart.



don't  
don't  
don't  
don't

break |  
Spray 2  
Shoot 3  
cut 4

4 rules that  
you should keep  
in mind.

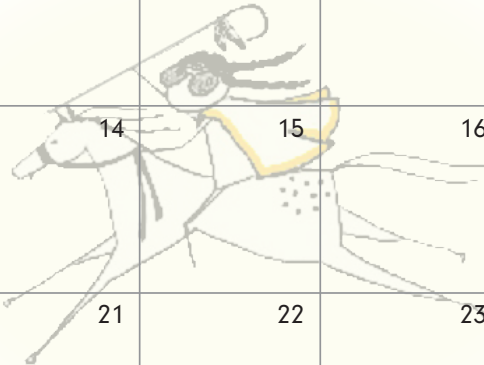


Máara Mabixúba ?ihdia Mirish - Moon of the Little Cold  
 Manidoo Giizisoons - Little Spirit Moon  
 Tahecapsun Wi - Moon of Shedding Horns

The 13th moon's cold temperatures and blistering winds bring a time of healing. We receive both vision and good health to walk our paths with purest of intentions. We share positive energies with our families and friends.

## December 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Full Moon

# RESPECT

Honor all creation through feelings of deep admiration for someone or something which was elicited by their abilities, qualities, achievements.

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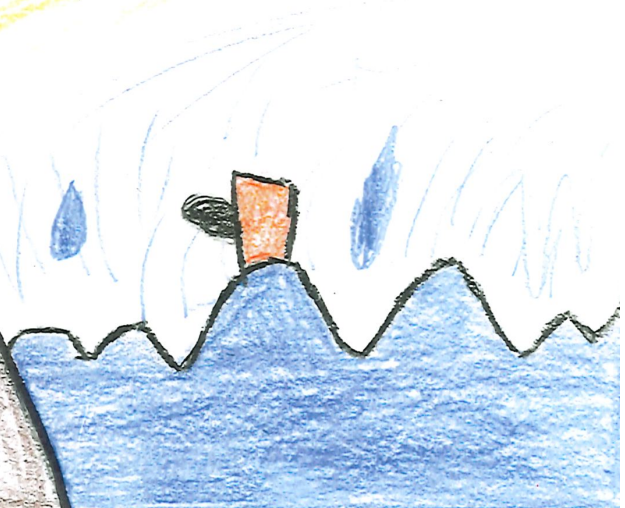
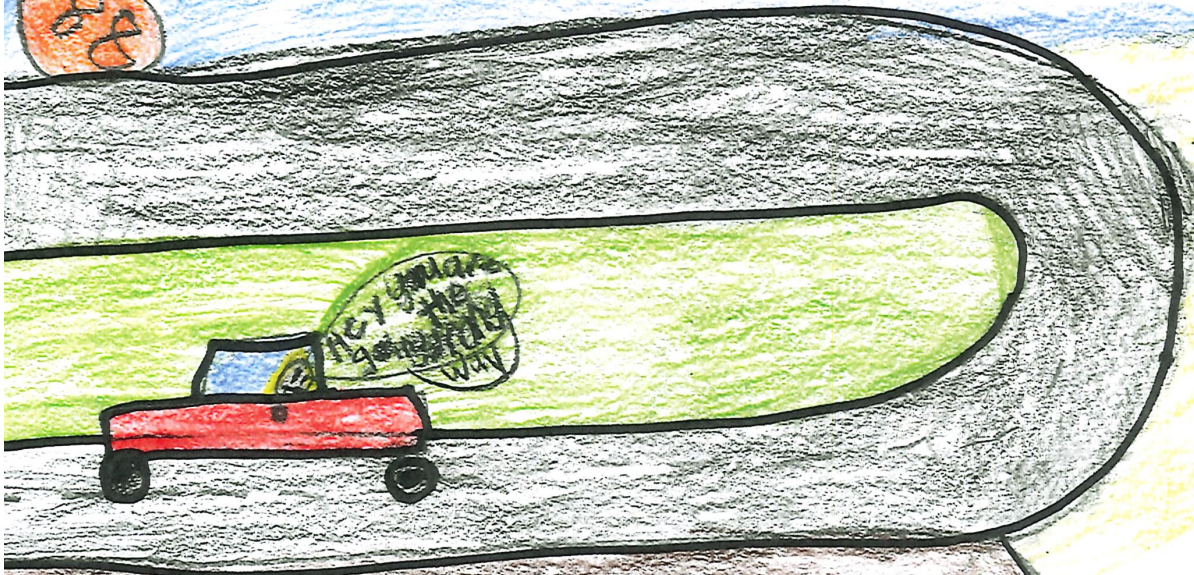
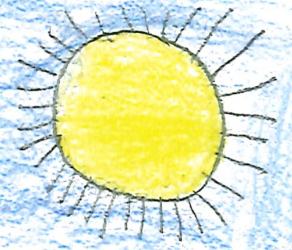
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# Save our signs That Keep People Alive



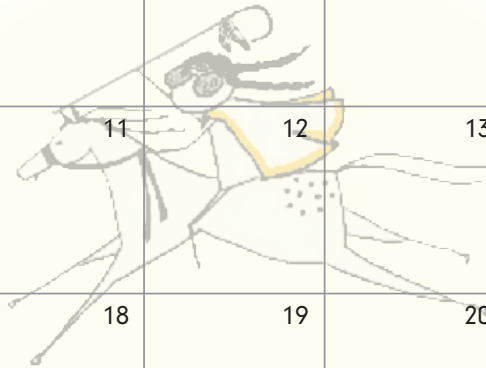
Awa Arugi Hahgi Mirish – Moon of the Seven Cold Days  
 Gichimanidoo Giizis – Great Spirit Moon  
 Wiotekika Wi – Moon of Hard Times

The 1st moon is manifested through the Northern Lights.  
 A time to honor silence and realize our place in the  
 universe. This is a time of many difficulties; food is  
 scarce and weather is fierce, but the people prevail.

# RESPECT

## January 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Full Moon					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



To honor all Creation is to have respect, therefore, all Creations should be treated with respect.

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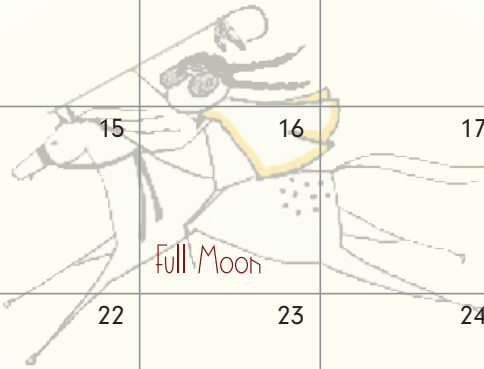
Kaycee M.  
Tate Topa Tribal School

Mirá Arashagi Mirish – Wolf Rut Moon  
 Namebini Giizis – Sucker Moon  
 Cannapopa Wi – Moon When Trees Crack from the Cold

Sucker gave his life for the Anishinabe during this time of bitter cold when the snow and ice make the trees crack. It is the hardest time of the year to find food because game is scarce.

## February 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



# RESPECT

... means to honor and hold your fellow living beings, including yourself in high esteem.

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Jordan M.  
Tate Topa Tribal School

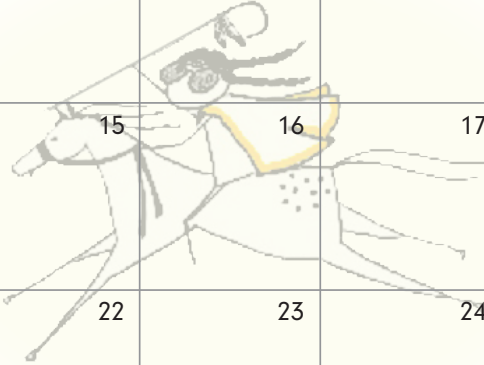


Mirée Arugi Báadagi Mirish – Moon of the Sore Eyes  
 Onaabani Giizis – Hard Crust on the Snow Moon  
 Istawicayazan Wi – Moon of Snow Blindness/Sore Eyes

A firm crust on the snow gave easy access to all manner of bogs, swamps, lakes, and forests, which gives us access to many medicines. This will be much harder to access after the spring thaw. But the sun rays banking off the hard snow will blind us.

## March 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Full Moon

# RESPECT

If you wish to be respected,  
 you must give respect.

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# SAVE A SIGN



## SAVE MILLIONS OF LIVES.



School: Four winds

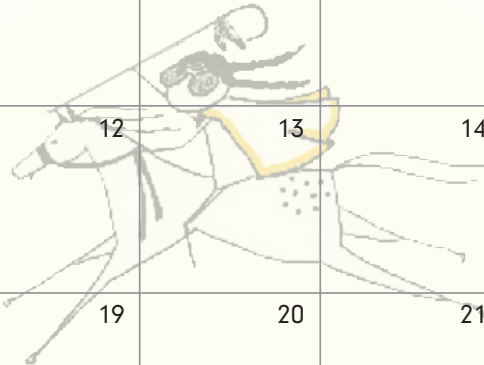
Sign Warrior: Jaycob

Awa Aru Pó Shee Mirish – Moon of the Breaking Up of Ice  
 Ishigamizigi Giizis – Maple Sap Boiling Moon  
 Magzksicaagli Wi – Moon When Ducks Come Back

Female animals at this time are carrying their babies and they are at their largest. This is also the time when one of our main medicines, the maple sap, begins to run. It balances our blood and heals us.

## April 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Full Moon

# RESPECT

To show Respect for others...  
 Listen to what others have to say giving evidence that they matter.  
 Serve.  
 Be Kind.  
 Be Polite.  
 Be Thankful.

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Save our  
signs  
Sign  
Warrior

Icú Washga Arugibáshgu Mirish – Moon When One Begins to Sow  
 Zaagibagaa Giizis – Budding Moon  
 Wojupi Wi – Moon When Leaves Turn Green

A time of rebirth, the 5th moon is where all the plants display their spirits for all the world to see. This life giving energy is one of the most powerful healing medicine of the earth. During this moon, one is encouraged to explore their spiritual essences.

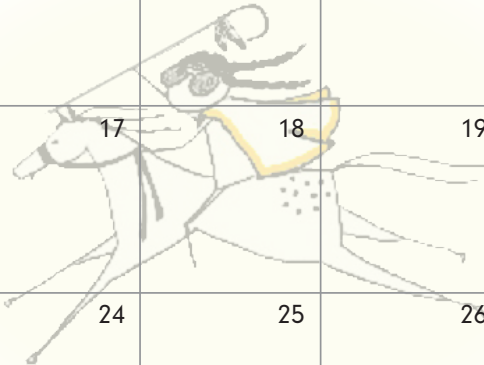
May 2022

# RESPECT

Respect is basic to human well-being that in its absence, people don't thrive. Respect for human beings entails the granting, preserving, and protecting of their rights.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Full Moon




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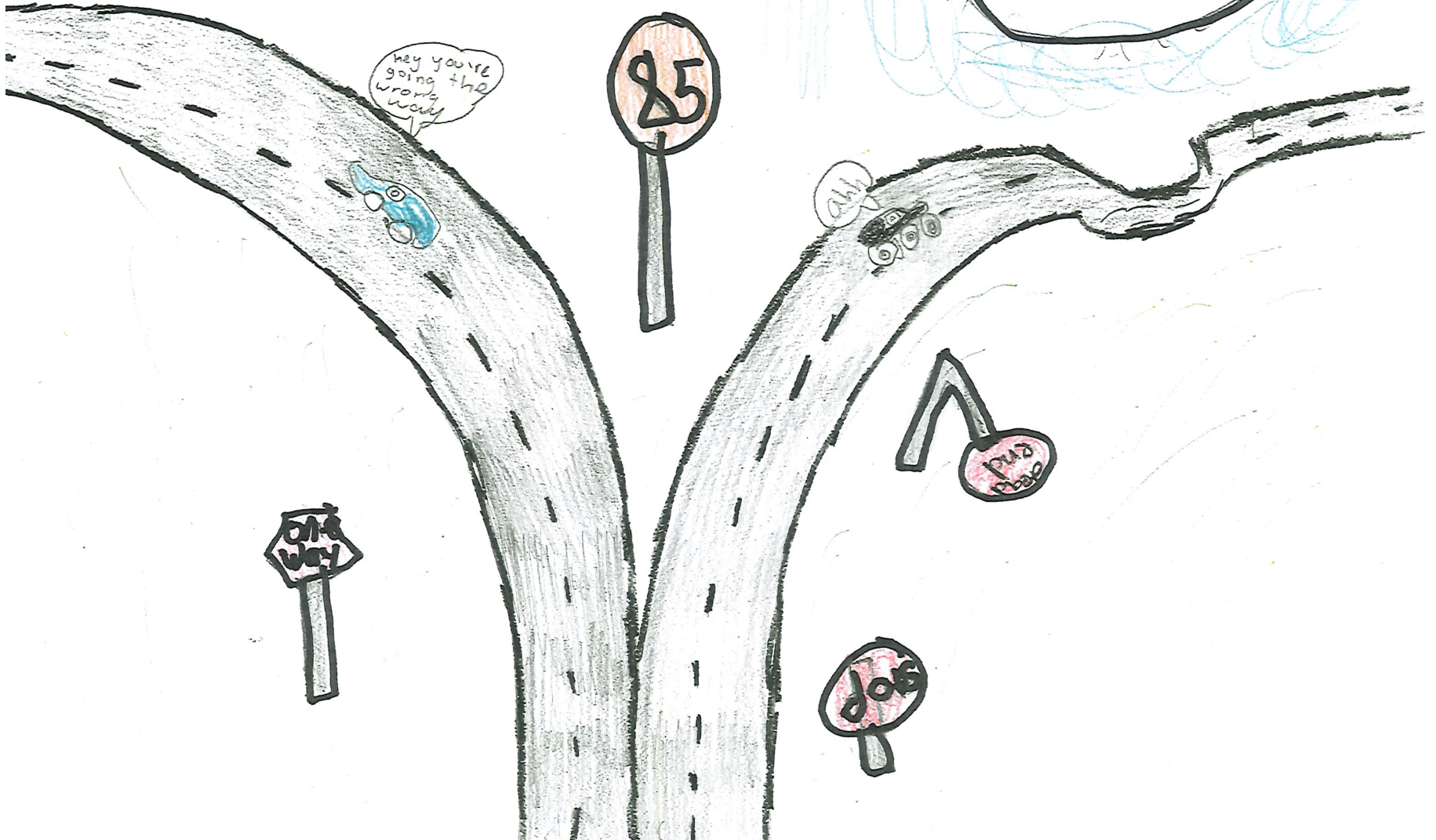
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Save  
Signs save  
lives



Máacu Aruragabagi Mirish – Moon When Berries Comes Out  
 Ode’miini Giizis – Strawberry Moon (Let’s Speak Our Heart)  
 Wipazuka Waste Wi – The Moon of Good Berries

In the 6th moon, the medicine is reconciliation; a time to let go of past differences, judgement and self-righteousness. The strawberry is the first to ripen and is medicine for the heart and teeth. The berries are fresh and tasty.

# RESPECT

## June 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



... to know how to give and always placing others before yourself.

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Arrows



Arrows

Arrows

Arrows

Respect  
Signs  
To Save  
Lives

Arrows



Arrows

Arrows

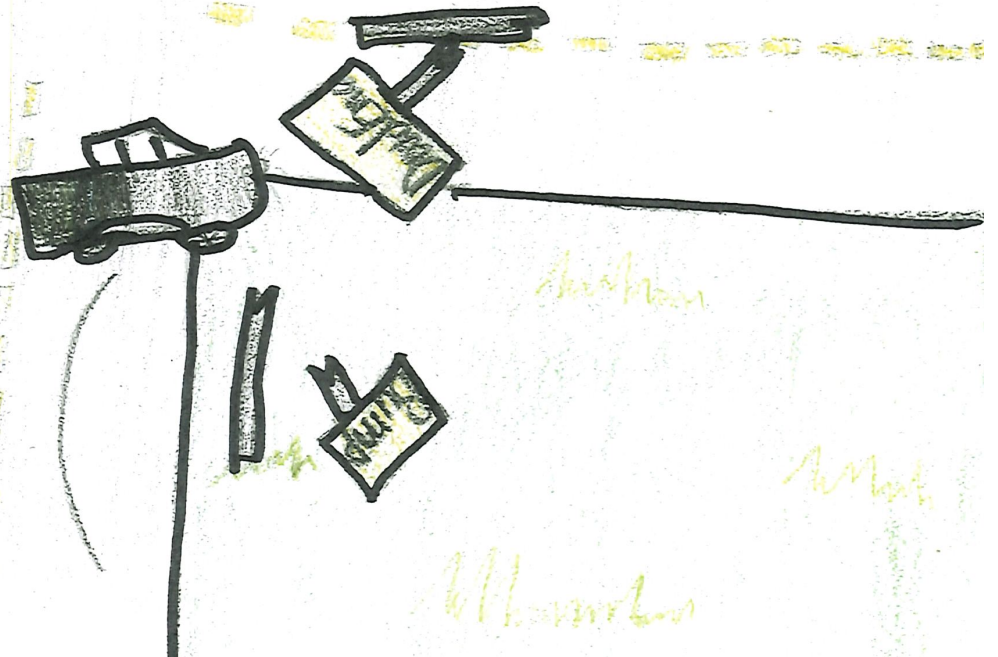
Arrows



Arrows

Arrows

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Arrows



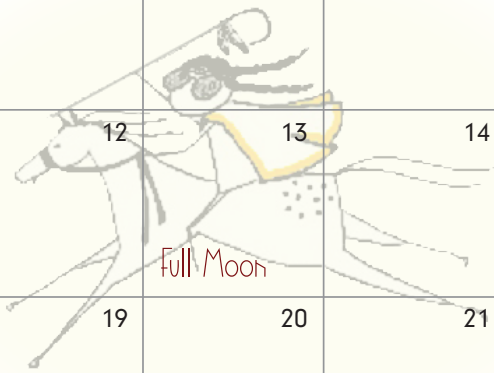
# RESPECT

Maacu Aru?dodi Mirish – Moon of Many Berries  
 Miskomiini Giizis – Raspberry Moon  
 Canpasapa Wi – Moon When the Berries are Ripe

The 7th moon is when great changes begin and a time that is most sacred. Learning to be gentle and kind, so we may pass through the thorns of life and harvest its fruit.

## July 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



... means always treating all with kindness and love. Never look down on anyone. Remember to carry yourself in a good way.

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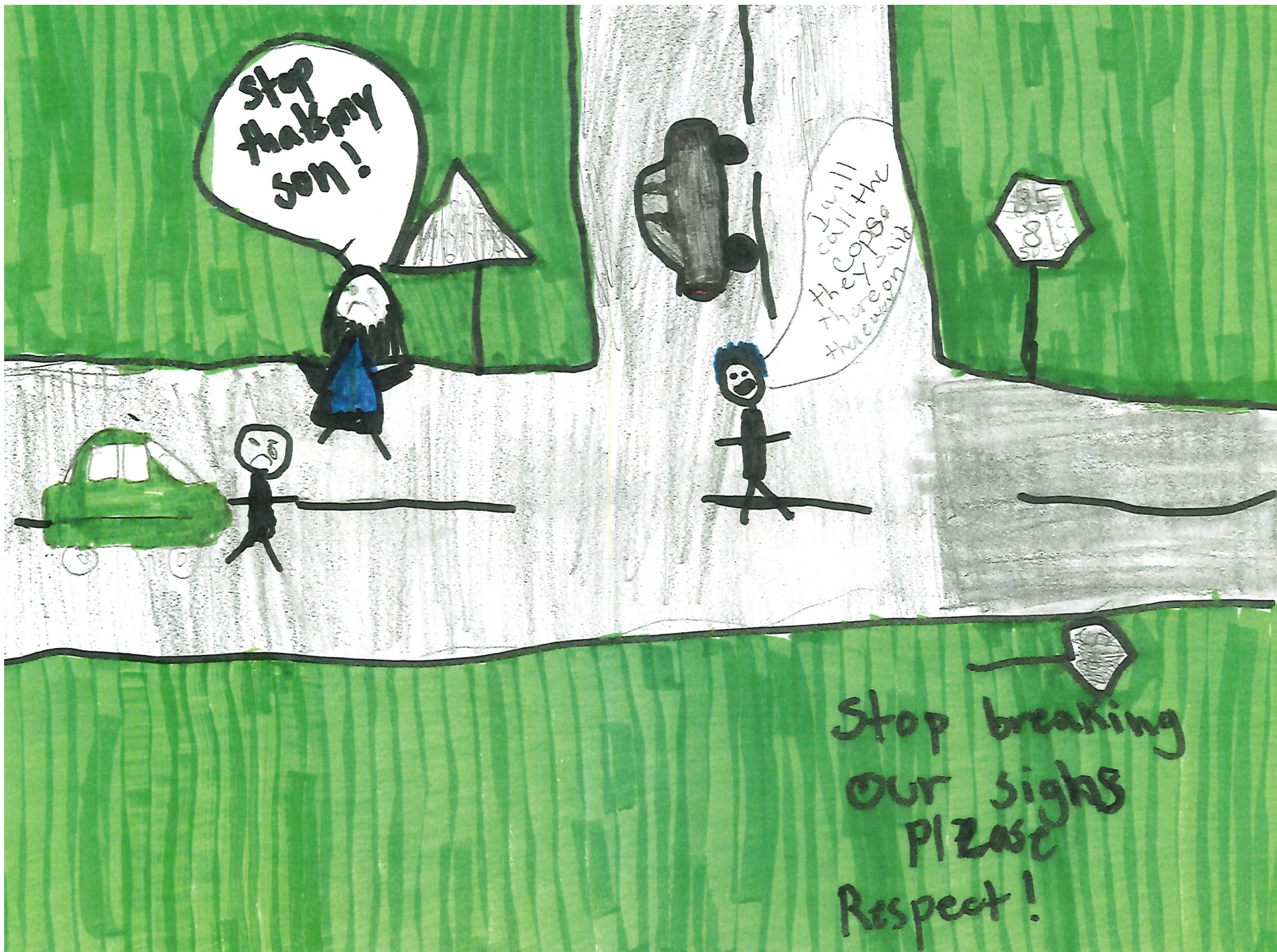
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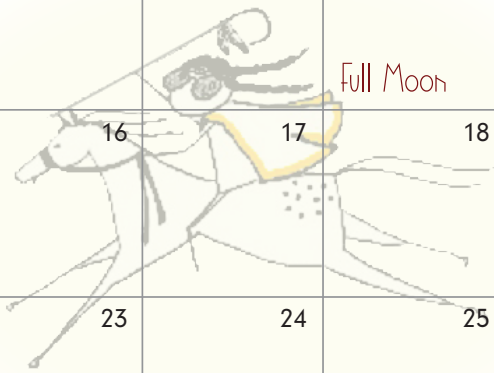
Stop breaking  
our signs  
Please  
Respect!

Aabita niibino Giizis – Midsummer Moon  
 Wasuton Wi – Moon of the Harvest

The 8th moon is when the trees have come awake, producing their leaves.  
 Life itself is awake and dancing, because the summer stage is here.  
 A time of continued nurturance for all of Creation, when everything is  
 new and growing fast. The berry stage – it is here that the growth  
 from summer has come to ripen. It is the time of harvest.

## August 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



# RESPECT

... means taking care of the earth for the generations to come.

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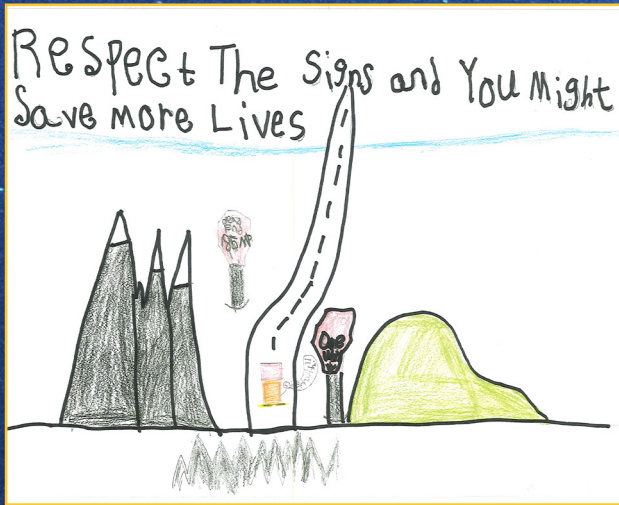
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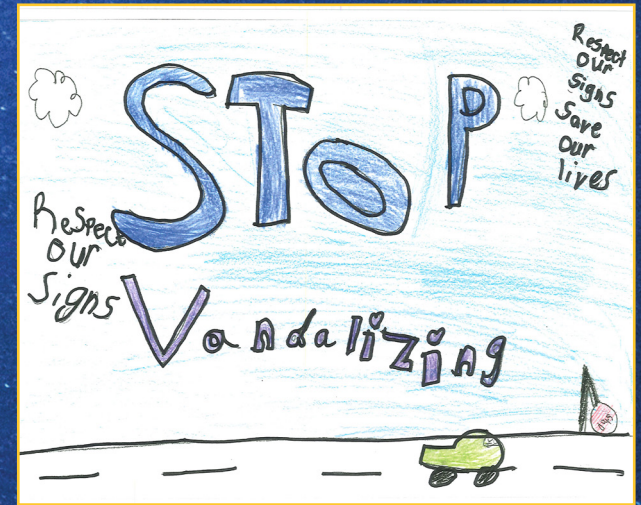
# HONORABLE MENTION



Cass L.  
Tate Topa Tribal School



Tariah C.  
Tate Topa Tribal School



Teya L.  
Tate Topa Tribal School

**NDSU**

UPPER GREAT PLAINS  
TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE  
NORTH DAKOTA LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM