



KOWICHOSH HASHI

Wildcat Month



Choctaw Tribal Language Program • 601-650-7440 • “Chahta Annopa Ik Hapi Kaníyoh Kiyah”

Náhollo im annopa ya, Kowichosh hashi yat Wildcat month. Chahta kaniyómi kat bobcat a kowichosh áchikma kaniyómi kato shakbatína áchih. Hopáki ohchásh Chahta yat kowichosh ábi chá i nipi ya toshahlichit aba oklah takohlichit shilílitok okmat oklah ipa na onáfa Ihopollih attók miyah.

In English, Kowichosh hashi is Wildcat month. Some Choctaws say kowichosh for bobcat, and some say shakbatína. A long time ago it was said the Choctaw would kill the bobcat and cut up the meat, hanging it up to dry so they could eat it throughout the winter season.

January Important Dates:

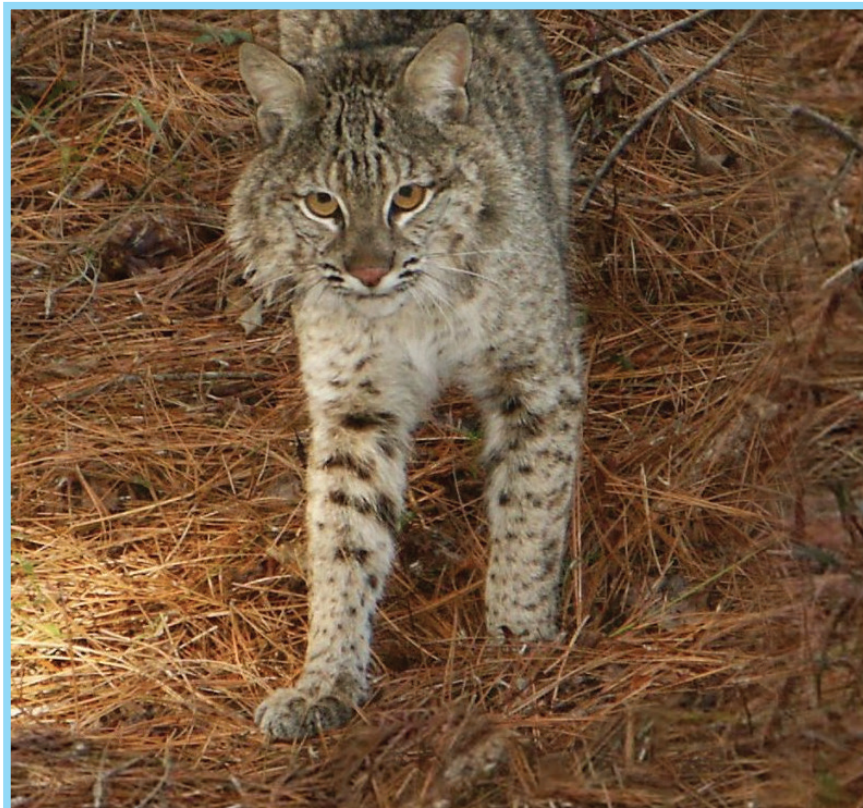
1st	Afammi Himóna Nittak <i>New Year's Day</i>	16th	Martin Luther King, Jr i Nittak <i>Martin Luther King, Jr day</i>
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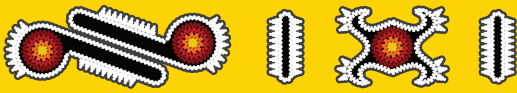
January Example Sentences:

- Afammi Himóna Ná Yokpah! *Happy New Year!*
- Himak afammi yat talhípa sipokni toklo pokóli toklo akócha tohchína.
This year is two-thousand twenty-three.
- Annópa pat natah miyah? *What does this word mean?*

January Themed Words:

1. afammi - year
2. hashi - month/sun
3. himak nittak - this day
4. nittak - day
5. onnakma - when tomorrow or next day*
*when indicated
6. piláshásh - yesterday
7. takhollo - week
8. abóha libishli - heater
9. áchi - blanket
10. hohchówa, kapassa - cold





FEBRUARY



WATOLAK HASHI

CRANE MONTH

Watolak Hashi ya Náhollo im annopa yat “crane month”. Chahta kaniyómi kat “crane” a watolak hochíokma kaniyómi kato hoskap/oskap oklah hochífoh. Watolak ato kani mák mayah ná onáfa lhopollih chátok. Hopáki ohchásh, Chahta alháha yat watolak at chipotah momaná, oklah hoklit, honichá apah bíkah attók. Nipi ma tachi hicha ná hollokchi ittibá honit apa kat oklah achokmahnih attók miyah.

The English translation for Watolak Hashi is crane month. Some of the Choctaws called the crane “watolak” while others called them “hoskap/oskap”. The crane is known to live in many places throughout the winter. A long time ago while the cranes were still small, the birds were caught and boiled for their meat. Choctaws enjoyed eating the dish by boiling corn and other vegetables with the meat.

February Important Days

Shanoktakoshi | Nittak
Groundhog Day

Chokash Achokma/Náyokpa
| Nittak
Valentine’s Day

Miko Chito Alháha | Nittak
Presidents’ Day

February Example Sentences

- Shikalla yat ittibalhto tahahósh ashah. The beads are all mixed up.
- Ná pakali hóchokma hapishki kil | chopah.
Let’s buy some pretty flowers for our mother.

February Themed Words

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. hoshotika - shadow | 6. omiláya - color |
| 2. tikbalit anólih - to predict | 7. ponóshi - thread |
| 3. toffapi - Spring | 8. shikalla - beads |
| 4. chifakoshi - needle | 9. ná halbina - gift |
| 5. fowi akmo - bee’s wax | 10. ikbi - to make |



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MARCH



MAHLI HASHI

WIND MONTH

Mahli Hashi ya náhollo im annopa yat “wind month.” Hashi pano, mahli yat kallo chohmi hósh mahlih! Hihátoko, Chahta kaniyómi kato “Mahli Hashi” hochífottók. Kaniyómi kato “Hashi Mahli” áchih.

Mahli Hashi in English is “wind month.” During this month, the winds blow strongly! So, some Choctaw called it “Wind Month.” Others say “Month of the Wind.”

March Important Days

St. Patrick | Nittak
St. Patrick’s Day

Toffapi Ikít Iya
Beginning of Spring

March Example Sentences

- Kabotcha tóli mayakma, alhípa chito bóli ka ish haklanah (haklo áhínah).
When there’s a stickball game, you can hear drumming.
- Katos at shapo shapóli hicha yaboski hólo ka ish pisa yo?
Have you ever seen a cat wear a hat and socks?

March Themed Words

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. holisso ittimanópolih - to read | 6. okchamáli - green |
| 2. ichqli - author, writer | 7. hinakbitípoli - rainbow |
| 3. katos - cat | 8. albi - stickball goalpost |
| 4. shapo - hat | 9. alhípa chito - drum |
| 5. yaboski - socks | 10. kabotcha tóli- stickball player |

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APRIL



TÍK ᵀ HASHI

WOMEN'S MONTH

Tík ᵀ Hashi ya náhollo im annopa yat women's month. Ohóyo akósh alla apówachih átoko ᵀ chokka achaffa hicha ittikanómi alhíha yat ohóyo okla holítoblih. Makátokᵀ hattak at ohóyo ittawáyah okmat ohóyo im iksa alhíha yakᵀ ibá holhtina chá ibáyachaffat áhᵀttah bíkah attók.

Tík ᵀ Hashi in English is women's month. Because the woman is the one that gives birth, the families and relatives honor the women. That is why when a man marries a woman, he was counted into and lived with the woman's clan.

April Important Days

Hopóyoksa Kiyo ᵀ nittak
April Fool's Day

Ibayyi Nittak Achokma
Good Friday

Chihówa Oshi Falámat
Táni Nittak
Easter Sunday

Yakni Nittak
Earth Day

April Example Sentences

- Hina alhlhi omma ma polhkaᵀsh ayówat kil ilhkólih.
Let's go pick up trash by the edge of that road.
- Náski [ná taski] ak chᵀ takchi ná.
Let me tie the handkerchief for you.

April Themed Words

1. haksichih - to trick
2. nánokpanichih, isht átapah -
to be mischievous
3. okchalichih - to preserve,
or keep awake
4. okhata chito - ocean
5. yakni - land or earth
6. chokfalhpówa oshi - lamb
7. lohmiᵀh - to hide
8. omiláyachih - to color
9. askofáchi, ilaskofáchi -
sash
10. sita - ribbons



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MAY



BIHHI HASHI

MULBERRY MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Bihhi hashi yat Mulberry month. Toffapi yat ot áyalhíh fokálikma, bihhi yat nonat kaníyah. Himak hashi okma, Chahta yat bihhi ani ya oklah amót apattók. Chahta kaniyómi kat fig a bihhi áchikma, kaniyómi kato bihhi chito áchih. Tíkba kano, Pearl River community a Bihhi Áyásha, Place of Mulberries, hochífoh bíkattók.

In the English language, Bihhi hashi is Mulberry month. When it is near the end of spring, mulberries are ripe. During this month, the Choctaw picked and ate the mulberry fruits. Some Choctaw say the fig is bihhi, and some say it is bihhi chito. Before, the Pearl River community used to be called Bihhi Áyásha, Place of Mulberries.

May Important Days

Hapishki | Nittak
Mother's Day

Tashka Alhíha Kaníya | Nittak
Memorial Day

May Example Sentences

- Oski yat ik láwot tahah.
There isn't a lot of rivercane anymore.
- Pokni yat ipok tík iláwílih.
The grandmother takes care of her granddaughter.

May Themed Words

1. ahi | shoshi - lady bug
2. sítí im alikchi - dragonfly
3. holbattoba - picture
4. pokni - grandmother
5. ishki - mother
6. ohóyo - woman
7. akakoshi áyalhto taposhshik - egg basket
8. ná pakali áyalhto taposhshik - flower basket
9. oski - rivercane
10. asónak - bucket



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JUNE



BISSA HASHI

BLACKBERRY MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Bissa hashi yat Blackberry month. Toffa hikít iyahma, bissa yat almanat (almo/amo onat) tahah. Mak átoko Chahta yat oklah amót ittanówah bíkattók. Hattak alháha yat owattat ilhkólihmat, ani yakómi ka oklah ipat ittanóhowa ná shohbichi bíkattók.

In English, Bissa hashi is Blackberry month. When summer starts, blackberries are ready to be picked. That's when the Choctaw used to go around picking. When the men went hunting, they would usually go around eating those fruits all day.

June Important Days

ǀ Shapha Nittak
Flag Day

ǀki ǀ Nittak
Father's Day

Toffa Ikít Iya
First day of Summer

June Example Sentences

- Himak nittak a shapha í chopáchih.
We are going to buy a flag today.
- Tali pila washóha cho ittilhíyohlit sakki washóhah chinnah?
Do you want to play the washer game or tag?



June Themed Words

1. imóshi - uncle
(mother's brother)
2. ǀki achaffa – uncle
(father's brother)
3. shólih - hug
4. oklah ǀ yakni - country
5. tohbi - white
6. ittilhíyohlit sakki – tag game
7. kocha áyipa chito - picnic
8. lashpah - hot
9. tali pila washóha
- washer game
10. pishokchi kalapi chapoli
- ice cream

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JULY



KAFI HASHI

SASSAFRAS MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Kafi hashi yat Sassafras month. Hopáki ohchásh, Chahta yat kafi iti akshish kollit kocháwili chá honit oklah ishko attók. Himak hashi ohmi hokmaḡ iti hishi yat lawah átoko, iti okchi yat akshish anóka alótat kaniyah oklah yimmi attók. Annopa pat (kafi) coffee ámíti kiyoh, Chahta annopa ‘takaffi’ akílikako, yoshkolólichit makáchi kásh ‘kafi’ áchih.

In English, Kafi hashi is Sassafras month. Long time ago, Choctaws would dig up and take out the sassafras roots to boil and drink. They believed that about this time of month, when there are a lot of sassafras leaves on the tree, the sap inside the roots is very full. This word (kafi) does not come from coffee, but from the Choctaw word for ‘scoop or dip out,’ it has been shortened to say ‘kafi.’

July Important Days

Iláp Polla Nittak, Ná Yoka Kiyó ka Nittak
Independence Day

Chahta Áyópisa Chito
Choctaw Indian Fair

July Example Sentences

- Oka Chito lapálika kanomma, ish ábináchi yoh?
Have you gone camping at a beach somewhere?
- Chahta Áyópisa Chito ma hachi p̄isalá chikih!
Hope to see you all at the Choctaw Indian Fair!

July Themed Words

1. kocha - outside
2. basówa - stripes
3. fichik - star
4. tikba hikíya, pilíchi - leader
5. Chahta hilha - Choctaw dances
6. ohóyo ḡ bita - princess crown
7. bináchih - camping
8. inówa, inówat ayah - to visit
9. ittanówat aya, kani nówa, kanomma nówa - travel
10. oka chito lapálika - beach



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AUGUST



TAKKON HASHI

PEACH MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Takkon hashi yat Peach month. Hashi pa, takkon at nonat tahah átoko Chahta alháya yat amót oklah apah attók. Nán ani yakó oklah áyipa hosh oklah okchayah átokósh, hashi tohchína ókano nán ani á hohchifochittók. Yammát Bihhi, Bissa, hicha Takkon hashi. Náhollo ya apple hohchifo mato takkon chito.

In English, Takkon hashi is peach month. This month, the peach would be ripe and the Choctaw people would pick and eat them. They had survived by eating the fruits, so the three months were named after the fruits, mulberry, blackberry and peach. “Takkon chito” is the name for apple.

August Important Days

Holisso ápisa hikít iya
School begins

Nanih Waiya Nittak
Nanih Waiya Day

August Example Sentences

- Lokka moma achífa chá polhlih.
Wash all the clothes and fold them.
- Alla mat takkon apah alhlhika, loffih.
Before that child eats the peach, peel it.



August Themed Words

1. isht omiláyachi akmo - crayon
2. ishkacháya, ishkachíli, ishkalásha - scissors
3. bálokka - pants
4. fokka lobo - shirt
5. lokka, ilokka - dress
6. ná fokka, lokka, ilokka, ilífokka - clothes
7. yaboski - socks
8. shíki fanash - blueberry or huckleberry
9. shokshi - watermelon
10. takkon kobish - pear

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SEPTEMBER



HOPÓNĪ HASHI

COOKING MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Hopóni hashi yat Cooking month. Hopáki ohchásh, Oklah Chahta yat onáfa yat aláchĭ hoka, oklah hopónih chito attók. Illĭpa shilílichih hicha botólichih yohmit tahli chá oklah apáchĭ hokat kani oklah asháchih attók. Ná hollokchi ya pallaska lawáchit oklah isht ikbi chá, nápowa nipi yómiká oklah shilílichih attók. Tach bota hicha tobi ya banáha lawáchit oklah isht ikbitok okmat onáfa onakmá oklah apáhĭlah attók.

In English, Hopóni hashi is Cooking month. Long time ago, when winter was coming, Choctaw People would do a lot of cooking. They dried and ground the food and stored it so they could eat it later. They made a lot of bread with plants, and they would cure those animal meats. They would make a lot of banáha with corn meal and beans so when winter came they could eat them.

September Important Days

Pilisa | Nittak
Labor Day

Onáfapi Ikít Iya
First day of Fall

Okloshi Alhíha | Nittak
American Indian Day

September Example Sentences

- Alla alhíha yat hashtap shahli hósh mayah.
The kids are raking the leaves.
- Áfo, tamáha iyah chinna tokiya?
Grandpa, do you want to go to town?



September Themed Words

1. ápallaska - baking pan
2. pallaska mahha - bread pan
3. shokshobak - gourd
4. tiyak iti - pine tree
5. tiyak ani - pine cone
6. apílah - to help
7. ippok alla - grandchild
8. issito holba lakna - squash
9. kalach - collard greens
10. tanap - turnip

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OCTOBER



HOHCHAFO ISKITINI HASHI

LITTLE HUNGER MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Hohchafo Iskitini hashi yat Little Hunger month. Nán ani hicha ná hollokchi yat ikshot iyah hihma ná nokshópa alháha yat acháfowah illah. Makátoko, Chahta yat oklah aha ahni hósh iskitini oklah ipa yattók. Illipa ittahobbit kani pit asháchih átokmat acháfolit oklah áyipa yattók.

In English, Hohchafo Iskitini hashi is Little Hunger month. Fruits and vegetables are getting scarce and the wild animals are few. Because of that, the Choctaw were mindful and they ate little. The food that had been gathered and stored away is what they ate from sparingly.

October Important Days

Chahta | Nittak
Choctaw Day

October Example Sentences

- Towwat chiyo mitikma, hoklih, hatollichih hicha hōssah.
When the ball comes toward you, catch it, bounce it and shoot.
- Chahta siyah. I am Choctaw.
- Chikásha, Chálakki, hicha Mashkóki yakómi kat okloshi ittim ila.
The Chickasaw, Cherokee and Muscogee are different tribes.

October Themed Words

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. pilah - throw | 5. Chahta immi - Choctaw culture | 9. okloshi - tribe |
| 2. tóli - ball player | 6. Chikásha - Chickasaw | 10. shólih isht ayah -
to bear or carry |
| 3. hatollichih - to bounce(an object) | 7. Chálakki - Cherokee | |
| 4. towwa - ball | 8. Mashkóki - Creek | |



Chahta awatta alhihat ná nokshópa chipita oklah awattakmat oski lhopa yo oklah isht awatta yattók

When hunting for small game animals, Choctaws hunters would use the blowgun.



NOVEMBER



HOHCHAFO CHITO HASHI

BIG HUNGER MONTH

Náhollo im annopa ya, Hohchafo Chito hashi yat Big Famine/Hunger month. Himak hashi okma Chahta yat im illipa yat oklah im iskitínit tahah bíkattók. Yakohmi okmakō tachi honit chokfi kiyokmat fani nipi akō ibánit oklah ipa yattók. Hattak alháha yat oklah owatta hósh i chokka achaffa oklah ipachi attók.

In English, Hohchafo Chito hashi is Big Hunger month. During this month the Choctaw's food would be getting scarce. This is when they would boil the corn with either rabbit or squirrel meat to eat. The men would go hunting to feed their family.

November Important Days

Áyittibi Lhopolli | Nittak
Veteran's Day

Yakókih Chito Nittak
Thanksgiving Day

Okloshi Alháha Immi Nittak
Native American Heritage Day

November Example Sentences

- Hacha alhlhi ish bilikannah.
Don't be near the edge of the river.
- Bota áyalhto achífa chá chíki pit imah.
Wash the flour container and give it to your father.

November Themed Words

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. shawwa - bush | 6. bila - oil, lard |
| 2. hacha - river | 7. fakit, pakit, akak chito - turkey |
| 3. tali - rock | 8. pallaska chapoli - pie, cake |
| 4. oka - water | 9. pallaska - bread |
| 5. nanih cháha - mountain | 10. akshish lakna hata - carrot |



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