

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES LANGUAGE LESSON

To the People of Warm Springs:

I have information that our program would like to share with you, so that you will remain updated to what we are doing and what it means for our community and our children. Following is information on fluent speakers in the community and how the Administration for Native Americans' Language Grant will assist with our efforts to revitalize and maintain our three languages and cultures of Warm Springs.

In January of 1999, an informal verbal survey conducted during gatherings, senior lunches, planning meetings and general conversations were completed of our Elders to identify fluent speakers. For all three languages, we found that all the fluent speakers were 50 years of age and older, had acquired their language as their first language, and that approximately 1,500 community members between the ages of 25 and 50 knew simple phrases and words in one of the three languages. There has been no clear definition of what a 'fluent speaker' is. The surveyed Elders indicated that if a person can speak, understand and carry on a conversation, they are fluent. Conversely, if a person can understand a few words or phrases, but cannot carry on a conversation, they are not fluent. The following table summarizes our findings.

Tribe Language	Warm Springs Ichishkiin	Wasco Kiksht	Paiute Numu
* Fluent Males	15	1	1
* Fluent Females	20	5	6
% of Warm Springs population 5 years & older (3,576)	.8%	.2%	.3%

*Age group is 50 years and older, with the Wasco age group 70 years and older.

The above information gave us a picture of the critical loss of all our fluent speakers over the next ten years. In the two years since the informal survey, we have lost four Elder fluent speakers, a loss ratio of 8% per year.

During the 1997-98 school year, the Jefferson County School District allowed us to introduce hour language lessons as part of the curriculum. As a result, 97 Indian students were exposed to their native Sahaptin language.

The 1999-2000 school year was the first year that twenty-five students were introduced to the Paiute and Wasco language. For the 2000-2001 school year, 226 students in grades K-3 are receiving classes in Sahaptin and 75 students in grades K-1 are receiving instruction in Paiute and Wasco native languages. The lessons learned in the classroom however, are not reaching parents or the Tribal community at large, for the transfer and preservation of the language.

In the present Warm Springs Language Programs there are currently 601 tribal members participating in community-based and school-based programs. This translates into one of every six Tribal members with some native language skills. It also gives us a baseline for measuring growth and preservation. There are 12 fluent speakers involved directly with the current language programs. Our program emphasis will be on the recruiting and use of our Elders. The following is a breakout of baseline data for showing growth in each language.

# Participants	Ichishkiin	Kiksht	Numu
0 to 5 years.	10	4	5
6-12 years.	310	45	25
13-20 years.	72	10	6
21-34 years.	18	3	6
35-50 years	23	9	6
50+	40	4	5
Totals = 601	473	75	53

Although we have 601 involved with the program at various times throughout the year, we recognize the need to focus more work on the development of fluent speakers in each of the three languages. With the ANA Grant funds, we will be doing some additional things, such as:

- ✦ Working closer with other elder fluent speakers.
- ✦ Dedicating Fridays to immersion techniques.
- ✦ Audio and video recordings of information in language only.
- ✦ Development of materials to be used in homes.
- ✦ Host week long immersion camps.
- ✦ Develop assessment tools based on benchmark system.
- ✦ Continue to seek advice from community on what works for them.
- ✦ Prepare fluent speakers for application for Native Language Teachers' Certification.

In view of the endangered situation that our languages face, we would like to encourage those who may have an interest to please take the time to commit yourself to the efforts, to revitalize our languages of Warm Springs. As one of the elders made comment to at the Legislative Hearings in Salem:

"If we lose our languages and culture, we will no longer be Indian."

Watch for employment opportunities with Culture and Heritage Language Program.

Agency Language Classes @ the Language Trailer behind the Old Boys Dorm

Paiute Language
will start again October 24
Wed. 3:30-4:30 PM

Sahaptin Language
will start again October 22
Tues. & Thurs. 3:30-4:30 PM

Wasco Language
Thurs. 5:00-6:30 PM

Simmasho Language Classes

Sahaptin Language @ Simmasho Longhouse
Sahaptin Language
still going strong
Tues. & Thurs.
6:00 to 7:30

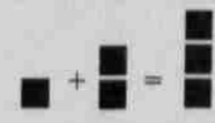
Can you add in Kiksht like you children in Ms. Comingore, Graham and Fisher/Varela?

- Ixt
- Makwsht
- Lun
- Lakt
- Gwenma
- T-em
- Senmawst
- Gutlqt
- Kw'is
- Yalilxam

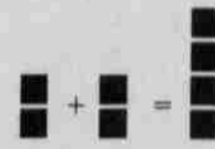
1's

10's

- Yalilxam
- Makwshttiyál
- Lunttiyál
- Lakttiyál
- Gwenmatiyál
- T-emtiyál
- Senmawsttiyál
- Gutlqttiyl
- Kw'istiyál
- Ixttiyál kámunaq



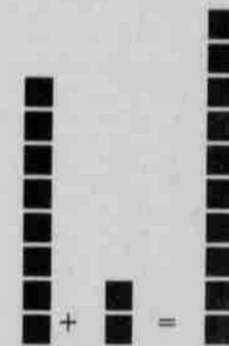
1 + 2 = 3
Ixt + Makwsht
Qawat? Lun



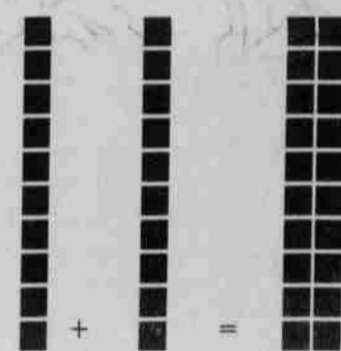
1 + 1 = 2
Makwsht kwadau Makwsht
Qawat? _____



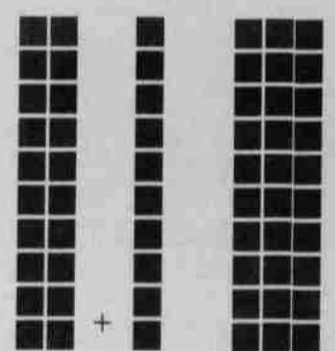
1 + 1 = 2
Makwsht kwadau Lun
Qawat? _____



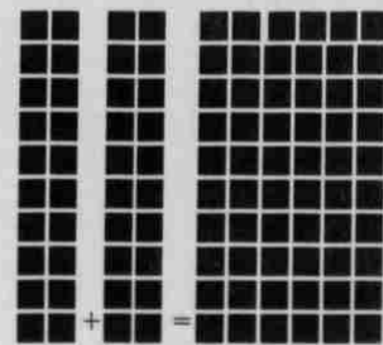
1 + 1 = 2
Gutlqt kwadau Makwsht
Qawat? _____



1 + 1 = 2
Yalilxam kwadau Yalilxam
Qawat? _____



1 + 1 = 2
Makwshttiyál kwadau Yalilxam
Qawat? _____



1 + 1 = 2
Lakttiyál kwadau Makwshttiyál
Qawat? _____

Tai it'ukdi!