

The Ojibwe

Teacher Background Information:

What is in a name?

It is estimated that there were millions of people in North America before Europeans came to settle. These people had divided into groups of tribes, or nations, each with its own language, customs and way of life.

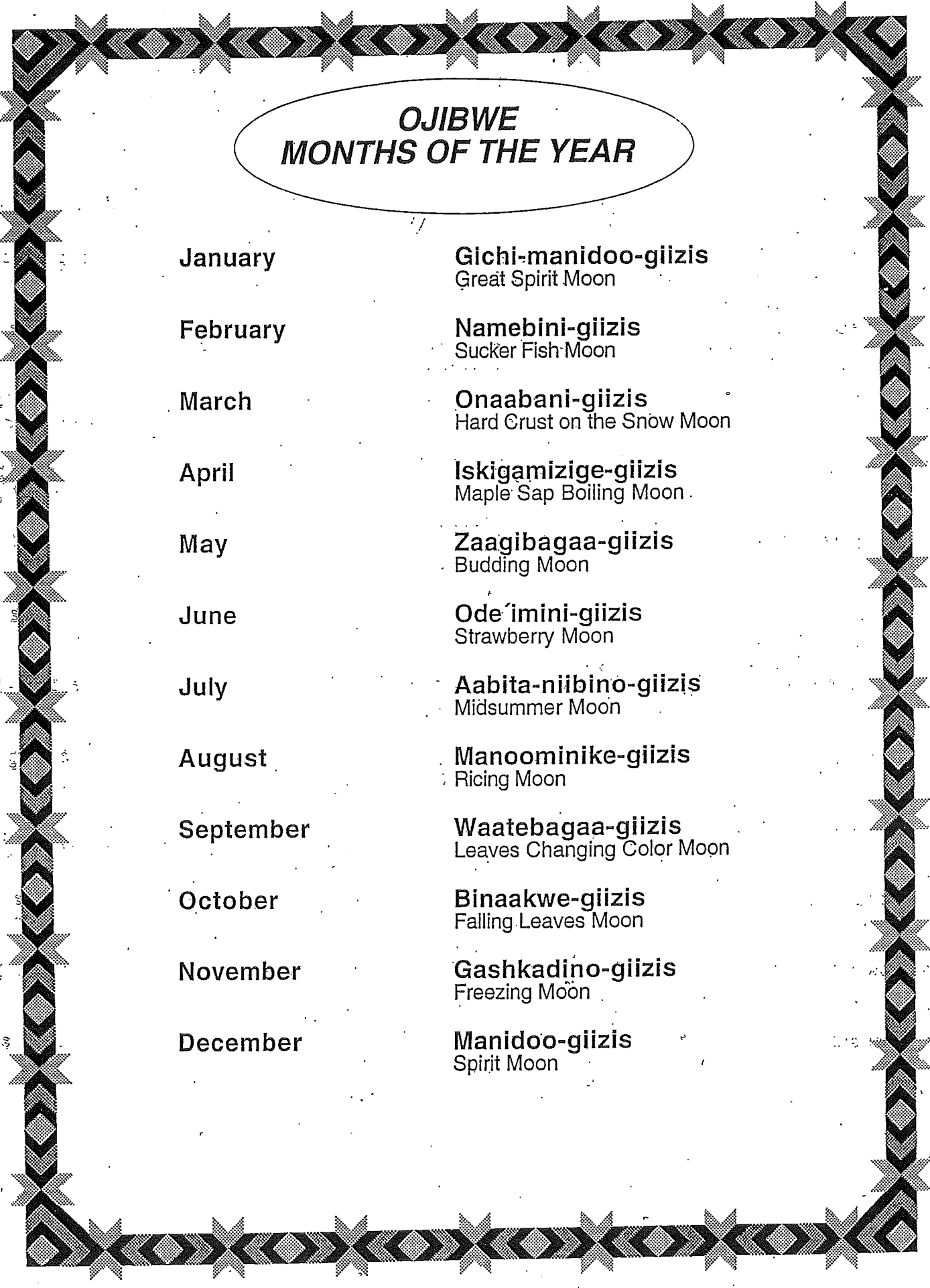
The Ojibwe were one such group. They came from a large group of Indian people known as the Algonquian "family". You may have heard the Ojibwe referred to as Chippewa or Anishinaabe. All these names refer to the same group of people.

Ojibwe (Ojibwa or Ojibway) is a name given to the group by someone else and may refer to the puckered style of moccasins worn by this people.

Chippewa is actually a mispronunciation by white settlers of the name Ojibwe.

Anishinaabe is a name that Ojibwe people use to refer to themselves. The translation is original man, or "one of the first people".

Ojibwe oral tradition tells of their great migration from the Atlantic Ocean and their settlements along the way. (See Map 1 and corresponding lesson)



**OJIBWE
MONTHS OF THE YEAR**

January	Gichi-manidoo-giizis Great Spirit Moon
February	Namebini-giizis Sucker Fish Moon
March	Onaabani-giizis Hard Crust on the Snow Moon
April	Iskigamizige-giizis Maple Sap Boiling Moon
May	Zaagibagaa-giizis Budding Moon
June	Ode'imini-giizis Strawberry Moon
July	Aabita-niibino-giizis Midsummer Moon
August	Manoominike-giizis Ricing Moon
September	Waatebagaa-giizis Leaves Changing Color Moon
October	Binaakwe-giizis Falling Leaves Moon
November	Gashkadino-giizis Freezing Moon
December	Manidoo-giizis Spirit Moon

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