

# **EAST CREE MATHEMATICS**

## **TERMINOLOGY WORKHOP REPORT**

### **Val d'Or February 2007**

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*Note: - English-Cree terminology is in another document*

## 1. Measurement in Traditional Activities

Measurement in traditional activities often involved the human body. For example: using hands, arms, feet or fingers to measure something.

UΛσ-'bU°- measuring the size of a fish net using your arms. You have to hold the string in the palm of your hand, which covers the length up to your fingertips.

Vbds-'r or 2 n̄dσ-b"- 1 arm to the other arm length

ΔiΔCσ-'r or 1 n̄dσ-b"- 1 from the chest to the length of the arm

UΛσ-'bU"	tipiniskaatim using arms, measurement net, snowshoes, string-like things, toboggan
UΛσ-'bσ"	tipinischaanim using hand for measurement snowshoes, crossp-bars,
UΛγC"U"	tipisitahtim using feet for measurement

### Activity 1.

When you take a string and measure from the end of one arm to the end of the other arm, the length of the string will be equal to your height.

### Activity 2.

When you take a string and measure your head, turning the string 3 times around, it will be the same length as your height. Start measuring from your forehead.

Cree has many numeral words that are used to count and indicate size, weight, volume, time in a very concrete way. See for example the list of words with number *neu* (four) in **Appendix A**

## 2. Classifying objects into sets and subsets using Cree classifiers

The Cree language has a series of classifiers, also called "concrete finals", which indicate the concrete properties of objects, as they are manipulated by people. These properties are essential to the survival on the land. The name of many objects (and events) naturally form sets determined by the category indicated by the classifier.

### Cree concrete finals (Southern)

- $\triangleleft^{\text{II}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-aahtikw	<i>stick-like</i>
- $\triangleleft^{\text{I}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-aaskw	<i>stick-like</i>
- $\triangleleft \hat{\wedge} (\downarrow \hat{\wedge})$	-aapii -yaapii	<i>string-like</i>
- $\triangleleft \wedge^{\text{u}}$	-aapisch	<i>hard (metal, stone, glass)</i>
- $\triangleleft \wedge^{\text{u}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-aapiskw	<i>hard (metal, stone, glass)</i>
- $\triangleleft \triangleright$	-aapuu (I)	<i>liquid</i>
- $\triangleleft \triangleright \Delta$	-aapui(C)	<i>liquid</i>
- $\cap \cdot \triangleleft^{\text{II}} <$	-chiwaahp	<i>tent/teepee</i>
- $(\nabla) \cap^{\text{u}}$	-(e)chin	<i>sheet-like</i>
- $b \Gamma^{\text{d}}$	-kamikw	<i>structure</i>
- $\dot{b}^{\text{a}}$	-kaan	<i>man-made, manufactured</i>
- $\Gamma^{\text{a}}$	-min (C)	<i>berry</i>
- $\Gamma \dot{o}^{\text{a}}$	-minaan (I)	<i>berry</i>
- $\dot{b} b \Gamma^{\text{d}}$	-skamikw	<i>moss, earth</i>
- $\dot{b} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-stikw	<i>river</i>
- $\dot{\wedge}^{\text{a}}$	-yaan	<i>sheet-like</i>

### Cree concrete finals (Northern)

- $\triangleleft^{\text{II}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-aahtikw -yaahktikw -waahtikw	<i>stick-like</i>
- $\triangleleft^{\text{I}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-aaskw	<i>stick-like, branch</i>
- $\triangleleft \wedge^{\text{u}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-aapiskw	<i>hard (metal, stone, glass)</i>
- $\triangleleft \wedge^{\text{u}}$	-aapisch	<i>hard (metal, stone, glass)</i>
- $\dot{\wedge}^{\text{a}}$	-yaan	<i>sheet-like</i>
- $\triangleleft \triangleright \Delta$	-aapui	<i>liquid</i>
- $(\dot{\wedge}) \triangleleft \hat{\wedge}$	-(y)aapii	<i>string-like</i>
- $\rho \Gamma^{\text{d}}$	-kimikw	<i>structure</i>
- $\cap \cdot \triangleleft^{\text{II}} <$	-chiwaahp	<i>shelter</i>
- $\dot{b}^{\text{a}}$	-hkaan	<i>made, manufactured</i>
- $\dot{\rho} \Gamma^{\text{d}}$	-(i)skimikw	<i>moss, earth</i>
- $\rho^{\text{II}} \cap^{\text{d}}$	-siht	<i>branch</i>

-Γ°	-min	<i>berry</i>
-ʷᵑᵑ	-shtikw	<i>river</i>

### Examples (Southern):

Ր <sub>1</sub> <Յ <sub>0</sub>	<<Յ <sub>0</sub>	(sheet-like)
Ր <sub>1</sub> <Յ <sub>1</sub> Ժ <sub>0</sub>	<<Յ <sub>1</sub> Ժ <sub>0</sub>	(stick-like)
Ր <sub>1</sub> <Յ <sub>1</sub> Ժ <sub>1</sub>	<<Յ <sub>1</sub> Ժ <sub>1</sub>	(wood-like)
Ր <sub>1</sub> <Ց <sub>0</sub> (Ր <sub>1</sub> <Ղ <sub>0</sub> )	<<Ց <sub>0</sub>	(material-like, paper-like)
Ր <sub>1</sub> <Ր <sub>1</sub>	<<Ր <sub>1</sub>	(hides-moose, caribou, ice, clothing)
Ր <sub>1</sub> <Յ <sub>1</sub> Ա <sub>0</sub> Յ <sub>0</sub>	<<Յ <sub>1</sub> Ա <sub>0</sub> Յ <sub>0</sub>	(metal-like)
Ր <sub>1</sub> <Յ <sub>1</sub> Ա <sub>1</sub> Ր <sub>1</sub>	<<Յ <sub>1</sub> Ա <sub>1</sub> Ր <sub>1</sub>	(metal-like)

### Examples (Northern)

◁▷Δ + -◁▷Յ <sub>0</sub>	◁▷Յ <sub>1</sub> ▷▷	apui + -aahtikw	apuiyahtikw	paddle + stick-like = paddle stick
◁▷Յ <sub>0</sub> + -◁▷Յ <sub>1</sub>	◁▷Յ <sub>0</sub> ▷▷	apwaan + -aaskw	apwaanaaskw	roasted meat + stick = roasting stick
◁▷Ր <sub>1</sub> + -◁▷Δ	◁▷Ր <sub>1</sub> ·Յ>Δ	amiskw + -aapui	amiskwaapui	beaver + broth = beaver broth
·◁▷Յ <sub>0</sub> + -◁▷Δ	·◁▷Յ <sub>1</sub> ·Յ>Δ	waapush + -aapui	waapushwaapui	rabbit + broth = rabbit broth
◁▷Ո <sub>0</sub> + -◁▷Δ	◁▷Ո <sub>1</sub> ·Յ>Δ	atihkw + -aapui	atihkwaapui	caribou + broth = caribou broth
▷▷Յ <sub>0</sub> + -Ո <sub>0</sub>	▷▷Յ <sub>1</sub> ·Յ>Δ	upwaam + -chaakin	upwaamichaakin	thigh + bone = thigh bone
·◁▷Ծ <sub>0</sub> + -◁▷Ո <sub>0</sub>	·◁▷Ծ <sub>1</sub> ·Յ>Δ	waasaanihtaakin + -aapiskw	waasaanihtaakinaap iskw	window + glass = windowpane
Լ <sub>1</sub> "Պ + -◁▷Յ <sub>0</sub>	Լ <sub>1</sub> "Պ▷▷	maahkii + -aachin	maahkiyyaachin	tent + cloth = canvas
Լ <sub>1</sub> "Պ + -◁▷Ո <sub>0</sub>	Լ <sub>1</sub> "Պ▷▷	maahkii + -aahtikw	maahkiyyaahthikw	tent + stick = tent frame

·Δσ"ΔΡ¤ + - Δ"ΔΡ¤	·Δσ"ΔΡ¤" Δ"ΔΡ¤	winihiikin + - aahtikw	winihiikinaahтик ihipihskaanaahтик	trap + stick = stick for trap fishnet + stick = netting needle
Δ"ΔΛ¤"b¤ + - Δ"ΔΛ¤"	Δ"ΔΛ¤"b¤" Δ"ΔΛ¤"	ihiipihkaan + - aahtikw	ihiipihkaanaahтик	

### Activity 3.

Display a number of objects on a table in the classroom. Name the objects in Cree, so that the children hear the word with its classifier. Then, ask the children to organize them by in logical sets.

For example:

1. Display some embroidery thread, a shoelace, some wool, a diaper, an undershirt and a seal skin: these represent 3 -yan objects, 3 - aapii objects: ask the children to arrange them in two sets of three, by finding something in common. Let the children touch and manipulate the objects.

Set one

LL"CDΛ"Rbσ-Ł	maamahtaupihchikaniyaapii	embroidery thread
ŁιRyσ-Ł	maschisiniyaapii	shoelace
ΓC-Ł	mitaasiyaapii	wool

Set two:

Łi-Ł	aasiyaan	diaper, pamper
Ł"Ł<J-Ł	piihuupachuyaan	undershirt
Ł"R-Ł	aahchikuyaan	sealskin

2. Increase the size and complexity of the exercise: put -(e)chin objects, -aapii objects, -aahtikw or -aaskw objects, and -aapisch or -aapiskw objects. These should go in 4 different sets, maybe even 6 if they pay really attention to the words endings.

Discuss with the children the reasons why they classify some objects together. The children could create all kinds of unexpected categories (by colour, by texture, by size, etc.)

Make them discover that these objects all have a name in Cree with a part that sounds the same.

Note: The same exercises can be applied to more abstract differences in the language, like creating sets for animate and inanimate things, doing the test with waapatham... vs waapameu... Subsets could be created combining animacy and classifiers: for example -yaapii words that are animate, and -yaapii words that are inanimate.

**Activity 4.** Create a memory game with cards representing written words or objects. Decide if the whole word/object has to match or if it is enough that the classifier matches before you play.

**Activity 5.** Look for subsets into a classifier set.

For example, mix up all words in -yan, and then classify them according to whether they refer to animal pelts or clothing.

Examples:

ບາ

·<ŋ>ນැලා	අ"උ<ජැලා
අගිස්ථැලා	<ජැලා
ජැලා	
ග"ගන්ථැලා	අ"උඩ්ථැලා
අගිස්ථැලා	·අ'ගැන්ථැලා
·අශාන්මැලා	අරුය්.අඩ්ථැලා
රුණ්සැලා (බදන්ථැලා)	අග්‍ර්ථැලා
ශ්පින්ථැලා	·අ'ඇථැලා
අරුණ්ථැලා	අරුණ්ථැලා
අස්ථැලා	ගිණ්ථැලා
ශ"ශැලා	·අ'ඇථැලා
අරුප්ථැලා	අ'ඇථැලා
අන්ථැලා	
ල"ධ"ම්ථැලා	
·ධ්‍යාප්ථැලා	
·අශාන්ථැලා	
ඩැග්ථැලා	
·අශාන්ථැලා	
·අශාන්ථැලා	
ඇ"ර්ථැලා	
·අශ්‍ර්ථැලා	

ັມ (ັມ)

ລ"ຮණົມ	(ລ"ຮණົມ)	ລູ້ຮົມ
·අຸຮົມ	(·අຸຮົມ)	
අ<·ບົຮົມ	(අ<·ບົຮົມ)	
අ>ດ"ຣົມ	(අດ"ຣົມ)	

<b>ᐊጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	( <b>ᐊጀጀ-ጀጀ</b> )
<b>ᓇጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	( <b>ᓇጀጀ-ጀጀ</b> )
<b>ᐊጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	( <b>ᐊጀጀ-ጀጀ</b> )
<b>ᐱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	( <b>ᐱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b> )
<b>ᓱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	( <b>ᓱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b> )

<b>ᐊጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	amiskuyaan	beaverskin
<b>ᓱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	shikaakuyaan	skunkskin
<b>ᐊጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	aahchikuyaan	sealskin
<b>ᐱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	waapiskuyaan	polar bearskin
<b>(ᐊ)ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	(aa)nikuchaashiwiyaan	squirrelskin
<b>ᐱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	atihkuyaan	caribouhide
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	muusuuyaan	moosehide
<b>·ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	wichishkuyaan	muskratskin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	sihkusuyaan	ermeskin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	nichikuyaan	otterskin
<b>·ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	waapishtaaniwiyaan	martenskin
<b>ᐱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	pishiwiyaan	lynxskin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	kaachiwiyaan (aahkaanaasikin, paakutimaakin-freeze-dried hide)	raw caribouhide/moosehide
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	waapushuyaan	rabbit skin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	chishaayaakuyaan	bearskin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	achikaashiwiyaan	minkskin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	nipaawiyaan	nightgown
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	mihiikiniwiyaan	wolfskin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	maayaachiwiyaan	tanned hide (commercially)
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	maanishchaanishiwiyaan	sheepskin
<b>ᐱጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	pichiwiyaan	cloth
<b>·ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	waapuyaan	blanket
<b>·ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>		
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	waapuyaanaachin	material for blankets
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	akuhpaaachin	material for dresses/skirts
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	paatikutaachin	flannelette
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	apihkwaasunaachin	material for coverings
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	maahkiyaachin	material for tent
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	michiwiachaachin	bandages
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	uutaachaachin	canvas for canoes
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	nitihkuyinaachin	bandages
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	akunihiikinaachin	tarpaulin
<b>ጀጀ-ጀጀ</b>	misinihiikinaachin	paper

ᐊᓈ''·ᜒᜓ᜗	apihkwaanaachin	roofing material
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	mischisinaachin	sole (moccasins)
ᜎ·ᜒᜓ᜗	nikwaanaayaapii	snare wire/string
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	piishaakinaapii	string (leather string)
ᜒ·ᜒᜓ᜗	mihkwaayaapii	blood vein
ᜐᜒᜓ᜗	iishkutaawaayaapii	electrical wire
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	aschiminaayaapii	babiche for snowshoes
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	uchashahtaayaapii	tendon
ᜒᜓ᜗	mitunaapii	babiche for middle hole
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	shaashtikwaayaapii	sisal rope
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	kischikwaasuwinaayaapii	thread
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	waaukinaayaapii	spinal cord
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	mishinishtihikinaayaapii	embroidery thread
ᜒᜓ᜗᜔ᜒᜓ᜗	mitasaayaapii	yarn
ᜒᜓ᜗	astisaayaapii	braided cord for mittens
ᜑᜒᜓ᜗	mischisinaayaapii	shoelace
ᜒᜓ᜗	utaapaanaayaapii	string for toboggan
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	miiutaayaapii	tumpline
ᜒᜓ᜗	aahchikwaayaapii	sealskin rope
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	sikipwaanaayaapii	string for roasting
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	chishtaapaachauchikinaayaapii	clothesline
ᜒᜓ᜗	uchikwaachikinaayaapii	fishing line
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	utinaakinaapii	pulling line for net
ᜒᜓ᜗	waaspisuwiyaanaayaapii	string for mossbag
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	maamaapisunaayaapii	string/rope for swing
ᜒᜓ᜗	waashtaanimaakinaayaapii	electrical wires
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	kuskinaapii	nightline
ᜒᜓ᜗	tipihikinaayaapii	measuring tape
ᜒᜓ᜗	uchipichikinaayaapii	starter cord
ᜒᜓ᜗	pichiwinaayaapii	cloth string
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	saachipitwaanaayaapii	braid
ᜒᜓ᜗	waapushuyaanaayaapii	rabbit skin cord/string
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	ashtutinaayaapii	string/cord for hat
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗		
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	muuhkutaakinaayaapii	string wound around
ᜒᜓ᜗	atimwaayaapii	crooked knife
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	waachaayaapii	harness rope for dogteam
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	chiishtaakihiikinaayaapii	watch band
ᜒᜓ᜗᜔ᜒᜓ᜗	sichihiptihkwaanaayaapii	string for tent stakes
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	chiischininhkunaayaapii	string for canvas covers
ᜒᜓ᜗	sichipitihtaakinaayaapii	moccasin strings
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗	misiputaakinaayaapii	string for attaching beaver
ᜒᜓ᜗	winihiikinaayaapii	skin to frame
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗		string to pull moosehide
ᜎᜒᜓ᜗		while softening

ʌɬʌɬ·tɬʌɬ	piyaapiskwaayaapii	string/metal chain for attaching trap
ʌɬ·tɬʌɬ	piisimwaayaapii	metal wire
ʌɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	ayimuwaayaapiiwaayaapii	sunbeam
·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	waashkishikinaayaapii	radio antenna
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	sichimaauyaanaayaapii	
tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	mihtuyaayaapii	string for mosquito net
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	pishiminaayaapii	string for harpoon
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	iyyaayaapii	snowshoe babiche binding
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ		leather string i.e. moose
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	piywaapiskw	metal
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	waasaanihtaakinaapiskw	window pane/lamp glass
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	shuwiyaanaapiskw	precious metal
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	minaapiskw	rocky outcrop
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	wiyiywaapiskw	quartz
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	usaawaapiskw	yellow rock??
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	iiiyihpiskw	healing stone
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	chishtuhkinaapiskw	doorknob
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	paaschisikinaapiskw	gun barrel
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	pihkutaawaapiskw	metal for fireplace
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	chisaapischisaawaanaapiskw	metal used for stoves
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	muuhkutaakinaapiskw	metal for crooked knives
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	chiikihiikinaapiskw	axe (metal)
zr̥tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬ·tɬʌɬ	sinikuhiikinaapiskw	file (metal)
zr̥tɬ·tɬʌɬ	mishchiishikwaapiskw	eyeglass
zr̥tɬ·tɬʌɬ	winihiikinaapiskw	metal for traps
zr̥tɬ·tɬʌɬ	atuushaapiskw	hard rock used for tools
zr̥tɬ·tɬʌɬ	utaapaanaaskupiywaapiskw	metal for toboggan runners

**Activity 6.** To work with the notions of sets and subsets as they are realized in the Cree language, look for objects whose names combine weight or shape with the above finals. Some of these concepts tend to be expressed at the beginning of the word (see also section 5 on geometry). When we combine both finals and initials we have Intersection in set theory.

### **3. Reduplication and Distributivity**

Cree has reduplicated numerals that are used to express distributivity. paahpeyakw, naaneu, naanewaau...

The Cree language is very rich in expressing all kinds of distributive situations, that can be described using set theory graphs.

See **Appendix B**

**Activity 7.** Ask the children to draw the graphs to represent situations expressed by reduplicated numerals.

### **4. Division**

Division is a difficult concept for all children, but it can be made accessible by relating it to the traditional concept of sharing.

Traditional method of dividing game preserve the distinct anatomical identity of each share, it is not based on a 300gr of meat per person formula, but rather on which parts of the animal go to which person (for example the head of the goose for the hunter, the feet for the older woman, etc.) The words for dividing in two, three equal parts are a good introduction to arithmetical division.

#### **Activity 8.**

Give children things that they can break into two or three pieces, or pieces of paper or of clothing that they can cut, asking them to make the pieces equal. Sometimes things break or divide better a certain way, so that the resulting parts are not all the same. Let them experience the property of objects that can be divided.

#### **Activity 9.**

Stories can be used to introduce the children to the concept of division using the traditional concept of sharing. The stories in Appendix C were created during the workshop.

Tell the children similar stories, using puppets or making them act out the story. Question them during or after the story.

See **appendix C**- stories by teachers (Smally and Pauline for Southern, Frances for Northern)

**Activity 10.** For more advanced levels, also using English or French, look up the Cree words in the on-line Cree dictionary ([www.eastcree.org](http://www.eastcree.org)) by searching for "divide" (French: "diviser").

## 5. Geometry

Shape categories are the precursor of Geometry. The Cree language expresses lots of shape categories, which can be used to introduce the children to geometry.

One difference to keep in mind is that shape categories have vague boundaries, because they are based on a prototype, while geometrical concepts have precise boundaries. For example, the geometrical notions of line, plane and solid are defined by zero values of a variable, while a categorial approach uses the spatial dimensions of length, width and thickness divided into small and large values with vague boundaries between them. Nevertheless, since shape categories are very richly expressed in Cree, children can get a firm grounding in understanding them in their traditional culture before moving on to more abstract notions.

**Shape and context** - The words below show how the meaning of circle appears related to other contextual properties. (Pay attention to the initial, medial, and final part of the word)

·**ᐊ·Δ₄>"ċ°** (cutting a circle using a tool eg. saw, file)

1x ᒋ~ᓇ° (wood-like) ex. plywood, gibrock (drywall)

2x ᐃ᳚᳚ (stone-like)

3x ሙ·᳚᳚° (metal-like)

·**ᐊ·Δ₄᳚᳚L** (cutting a circle using a tool eg. scissors, knife, crooked knife)

1. ᒋ᳚᳚"᳚᳚᳚᳚ (paper-like)

2. ሙ᳚᳚᳚᳚ (material/sheet like)

3. ዘ᳚᳚᳚᳚

·**ᐊ·Δ₄᳚᳚"d"᳚L** (filing something to make a circle using a tool eg. file)

·**ᐊ·Δ₄᳚᳚d"᳚L** (making a circle in the snow using a shovel)

·**ᐊ·Δ₄᳚᳚d"᳚oL** (making a circle in the snow using your

- hand)  
- **·අංඛයිඩුවාල** (s/he makes a circle in the sand)  
- **·අංඛයිජරාල** (s/he makes a circle in the mud)  
- **·අංඛබජරාල** (s/he makes a circle in the ground)

### Activity 11.

1. Bring items to the classroom;
  - a piece of wood (ර්බ ·අංඛනා, ර්බ ·අංඛ>ස්ථා, ර්බ ·අංඛදුවා)
  - clay (ර්බ ·අංඛයිජරාවා)
  - material of some sort (ර්බ ·අංඛංඛුවා, ර්බ ·අංඛනා,)
  - paper (ර්බ ·අංඛනා, ර්බ ·අංඛගැටුවා, ර්බ ·අංඛුවා"නාවා")
  - string (ර්බ ·අංඛයිභාවා, ර්බ ·අංඛයිඛුවාව්ස්ථාවා)

Explain that these all come from the word "circle"

Do some of these things:

- making a circle in the clay.
- cutting a circle from the paper
- making circles using the string

**Activity 12.** Read to the children stories like the one in appendix D. Have them do crafts, modeling, carving or drawings of elements of the story.

More activities that could you do with the (Angle) story

- 1) search words in the lexicon
- 2) make a mural (angles)
- 3) cut out pictures of "angle" objects
- 4) make a list of words that start with ඇ
- 5) Show and Tell --have students bring objects that are angled or twisted shaped
- 6) gather firewood that is twisted shaped
- 7) make a pretend lake (or go on an actual pond or small lake) and walk on it diagonally. Explain what direction you are walking (අගබලිදුවා - අගබලිදැජ්)

- 8) Visit a teepee that has a fireplace or a wood stove and show students how you can put firewood at an angle.
- 9) students can develop songs about angles

**Activity 13.** Imagine with the children a story like the one in Activity 12, but this time using another shape concept. Create the story with the children, using their imagination.

**Activity 14.** For more advanced levels, also using English or French, look up the Cree shape words in the on-line Cree dictionary ([www.eastcree.org](http://www.eastcree.org)) by searching for "angle, circle, round, point, long, flat ". Study the Cree words and see which situations they describe, which part of the word expresses the geometry concept and how other parts of the word express texture and material. Notice how Cree words tend to be precise and concrete.

### Appendix A Numeral words

The words in the list below are examples of a very productive way to create compound words in Cree that measure quantities. These words are particles, they do not take plural inflection or possessive marking,

For example the particle  $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla \Gamma'' \cdot \dot{\text{b}}^{\alpha}$  newemihkwaan 'four tablespoons of something' is different from the words used to just count tablespoons  $\text{ᓇ}^{\circ}$   $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla \Gamma'' \cdot \dot{\text{b}} \sigma^{\omega}$  neu emihkwaanich 'four tablespoons'. These particles can be used to measure volume, weight, quantity, distance and time.

#### Southern

$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \nabla \Gamma'' \cdot \dot{\text{b}}^{\alpha} =$ $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla \Gamma'' \cdot \dot{\text{b}}^{\alpha}$	neu+emihkwaan=newemihkwaan	<i>four tablespoons</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla \Gamma'' \cdot \dot{\text{b}} \sigma^{\omega} =$ $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla \Gamma'' \cdot \dot{\text{b}} \sigma^{\omega}$	neu+emihkwaanish=newemihkwaani sh	<i>four teaspoons</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\text{d}} \wedge^{\alpha} =$ $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \dot{\text{d}} \wedge^{\alpha}$	neu+waapisc=newaapisch	<i>four stones</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\text{d}} \wedge^{\alpha} =$ $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \dot{\text{d}} \wedge^{\alpha}$	neu+waapiskw=newaapiskw	<i>four pieces of metal</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\text{d}} \wedge^{\alpha} \cap^{\beta} =$ $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \dot{\text{d}} \wedge^{\alpha} \cap^{\beta}$	neu+aahtihkw=newaahtikw	<i>four sticks, pieces of lumber</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \cdot \nabla^{\alpha} = \text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla^{\alpha}$	neu+wech=newech	<i>four sheets of paper</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \cdot \nabla b^{\alpha} = \text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla b^{\alpha}''$	neu+wech=newekanh	<i>four blankets</i>
$\text{ᓇ}^{\circ} + \cdot \nabla \cap^{\alpha} =$ $\text{ᓇ} \cdot \nabla \cap^{\alpha} \cdot \Delta^{\beta}$	neu+wech=newechisuwich	<i>four moosehides, pelts, clothes(pants)</i>

$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \nabla \cap^{\circ} =$ $\text{--}\cdot \nabla \cap^{\circ}$	neu+wech=newechihtinh	<i>four layers of clothing</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\Delta} \cdot \nabla \dot{\wedge}^{\circ}$ $(\cdot \dot{\Delta} \cdot \nabla \dot{\wedge}^{\circ}) \text{I} =$ $\text{--} \cdot \dot{\Delta} \cdot \nabla \dot{\wedge}^{\circ}$ $(\text{--} \cdot \dot{\Delta} \cdot \nabla \dot{\wedge}^{\circ}) \text{I}$	neu + wiiweyaau (wiinuwuyaau)I =newiiweyaau (newiinuwuyaau)I	<i>four pairs of shoes</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\triangleleft} V^{\circ} =$ $\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\triangleleft} V b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \cdot \dot{\triangleleft} V b^{\circ}$	neu+aapech=newaapech	<i>four strings (snares, nightlines)</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \triangleright^{\circ} \cap^{\circ} =$ $\text{--}^{\circ}$	neu+ uhtich=neuhtich	<i>four firewood</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + C^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright C^{\circ}$	neu+ tach=neutach	<i>four canoes</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + r's'b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright r's'b^{\circ}$	neu+sinikan=neusinikan	<i>four armfuls</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + j\dot{C}^{\circ} =$ $\triangleright \dot{C}^{\circ}$ $(\text{--} \triangleright \dot{C}^{\circ})$	neu + naachuutaan = neunaachuutaan	<i>carrying four packloads</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \dot{\alpha} j\dot{C}^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \dot{\alpha} j\dot{C}^{\circ}$ $(\text{--} \triangleright \dot{C}^{\circ})$	neu + naachuutaan = neunaachuutaan	<i>four packloads</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \Delta \dot{\wedge} b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \dot{\wedge} b^{\circ}$	neu + wiyaakan = neuyaakan	<i>four platefuls</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cap < \dot{\Delta} b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \cap < \dot{\Delta} b^{\circ}$	neu + tipahiikan = neutipahiikan	<i>four miles, gallons</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cap < \dot{\Delta} b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \cap < \dot{\Delta} b^{\circ}$ (I)	neu + tipahiikan = neutipahiikan	<i>four hours</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \dot{\Gamma} \sigma \cdot \dot{b} \sigma U^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \dot{\Gamma} \sigma \cdot \dot{b} \sigma U^{\circ}$ (C) & (I)	neu + tipahiikan = neutipahiikan	<i>four hours</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \Gamma r^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \Gamma r^{\circ}$	neu + misit = neumisit	<i>four feet</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \Gamma \cap^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \Gamma \cap^{\circ}$	neu + mihchichin = neumichihchin	<i>four inches(thumbs)</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cap < \dot{\gamma} \dot{\Delta} b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \cap < \dot{\gamma} \dot{\Delta} b^{\circ}$	neu + tipaaskuhiiikan = neutipaaskuhiiikan	<i>four rulers, yardsticks</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cap < \dot{\gamma} \dot{\sigma} b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \cap < \dot{\gamma} \dot{\sigma} b^{\circ}$	neu + tipaaskunikan = neutipaaskunikan	<i>four yards</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cap < \dot{\gamma} \gamma b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \cap < \dot{\gamma} \gamma b^{\circ}$	neu + tipaapaachikan = neutipaapaachikan	<i>four measuring tape lengths</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \Gamma \sigma \wedge^{\circ} U^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \Gamma \sigma \wedge^{\circ} U^{\circ}$	neu + minipitaau = neuminipitaau	<i>four bundles</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \dot{\gamma} \cap \dot{\gamma}^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \dot{\gamma} \cap \dot{\gamma}^{\circ}$	neu + skatiyech = neuskatiyech	<i>four packages</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\triangleleft} \Delta \dot{\wedge} C b^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \cdot \dot{\triangleleft} \Delta \dot{\wedge} C b^{\circ}$	neu + waawiyehtaakan = neuwaawiyehtaakan	<i>four barrels</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot \dot{\triangleleft} \gamma \cap \gamma^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \cdot \nabla \gamma \cap \gamma^{\circ} =$ $\text{--} \triangleright \gamma \cap \gamma^{\circ}$	neu + aschihkw = newaschihkw = neuschikw	<i>four pails</i>
$\text{--}^{\circ} + \cdot b \wedge \dot{b} b^{\circ} =$	neu + kwaapikaakan =	<i>four 20 lb. lard pails</i>

$\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{b}\wedge\dot{b}b^\alpha$	neukwaapikaakan	(M)
$\neg\circ + \cdot\dot{b}\wedge\dot{\Delta}b^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{b}\wedge\dot{\Delta}b^\alpha$	neu + kwaapihiikan = neukwaapahiikan	<i>four scoopfuls</i>
$\neg\circ + \wedge\dot{b}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\wedge\dot{b}^\alpha$	neu + pihkaan = neupihkaan	<i>four strand braid</i>
$\neg\circ + \dot{\Gamma}\cdot\triangleleft^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\dot{\Gamma}\cdot\triangleleft^\alpha$	neu + miiwat = neumiawat	<i>four boxes</i>
$\neg\circ + \sigma\cdot\Gamma =$ $\neg\triangleright\sigma\cdot\Gamma$	neu + nisch = neunisch	<i>four armlengths</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\dot{b}\wedge\sigma\cdot b^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{b}\wedge\sigma\cdot b^\alpha$	neukwaapinikan	<i>four handfuls</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\sigma\cdot\dot{b}b^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\sigma\cdot\dot{b}b^\alpha$	neu + minikhwaakan = neuminikhwaakan	<i>four cupfuls</i>
$\neg\circ + \cap\dot{\wedge}\dot{\vee}\dot{\wedge}\dot{\vee}b^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\cap\dot{\wedge}\dot{\vee}\dot{\wedge}\dot{\vee}b^\alpha$	neu + tipaapeskuchikan = neutipaapeskuchikan	<i>four pounds</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha$	neu + wich = newich	<i>four ways</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\cap\dot{b}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\cap\dot{b}^\alpha$	neu + mihtihkaan = neumihtihkaan	<i>four cords of wood</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\sigma\cdot d^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\sigma\cdot d^\alpha$	neu + minikush = neuminikush	<i>four minutes</i>
$\neg\circ + \dot{L}\cap\dot{S}b^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\dot{L}\cap\dot{S}b^\alpha$	neu + maachishikan = neumaachishikan	<i>four slices</i>
$\neg\circ + \wedge\cdot\dot{q}\cap b^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\wedge\cdot\dot{q}\cap b^\alpha$	neu + maachishikan = neumaachishikan	<i>four slices</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\dot{\Delta}\cdot\dot{q}\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\alpha}+$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{\Delta}\cdot\dot{q}\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\alpha}$	neu + wiihkweyaau = newiihkweyaau	<i>four bags</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\sigma\cdot\dot{v} =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\sigma\cdot\dot{v}$	neu + minich = neuminich	<i>four berries</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\triangleleft\sigma\cdot\dot{v} =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\triangleleft\sigma\cdot\dot{v}$	newaanich	<i>four islands</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\sigma\cdot\dot{b}\cdot\dot{v} =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\sigma\cdot\dot{b}\cdot\dot{v}$	neu + miniskaau = neuminiskaau	<i>four dozen</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\dot{\wedge} =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{\wedge}$	neu + htii = neuhtii	<i>four dollar</i>
$\neg\triangleright + \cdot\dot{\wedge} =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{\wedge}$	neu + shtuu = neushtuu	<i>four beaver lodges</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\Delta}\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\Delta}\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha$	neu + minehiitwich = neuminehiitwich	<i>four groups</i>
$\neg\circ + \Delta\cdot\dot{q}\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\alpha}+$ $\neg\triangleright\Delta\cdot\dot{q}\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\alpha}$	neu + iskwewich = neuskewic	<i>four women</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\triangleleft\dot{V}\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\triangleleft\dot{V}\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha$	neu + aapewich = newaapewich	<i>four men (in the family)</i>
$\neg\circ + \cdot\dot{b}\Gamma\cap\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\cdot\dot{b}\Gamma\cap\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha$	neu + kamichisuwich = neukamichisuwich	<i>four tents full of people</i>
$\neg\circ + \Gamma\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha =$ $\neg\triangleright\Gamma\cdot\dot{\wedge}\cdot\dot{\Delta}^\alpha$	neu + minekuchinich = neumenikuchinich	<i>four flocks</i>

**Northern:**

ò°	naau	
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naawaamihkwaan	four tablespoons
ò·òΓ°·òσ~	naawaamihkwaanish	four teaspoons
ò·òΓ~	naawaapisch	four stones, pieces of metal
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naawaahthikw	four sticks, pieces of lumber
ò·òj~	naawaach	four sheet-like.....
ò·òj~	naawaapaach	four strings
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naauhtich	four firewood
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naautich	four canoes of...
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naautikaauh	four canoes
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naausinikan	four armfuls
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaunaachiutaakin	four packloads
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naauyaakin	four platefuls four loaves of bread
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naautipihiikan	four miles
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naaumisit	four feet
ò·òΓ°·ò°	naaumichihchin	four inches
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naautipaaskuhiikin	four ruler, stick
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naautipaaskunikin	four yards
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naautipaapaachikin	four measuring units (string-like)
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauminihpitaaau	four bundles
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauskitiyaachii	four packages
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauskitiyaach	four packages
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauwaawiyaahtaakin	four barrels
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naawaaschihkw	four pails of...
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaukwaaapiakaawaakin	four water containers of ... (liquid)
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaukwapihiikin	four scoops
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaupihkaan	four strands
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naawaapihchaan	four strands of ...
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauuwit	four boxes of something
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauwinisch	four arm lengths
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaukwapinikin	four handfuls
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauminihkwaakin	four cupfuls
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naautipaapaashkuchikan	four pounds
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauwiyich	four ways
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauwiyikin	four ways
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaumihihkaan	four cords of wood
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naauminikush	four minutes
ò·òΓ°·ò·Δò°	naaumaachishikin	four slices

ò>·Δ"·b̄l̄°	naauwiihkwaayaau	four bags
ò>Γσ·t̄	naauminich	four berries
ò>Γσ·r̄y·Δ̄t̄	naauminichisiuwich	four berries
ò>Γσ·b̄°"	naauminikaauh	four berries
ò·d̄s̄·b̄°"	naawaanikaauh	four islands
ò>Γσ·b̄°	naauminiskaau	four bundles
ò>"ñ̄	naauhtii	four dollars
ò>Γñ̄·Δ̄t̄	naauminaayituwich	four groups
ò>·b̄d̄·Δ·Δ̄t̄	naauskwaauwiwich	four women
ò·d̄d̄·Δ̄t̄	naawaapaauwich	four men
ò>ρΓr̄y·Δ̄t̄	naaukimichisiwich	four shelters in a camp
ò>Γò·d̄r̄σ̄	naauminaakuchinich	four flocks of birds
ò>Γσ̄d̄r̄σ̄	naauminikuchinich	
ò>Γσ̄"Λ̄c̄°	naauminihpitaau	four bundles
ò>σ̄·Λ̄c̄l̄ȳd̄·Δ̄ρò̄l̄°	naauniipitaayaaskuhiiinkaayaau	four food racks of food, meat
ò>ñ̄l̄ò̄l̄°	naauchiimaanaayaau	four cargo loads (anim) four boat loads
ò>ñ̄l̄·a	naauchiimaan	four cargo loads (anim)
ò>ñ̄l̄ò̄l̄°"	naauchiimaanaayaauh	four cargo loads (inanim)
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·	naaushtiu	four beaver lodges
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·d̄r̄·Δ̄t̄	naaushtiwaasiwich	four beaver lodges
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·d̄ñ̄°"	naaushtiwaayaauh	four beaver lodges
ò>ñ̄ñ̄ñ̄	naauwaastich	four tree boughs
ò>ñ̄"Δ̄<	naauuhiip	four fishnets
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·	naaupiskin	four mesh loops of a net
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·ñ̄ñ̄°"	naaushtikwaayaauh	four rivers
ò>ρñ̄·	naaukimaauh	four lakes
ò>ñ̄ñ̄°	naaupitaau	s/he grabs four
ò>ñ̄ñ̄ñ̄°	naauupitaau	s/he catches four fish with net
ò>·Δ̄d̄j̄·Δ̄t̄	naauwikusiiuch	four perching
ò>·d̄·ñ̄·ñ̄ñ̄°	naauwaawaaschaau	four gun blasts
ò>·d̄·ñ̄ñ̄·ρ̄·	naauwaapaakin	four snares
ò>ñ̄·σ̄·ρ̄·	naaupuunikin	four woodfire loads
ò>·Δ̄ñ̄ȳ·	naauwischisin	four pairs of footwear
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·ñ̄·b̄°	naautipiskwaau	four nights away from home
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·ñ̄°"	naautipiskaauh	four nights
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·Δ̄ñ̄°"	naautiwishtaauh	four weeks
ò>ñ̄ñ̄ñ̄"	naapiisimh	four months
ò>ñ̄ñ̄ñ̄·	naauupipunh	four years/winters
ò>ñ̄ñ̄ñ̄·ñ̄·Δ̄t̄	naauutaausiwich	there are four families
ò>ñ̄ñ̄·	naauskimuch	there are four sets of tracks
ò>ñ̄ñ̄ñ̄·Δ̄t̄	naauhyaaauwich	there are four flying

ò▷dñσ̄	naaukuchinich	there are four hanging
ò▷r̄l̄▷·Δ̄	naauchimaauwich	there are four swimming
ò▷ʌ̄r̄·Δ̄	naaupiyuwich	four moving on something
ò▷"c̄·Δ̄	naauhtaawich	there are four walking
ò▷▷"d̄l̄	naauuhkumich	there are four in a canoe
ò▷b̄>·Δ·Δ̄	naaukaapuwiwich	there are four standing
ò▷r̄"·b̄l̄·Δ̄	naauchiikhwaamuwich	there are four sleeping
ò▷ʃ̄σ̄	naushinich	there are four lying down
ò▷c̄<·ò̄n̄	naautaapaanaaskw	four truckloads
ò▷ΡΓΠr̄·Δ̄	naaukimichisiwich	there are four shelters for the group of people
ò▷īl̄	naausaam	four pairs of snowshoes
ò▷īl̄l̄°	naausamaayaau	material enough for four pairs of snowshoes
ò▷n̄ò̄°"	naautinaauh	four mountains
ò·d̄"n̄d̄	naawahtikw	four stick-like objects
ò▷ʌ̄Δ̄·Δ̄	naupihiitwuwich	four running
ò▷b̄c̄·d̄l̄°	naaukaataawaayaau	something that is four-legged i.e. table
ò▷ʌ̄·l̄ʌ̄p̄l̄r̄a	naupiywaapuskuyaakin	four bottles
ò▷ʌ̄c̄·Δ̄	naupihtaawich	there are four running
ò▷r̄s̄"·b̄l̄°	naauchiishihkwaayaau	it will take four days to do it
ò·d̄r̄p̄a"	naawaaukinh	four eggs
ò▷r̄m̄c̄ò̄l̄°"	naauchishtunaayaauh	eggs from four nests
ò▷ʌ̄r̄·Δò̄l̄°	naupichiwinaayaau	four days of travelling in winter
ò▷>ī·Δ̄	naupuyaawich	four people paddling the canoe
ò▷r̄σ̄p̄a	naausinikin	four armloads of .....

## Appendix B- Reduplication and Distributivity

### DISTRIBUTIVE NUMERALS IN CREE (SOUTHERN)

#### (1) Regular and reduplicated numerals

$\nabla \cdot \nabla^d$	$\dot{\nabla}'' \nabla \cdot \nabla^d$	peyakw 'one'	pâh-peyakw Redup-one 'one by one, each'
$\dot{\sigma} \sim$	$\dot{\sigma} \dot{\sigma} \sim$	nîshu 'two'	nâ-nîshu Redup -two 'two each'
$\sigma^\circ$	$\dot{\sigma} \sigma^\circ$	neu 'four'	nâ-neu Redup -four 'four each'
$\Gamma \cdot \Gamma^c$	$\dot{\Gamma} \Gamma \cdot \Gamma^c$	mitâhtw 'ten'	mâ-mitâhtw Redup -ten 'ten each'

- (2)  $\sigma^\circ \cdot \dot{\sigma} \wedge \Gamma \sigma'' \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \nabla \sigma \sigma^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \dot{\sigma} \sim$   
neu wâpiminhchî muweuch anchî awâshich.  
'The children ate four apples.'

- (3)  $\dot{\sigma} \sigma^\circ \cdot \dot{\sigma} \wedge \Gamma \sigma'' \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \nabla \sigma \sigma^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \dot{\sigma} \sim$   
nâneu wâpiminh chî muweuch anchî awâshich.  
'The children ate four apples each.'

#### (4) Temporal numerals (regular and reduplicated)

$\nabla \cdot \dot{b}^\circ$	$\dot{\nabla}'' \nabla \cdot \dot{b}^\circ$	peyakwâu one-times 'one time'	pâh-peyakwâu Redup- one-times 'one time each'
$\dot{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\sigma}^\circ$	$\dot{\sigma} \dot{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\sigma}^\circ$	nîsh-wâu two-times 'two times'	nâ-nîsh-âu Redup- two-times 'two times each'

- (5)  $\sigma \sigma \cdot \dot{\sigma}^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \nabla \sigma \sigma \cdot \dot{\sigma}^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \dot{\sigma} \sim$  neuwâu chî ayimuuch.  
'They spoke four times.'

- (6)  $\dot{\sigma} \sigma \sigma \cdot \dot{\sigma}^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \nabla \sigma \sigma \cdot \dot{\sigma}^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \dot{\sigma} \sim$  nâneuwâu chî ayimûch.  
'They spoke four times each.'

- (7)  $\dot{\nabla}'' \nabla \cdot \nabla^d \cdot \dot{\sigma} \wedge \Gamma \sigma'' \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \nabla \sigma \sigma^\circ \dot{\sigma} \sim \nabla \cdot \dot{\sigma} \sim$   
[<sub>NP(object)</sub> pâh-peyakw wâpimin-h] [<sub>S</sub> chî muweuch] [<sub>NP(subject)</sub> anchî awâsh-ich].  
'The children ate one apple each.'

- (8)  $\dot{\langle}''\vee\dot{\rangle}^d \triangleleft\cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\mathcal{S}^u \dot{\wedge} \dot{\wedge} \nabla\triangleright^u \cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\wedge\Gamma^u''_x$   
 [NP(subject) **pâh-peyakw** awâsh-ich ] [s chî muweuch] [NP(object)wâpimin-h].  
 'Each of the children ate an apple/apples.'

The Cree language can express with reduplicated numeral a large array of distributive situations. The interpretation of those sentence can be represented by graphs.

- (9) Intransitive Verb (vai or vii) the numeral modifies the subject of the sentence:

a.  $\underline{\circ}^o \triangleleft\cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\mathcal{S}^u \dot{\wedge} \dot{\wedge} \nabla\triangleright^u_x$   
 neu awâshich chî mîchisuch.  
 'Four children ate.'

b.  $\underline{\dot{\circ}}\underline{\circ}^o \triangleleft\cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\mathcal{S}^u \dot{\wedge} \dot{\wedge} \nabla\triangleright^u_x$   
**nâneu** awâshich chî mîchisuch.  
 'The children ate, in groups of four.'

- (10) Transitive Verb (vta or vti): the numeral modifies the subject of the sentence

a.  $\underline{\circ}^o \triangleleft\cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\mathcal{S}^u \cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\wedge\Gamma^u'' \dot{\wedge} \dot{\wedge} \nabla\triangleright^u_x$   
neu awâshich wâpiminh chî muweuch.  
 'Four children ate apples.'

b.  $\underline{\dot{\circ}}\underline{\circ}^o \triangleleft\cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\mathcal{S}^u \cdot\dot{\triangleleft}\wedge\Gamma^u'' \dot{\wedge} \dot{\wedge} \nabla\triangleright^u_x$   
**nâneu** awâshich wâpiminh chî muweuch.  
 'The children four by four (or in groups of four) ate apples.'

(11) Schema A

Distributed share:

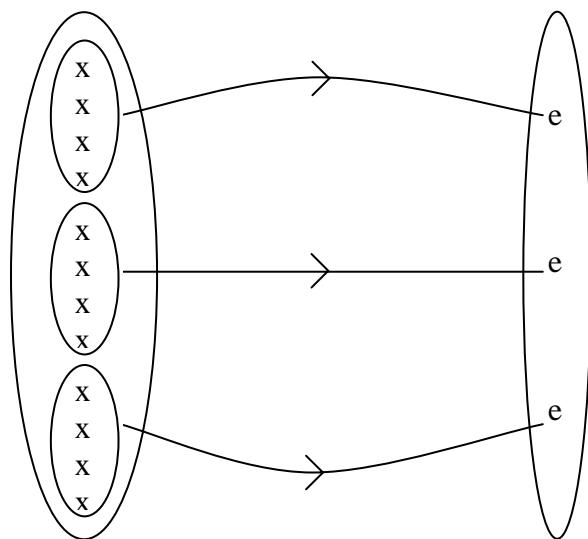
(Subject)

children (x)

Sorted key:

(Object)

apple-eating event (e)



- (12) Transitive Verb (vta or vti): The numeral modifies the object:

a.  $\text{̀o}^{\circ} \cdot \dot{\text{d}}\text{̀}\text{a}\text{̀}\text{r}^{\text{a}} \text{̀} \text{̀} \cdot \nabla \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀}$

Neu wâpiminh chî muweuch anchî awâshich.

'The children ate four apples.'

b.  $\dot{\text{a}}\text{̀}\text{o}^{\circ} \cdot \dot{\text{d}}\text{̀}\text{a}\text{̀}\text{r}^{\text{a}} \text{̀} \text{̀} \cdot \nabla \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀}$

Nâneu wâpiminh chî muweuch anchî awâshich.

'The children ate four apples each.'

- (13) Schema B

Distributed share:

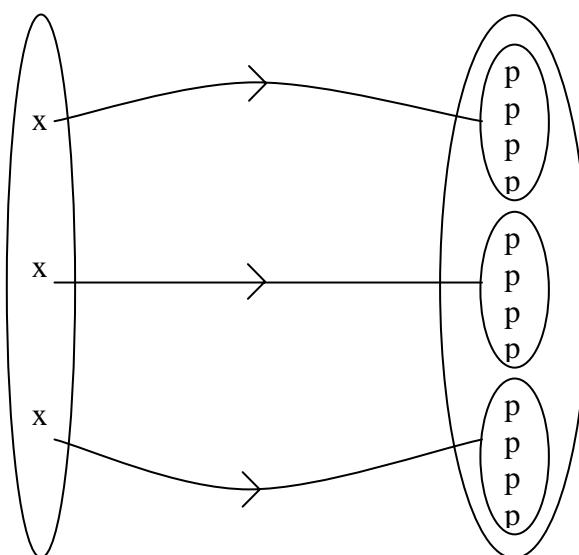
(Subject)

children (x) (eating)

Sorting key:

(Object)

apples (p)



Plurality constraint (also found in other languages in distributive contexts); the subject of the sentence must be plural.

Examples, during a party, the hostess asks her husband to give cookies on a tray:

(14)  $\dot{\text{a}}\text{̀}\text{v}^{\text{a}} \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀}$

pâhpeyakw awen che miyat!

(15)  $\sigma_{\sim} \dot{\text{d}}\text{̀}\text{a}\text{̀}\text{v}^{\text{a}} \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀} \text{̀}$

nishu âihkunâsha che miyat pâhpeyakw awash!

Speaking about four different kinds of fish received as a gift: (here the sorting key is taken from the context, different kinds of fish, and the sentence does not need a plural subject or beneficiary object)

- (16) dotwo σ᷑ ḡ᷑<sub>x</sub> nâneu nichî mîkw.

Reduplicated numeral in verbs. Subject must be plural.

- (17) ḡ᷑ oD"b\_lu Chî neuhkamuch.  
'Four of them were doing it.'
- (18) ḡ᷑ dotwoD"b\_lu Chî nâneuhkamuch.  
'They were doing it in groups of four.'
- (19) ḡ᷑ oD"UDlu Chî neuhteuch.  
'Four of them were walking.'
- (20) ḡ᷑ dotwoD"UDlu Chî nâneuhteuch.  
'They were walking in groups of four.'

As particles or as verb initial morphemes, reduplicated numerals are used in Cree to create distributivity operators.

References:

- Ahenakew, Freda. & Wolfart, H.C. Productive reduplication in Plains Cree. (1983) In *Actes du quatorzième congrès des Algonquinistes*, William Cowan (ed.), pp.369-377. Ottawa: Carleton University.
- Gil, David (2005). Distributive Numerals. In Haspelmath, Martin; Dryer, Matthew S.; Gil, David; Comrie, Bernard. (ed.) (2005). *The world atlas of language structures*. Oxford ; New York : Oxford University Press: 222-225.
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- Junker, Marie-Odile (2007) La Réduplication en cri de l'Est : Quantification et Distributivité. *Faits de langue* N° 29. In press.

## DISTRIBUTIVE NUMERALS IN CREE (NORTHERN)

(1) Regular and reduplicated numerals

$\dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle}^d$	$\dot{\langle}'' \dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle}^d$	paahpaayikw 'one'	paah-paayikw Redup-one 'one by one, each'
$\dot{\sigma} \sim$	$\dot{\sigma} \dot{\sigma} \sim$	nîshu 'two'	nâ-nîshu Redup -two 'two each'
$\dot{\sigma}^o$	$\dot{\sigma} \dot{\sigma}^o$	nâu 'four'	nâ-nâu Redup -four 'four each'
$\Gamma \dot{C}'' \dot{C}$	$\dot{\Gamma} \Gamma \dot{C}'' \dot{C}$	mitâhtu 'ten'	mâ-mitâhtu Redup -ten 'ten each'

(2) Nâu uskitimuih chîh mîchiwich anchî awâshishich.  
'The children ate four apples.'

(3) Nânâu uskutimuih chî mîchiwich anchî awâshshiich.  
'The children ate four apples each.'

(4) Temporal numerals (regular and reduplicated)

$\dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle} \cdot \dot{b}^o$	$\dot{\langle}'' \dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle} \cdot \dot{b}^o$	pâyikwâu one-times 'one time'	pâh-pâyikwâu Redup- one-times 'one time each'
$\dot{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\sigma}^o$	$\dot{\sigma} \dot{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\sigma}^o$	nîsh-wâu two-times 'two times'	nâ-nîsh-wâu Redup- two-times 'two times each'

(5)

(6)  $\dot{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\sigma}^o$   $\dot{\Gamma}'' \dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle} \cdot \Delta^u \times$   
nâwâu chîh ayimuwich.  
'They spoke four times.'

(7)  $\dot{\sigma} \dot{\sigma} \cdot \dot{\sigma}^o$   $\dot{\Gamma}'' \dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle} \cdot \Delta^u \times$   
nânâwâu chîh ayimuwich.  
'They spoke four times each.'

(8)  $\dot{\langle}'' \dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle}^d$   $\triangleright'' \wp \cap \Delta'' \dot{\Gamma}'' \dot{\langle} \dot{\rangle} \cdot \Delta^u \dot{\Delta} \sigma \dot{\Gamma} \dot{\Delta} \cdot \dot{\Delta} \cup_x$   
[NP(object) pâh-pâyikw uskitimui-h] [S chîh mîchiwich] [NP(subject) anchî awâshish-ich].  
'The children ate one apple each.'

The Cree language can express with reduplicated numeral a large array of distributive situations. The interpretation of these sentences can be represented by graphs.

- (9) Intransitive Verb (vai or vii) the numeral modifies the subject of the sentence:

a. **âo**  $\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\dot{\tau}'' \dot{\tau}\tau\tau\tau_x$

**nâu** awâshishich chîh mîchiswich.

'Four children ate.'

b.  $\dot{\tau}'' \underline{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\alpha}}\triangleright\triangleleft \triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\dot{\tau}'' \dot{\tau}\tau\tau\tau_x$

chîh **nânâwich** awâshishich kâ mîchisuch.

'The children ate, in groups of four.'

- (10) Transitive Verb (vta or vti): the numeral modifies the subject of the sentence

a. **âo**  $\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\dot{\tau}'' \triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\triangleright\triangleright\triangleright\triangleright_x$

**nâu** awâshishich chîh muwâwich uskitimuih.

'Four children ate apples.'

b.  $\dot{\tau}'' \underline{\dot{\alpha}\dot{\alpha}}\triangleright\triangleleft \triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\dot{\tau}'' \triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\dot{\tau}'' \triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft\triangleleft$   $\triangleright\triangleright\triangleright\triangleright_x$

chîh **nânâwich** awâshishich kâ muwâch uskitimuih.

'The children four by four (or in groups of four) ate apples.'

- (11) Schema A

Distributed share:

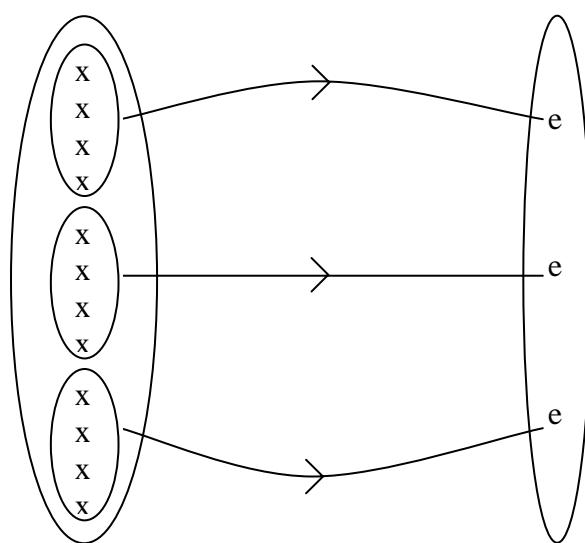
(Subject)

children (x)

Sorted key:

(Object)

apple-eating event (e)



- (12) Transitive Verb (vta or vti): The numeral modifies the object:

a.  $\dot{\alpha}^{\circ} \triangleright^{\prime} \rho \cap \Delta'' \dot{\tau}'' \dot{\Gamma}^{\cdot} \Delta^{\nu} \triangleleft \sigma \dot{\tau} \triangleleft \triangleleft \cup \cup_x$

nâu uskitimuih chîh mîchiwich anichî awâshishich.

'The children ate four apples.'

b.  $\underline{\dot{\alpha}^{\circ}} \triangleright^{\prime} \rho \cap \Delta'' \dot{\tau}'' \dot{\Gamma}^{\cdot} \Delta^{\nu} \triangleleft \sigma \dot{\tau} \triangleleft \triangleleft \cup \cup_x$

nânâu uskitimuih chîh mîchiwich anichî awâshishich.

'The children ate four apples each.'

- (13) Schema B

Distributed share:

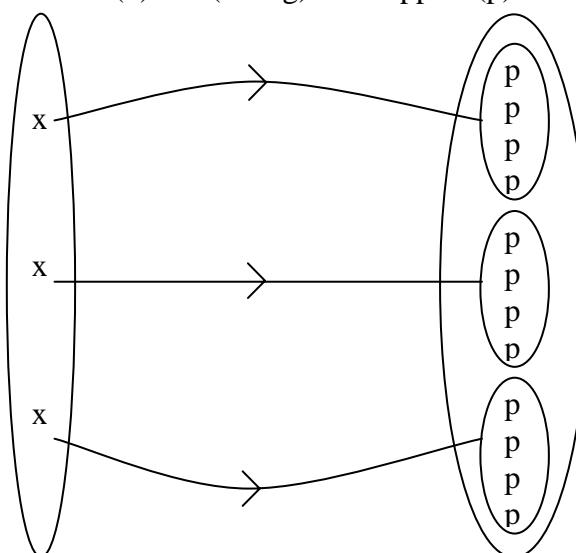
(Subject)

children (x) (eating)

Sorting key:

(Object)

apples (p)



Plurality constraint (also found in other languages in distributive contexts); the subject of the sentence must be plural.

Examples, during a party, the hostess asks her husband to give cookies on a tray:

(14)  $\underline{\dot{\alpha}^{\circ}} \triangleleft \dot{\gamma}^{\alpha} \triangleleft \dot{\Delta}'' \dot{\sigma} \dot{\omega}'' \dot{\cup} \dot{\Gamma}^{\cdot} \dot{\zeta}^{\circ} \triangleleft \triangleleft \cup \cup_x$   
pâhpâyikw âihkunâsh-h châ miyitwâu awânic'hî.

(15)  $\underline{\dot{\alpha}^{\circ}} \triangleleft \dot{\gamma}^{\alpha} \triangleleft \triangleleft \cup \cup_x \dot{\alpha} \dot{\sigma} \dot{\omega} \triangleleft \dot{\Delta}'' \dot{\sigma} \dot{\omega}'' \dot{\cup} \dot{\Gamma}^{\cdot} \dot{\zeta}^{\circ} \dot{x}$   
pâhpâyikw awâshishich nânîshu âihkunâsh-h châ miyitwâu.

Speaking about four different kinds of fish received as a gift: (here the sorting key is taken from the context, different kinds of fish, and the sentence does not need a plural subject or beneficiary object)

(16)  $\underline{\dot{\alpha}^{\circ}}^{\circ} \sigma \dot{\tau}'' \dot{\Gamma}^{\cdot} \dot{\alpha}_x \underline{nânâu} \text{ nichî miyikw.}$

Reduplicated numeral in verbs. Subject must be plural.

- (17) ḡ" ḡ>▷"ρɬ<sub>x</sub> chīh nāuuuhkimuch.  
'Four of them were doing it.'
- (18) ḡ" ḡ.▷▷"ρɬ<sub>x</sub> chīh nānāuuuhkimuch.  
'They were doing it in groups of four.'
- (19) ḡ ḡ▷"č·Δ<sub>x</sub> chīh nāuhtâwich.  
'Four of them were walking.'
- (20) ḡ ḡ.▷"č·Δ<sub>x</sub> chīh nānāuhtâwich.  
'They were walking in groups of four.'

As particles or as verb initial morphemes, reduplicated numerals are used in Cree to create distributivity operators.

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- Junker, Marie-Odile et Louise Blacksmith (1994) Reduplication in East Cree, *Actes du vingt-cinquième Congrès des Algonquinistes*, W. Cowan (ed.): 265-273.
- Junker, Marie-Odile (1996) Comment quantifier en cri de l'est, *Recherches amérindiennes au Québec*, 26:3-4: 13-19.
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- Junker, Marie-Odile (2007) La Réduplication en cri de l'Est : Quantification et Distributivité. *Faits de langue* N° 29. In press.





## Appendix D: Geometry

Frances's Story

Γদନ୍ତ ପରିମାୟ

ଆଜିଦିନ ଏହି ଗଣିତ ଶବ୍ଦରେ କିମିମି ଅଭିନନ୍ଦ ଥାଏ ଯାଏ ଯାଏ  
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କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି  
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କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି  
କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି  
କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି  
କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି କିମିମି  
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If you want to know more:

*Native American Mathematics*, edited by Michael P. Closs, University of Texas Press,  
Austin. 1986.

*This book does not speak about Cree, but an article by Peter Denny looks at Ojibwe and  
Inuktitut and there are a lot of similarities with Cree:* Chapter 6. Cultural Ecology of  
Mathematics.J Peter Denny. pp 129-180.