

## Animate Intransitive Verbs (VAI): Aaniin ezhichigeyan?

Here's 35 verbs to describe what people are doing. These verbs can be used in any context and any VAI can be used to answer this question.

1. S/he is arriving	Dagoshin
2. “ bathing or swimming	Bagizo
3. “ brushing their teeth	Giziiyaabide’o
4. “ busy	Ojaanimizi
5. “ cleaning	Biinichige
6. “ cooking	Jiibaakwe
7. “ crying	Mawi
8. “ dancing	Niimi
9. “ dressing	Biizikonaye
10. “ driving	Odaabii’iwe
11. “ eating	Wiisini
12. “ flying	Bimise
13. “ gambling	Ataage
14. “ going to the bathroom or outside	Zaaga’am
15. “ going to bed	Gawishimo
16. “ going home	Giwe
17. “ jumping	Gwaashkwani
18. “ laughing	Baapi
19. “ playing	Odamino
20. “ pouting	Mindawe
21. “ resting	Anwebi
22. “ scratching	Jiichiigii
23. “ sewing	Gashkigwaaso
24. “ singing	Nagamo
25. “ sleeping	Nibaa
26. “ smiling	Zhoomiingweni
27. “ smoking	Zagaswaa
28. “ speaking	Gaagiigido
29. “ standing	Niibawi
30. “ sweating	Abwezo
31. “ undressing	Giizikonaye
32. “ waking up	Goshkozi
33. “ watching a movie	Mazinaatesijige
34. “ writing	Ozhibii’ige
35. “ working	Anokii

## VAI: Aaniin ezhichigeyan?

Here's 15 more verbs related to seasonal activities.

- |                                   |               |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. S/he is boiling sap            | Iskigamizige  |
| 2. “ camping                      | Gabeshi       |
| 3. “ collecting/chopping firewood | Manise        |
| 4. “ fishing with a hook and line | Wewebanaabii  |
| 5. “ hunting                      | Giiyose       |
| 6. “ picking berries              | Mawinzo       |
| 7. “ rice knocking                | Bawa'am       |
| 8. “ rice poling                  | Gaandakii'ige |
| 9. “ rice winnowing               | Nooshkaachige |
| 10. “ ricing                      | Manoominike   |
| 11. “ setting a net               | Bagida'waa    |
| 12. “ snaring                     | Agoodoo       |
| 13. “ spearing by light           | Waaswaa       |
| 14. “ spearing through the ice    | Akwa'waa      |
| 15. “ telling sacred stories      | Aadizooke     |

If we are curious what someone is doing, this is how we can ask:

- |           |                               |                       |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Person 1: | Aaniin <b>ezhichigeyan?</b>   | What are you doing?   |
| Person 2: | <b>Nindanokii.</b> Giin dash? | I'm working. And you? |
| Person 1: | <b>Ningoshkoz.</b>            | I'm waking up.        |
| Person 1: | Aaniin <b>ezhichiged?</b>     | What is he doing?     |
| Person 2: | <b>Ataage.</b>                | He's gambling.        |

When asking what someone did in the past or wants to do in the future, we use tense markers (gii- for past and wii- for future). Just like we saw with our inanimate weather verbs, there is an initial vowel change (gii- becomes gaa- and wii- becomes waa-) in question form:

- |           |  |                                  |
|-----------|--|----------------------------------|
| Person 1: | Aaniin <b>gaa-izhichigeyan bijiinaago?</b> | What did you do yesterday?       |
| Person 2: | <b>Ingii-manise.</b> Giin dash?            | I made wood. And you?            |
| Person 1: | <b>Ingii-anokii.</b>                       | I worked.                        |
| Person 1: | Aaniin <b>waa-izhichigeyan waabang?</b>    | What do you want to do tomorrow? |
| Person 2: | <b>Niwii-o-wewebanaabii.</b> Giin dash?    | I want to go fishing. And you?   |
| Person 1: | <b>Niwii-o-mawinz.</b>                     | I want to go pick berries.       |

## VAI: Aaniin ezhichigeyan?

### **Prefix order**

When constructing sentences using VAI or ANY verb types, bear in mind the order of prefixes:

1. Personal (such as ni-, gi-, o-)
2. Tense (such as gii-, wii-, da-/ga-/ji-, daa-, aano-)
3. Directional (such as ani-, bi-)
4. Relative (such as izhi-, onji-)
5. Preverbs (such as gichi-, nitaa-, ishkwa-, jibwaa-)

Shown are examples of frequently used prefixes, see the dictionary for the exact of classification of other prefixes.