Łuk Tr’ahgàiì
Drying Fish

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Gwich’in Language

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Jane Montgomery was born and grew up in Old Crow, Yukon and is a fluent speaker of Gwich'in. For many years Jane served as Urban Programs Coordinator at the Yukon Native Language Centre in Whitehorse. She currently is a Gwich'in Language Teacher at the Chief Zzeh Gittlit School in Old Crow.

Jane is a pioneer in the development of modern Gwich'in language curriculum and has taught at both Yukon College and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She holds the Native Language Instructor Certificate, and Diploma from Yukon College. In 1996 she was awarded the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Native Language Education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. In 1991 she received an Innovations in Teaching Award from the Yukon Department of Education.
Łuk
Tr’ahgàii
Kevin chijàł al'àii.
Sriijaa tik vighèh dhidlìi.
Chiitaii gwinìidhàa.
Kevin vänh dai' hee chihvyâh nanaain.

Vichihvyaa zhît Ɂuk ɡoonglii.
Kevin vijùu làh hàh ūk kadi‘in.
Lūk leii khaiinlii.
Vijùu ūk daang dhàlkhàii.
Kevin vitsuu łuk leii t’ii.
Łuk gaii leii hahtsyàa.
Kevin vijùu łuk oo’ee naadàl.
Kevin vahanh ĭuk tr'æht'ii.
Tr'iiinin tsal aachin yaa'ii.
Ch'îk ghoo zhît ĭuk dhakàii.
Kevin vahanh ūk tr'āłt'uu drah kak daohfiī.

Tr'iinīn tsal drah t'eh gwijīl'ā'.
Kevin troo oo’ee nadeechàa.

Shòh nilii kwaa.
Kevin vilik aachin yàa'ìî.
Dichi' dahthak ts'åt shòh nilii.
Khaii tthak łuk hee'aa eenjit shòh nilii.
Kevin gwiintl'oh gwitr’it t'agwah’yù’.

Cheedandàk.

Ts’ivii choo chan vâh oo’àn gohùudhält.
Kevin chijat al’aii.  
*Kevin is fishing with a hook.*

Sriijaa tik vighèh dhidlii.  
*There are three grayling beside him.*

Chiitaii gwiniiidhàa.  
*It’s warm outside.*

Kevin vanh dai’ hee chihvyah nanaa’in.  
*Kevin went to check his fishnet early in the morning.*

Vichihvyaa zhit luk goonlii.  
*There are lots of fish in his net.*
Kevin vijùu làh hàh tuk kadi’in.
Kevin’s younger sister is gaffing for fish.

Łuk leiì khaiinliì.
She gaffs lots of fish.

Vijùu łuk daang dhàlkhaìi.
His younger sister got four fish.

Kevin vitsuu łuk leiì t’ìì.
Kevin’s grandma is cutting lots of fish.

Łuk gaiì leiì hahtsyàa.
She will make lots of dryfish.

Kevin vijùu łuk oo’ee naadàl.
Kevin’s younger sister brings fish to her.
Kevin vahanh łuk tr’àht’ii.
Kevin’s mother is cutting fish.

Tr’iinin tsal aachin yaa’ii.
The child is watching her.

Ch’ik ghoo zhit łuk dhakàiìi.
There is fish in a bowl.

Kevin vahanh łuk tr’àlt’uù drah kak daohlii.
Kevin’s mom is putting the fish she cut up to dry.

Tr’iinin tsal drah t’eh gwijilìk’a’.
The child is keeping the fire burning under the cache.

Kevin troo oo’ee nadeechàa.
Kevin is carrying wood.

Shòh nilii kwaa.
He is not happy.
Kevin vilik aachin yàa’ii.
Kevin’s dog is watching him.

Dichi’ dahtak ts’ât shòh nilii.
He wags his tail and is happy.

Khaii tthak łuk hee’aa eenjit shòh nilii.
He will eat dryfish all winter so he is happy.

Kevin gwiintl’òh gwitr’it t’agwah’yù’.
Kevin worked hard.

Cheedandàk.
He is tired.

Ts’iiivii choo chan vâh oo’àn gohùudhât.
He went to sleep under a big tree.