Dictionary Words / Little People

1. Birds -piyesîsak : My grandparents before me often hunted geese and ducks. Spring is when many birds start returning from the south. Tomorrow, I’ll take Lily and Thomas to go bird watching. There is plenty to see, as there is more than 280 types of birds in the Rocky Mountains.
2. sister - Nimis ahpô nisîmis : Thomas might not admit it, but having a little sister is one of the greatest things in the world. Thomas loves being a big brother, and with being a big brother comes big responsibility.
3. bag -Maskimot: Bags were made from soften hide. Even today we use these for drum bags or our medicine pouches. Lily also has a small hide purse for her trinkets.
4. Bannock - Pahkwesikan: (art in Sasquatch story) It’s a treat whenever Kookum makes her famous bannock, a tasty fry bread made with flour, salt, water and then rendered in fat. I love when she uses a bit of bacon grease too.
5. berries - Minisa : Kookum grew up on the prairies where she ate lots of Saskatoon berries. But I love my British Columbia blackberries.
6. Salmon -Misiwâpamek : (art in Kalkalilh story): Kookum grew up eating pickeral but she learned how to make the best candied salmon when she tried to woo me. And it worked!
7. ice cream - miskwamî-manahikan: The frozen, sugary ice cream that most people think of is quite different from soapberry ice cream. It’s a froth that we make from soapberries and some sweetener. It might be a bit more sour than what Thomas and Lily are used to, but it’s healthier.
8. ~~buckets -mawiswâkan: Thomas and Lily use old ice cream buckets to carry all their berries but Kookum used to make pouches out of birch bark or cotton. I grew up with cedar baskets that my aunties would weave together.~~
9. stool -Têhcikâpawin This old, wooden stool was one of the first things I made for this home. This sturdy stool may not look like much, but I believe something made from your own hands is always more meaningful.
10. arm (s) - Ospiton (a) : Lily said one day that she wished she had more arms so she could beat Thomas at juggling. I told her life would be very confusing if you had many arms like an octopus. I’d rather have an extra mouth, to help me eat more of Kookum’s candied salmon.
11. ground - Asiskîy ahpô mohcihk : I’ve always wondered what lives under the ground. Could there be Little People, living in their secret underground caves? One day I would like to take a shovel and dig as far as I can go. I wonder if we’d end up in a faraway land.
12. nose - Mikot : I thought it was odd the first time I saw a Little Person as he had no nose. I can't imagine not having a nose as I love smelling the great woods and all the bounty the land has to offer. Not to mention, I love smelling Kookum's cooking.
13. bowl -Wâwiyakan : We have many shiny bowls in our home, don’t we? My ancestors liked to use alder wood for making bowls, because that type of wood doesn’t affect the flavours of the food.
14. spoon -Êmihkwânis : Lily learned to use a spoon here when she was little. She made quite a racket with that little spoon! Long ago, before these shiny spoons, our people used to make them from animal horns and other types of bones.
15. flour -aski-pahkwêsikan : What would we do, without flour? Our ancestors made bannock a little differently, using corn meal and a flour made from.
16. fibs -Kiyaskiwinsa : They say fibs are harmless little lies, but even small lies can grow big and harmful. Lily knows it’s wrong to lie, but even Thomas has a hard time believing that she saw the Little People because the Little People only show themselves to special people so many people don't believe in them.
17. ~~window -Wasenamawin : A window is for looking outside, this is a way we stay connected with the outside even when we are inside. They say eyes are a window to your soul but I say they’re windows for my stomach. When I see Kookum’s baked goodies cooling by the window, my stomach grumbles.~~
18. ~~popcorn -Mahcâminisak ka pa-pahkisocik: What makes popcorn pop? When you make pressure build inside the kernel, the kernel will explode into a POP! The Little People are fond of teasing, by throwing berries at people like popcorn from a popper.~~
19. Prank -Nanoyacihiwewin: The Little People are having fun playing tricks on Thomas, but Thomas doesn’t find it funny. Pranks are tricks which are meant to be playful but you should be careful because it can end up being harmful.
20. Kitchen -Piminawasowikamik: The kichen is where we have meals together, where Kookum does her wonderful cooking, and where Lily gets into a lot of mischief! To me, it is a wonderful space where much creativity takes place!
21. Basket (also a dictionary word in Kalkalilh) -mawiswâkan: Kookum has all these crafts made out of birch bark. Some are little baskets that she keeps all her rings in. In the old days, they were made airtight to carry water, and much bigger.**done**
22. man - Napew: A mysterious little man appears to Lily in the kitchen. Do you think he’s one of the Little People? He seems to really like shiny things, especially the spoons we got from our travels last year.
23. root -Watapîy : Tree roots are a sign of the tree being grounded to the earth. We need to do that ourselves sometimes. Roots also have medicinal purposes and can be used for salves.
24. Medicine - Maskikiy: All Indigenous cultures use traditional medicine using what Mother Earth provides us. Medicine is in the foods we eat, the herbs around us and even for cleansing we use sweetgrass and sage as well as water.
25. drumbeat -mistikwaskihk matwêhikêwin : The drum beat is like the heartbeat of Mother Earth. It's in our blood. Drums can be made in all sizes and are still made from animal hides today. At powwows you'll usually see on big drum with many drummers sitting around it. You shouldn't sit at these drums unless you are given permission by the drummers.
26. woman - Iskwewe: Women are held very highly in our culture as they are the givers of life. Without women, none of us would be here!
27. day - kisikaw:: The day belongs to the sun, as it gives off its radiant light, it brings much joy to all that live under its glow. Not a day goes by that I think about how lucky I am to be with wonderful grandchildren like Thomas and Lily.
28. gift - Nanaskohmowin kikwayah : When the Little People help someone, it’s customary to offer them a gift in return. The Little People are very mischievous, so it would be best not to anger them. We also give each other gifts if someone helps us, or as an offering to either a person or to mother earth.
29. moccasin -Maskisin: Back in the old days, we made moccasins from animal hides like rabbit and elk. In the winter months, fur-lined moccasins will keep the feet warm.