

## Waazh Hours of Operation

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The Waazh is a full day Ojibwe Immersion Language Den for children ages 3 to 5yrs.

Monday 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday 7:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday **Closed**



### Waazh Ojibwe Immersion Den

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49 University Rd.  
Cloquet, MN  
55720

Classroom Phone: 218-878-7215  
Language House: 218-878-8186  
E-mail: [waazh@fdlrez.com](mailto:waazh@fdlrez.com)

## Waazh Immersion Den

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YOUR LOGO HERE



## Mission

Waazh language den is committed to the revitalization of Ojibwe language and culture through preschool education on the Fond du Lac Reservation. Children learn traditional Anishinaabeg world views and academic knowledge through Ojibwe language immersion and their surrounding environment.

Students work hand-in-hand with two teachers and a first language speaker to explore the world around them, develop a strong sense of place, and an appreciation of culture.

## Benefits of Language Immersion

Early childhood Native language immersion develops minds and revitalizes cultures. Learning their indigenous language from a very young age may prepare Native American children for success in school and life, with benefits spilling over to their families and communities.

The number of first language speakers is rapidly declining. Early childhood language immersion programs are a strategy to reinvigorate language and cultural practices.

Native communities also face many socioeconomic circumstances that can be detrimental to healthy brain development in children. Language immersion programs can help counter these detrimental effects by offering experiences consistent with what young children need to thrive and again have success with their overall education and well-being.

Recent research also suggests that children who develop dual language skills may have advantages in some aspects of executive function, or the mental processes that enable planning, focusing attention, holding working memory, and juggling multiple tasks successfully.

The Journal of Intercultural Relations recently found that Indigenous children whose parents promoted a strong sense of cultural identity in early childhood experienced better health and socio-emotional outcomes later in life. These findings suggest that an Indigenous child's strong cultural identity acts as a protective barrier to many of the challenges that Indigenous people often face in later life.

## Daily Schedule

7:45-8:00 Arrival

8:00-8:30 Morning Greetings/  
Independent Learning

8:30-9:00 Breakfast

9:00-9:30 Calendar

9:30-10:15  
Maamajiiwin (Gym)

10:15-10:45 Circle  
Time/ Math

10:45-11:15 Lunch

11:15-12:00 Recess

12:00-12:30 Forest/ Language Arts

12:30-1:00 Smudging/  
Singing

1:00-2:00 Nap Time

2:00-2:30 Snack Time  
(Dismissal)

2:30-3:00 Art

3:00-3:30 Independent  
Learning/ Recess

3:30-4:00 Extended Learning (Math/Language Arts)

4:00-4:30 Free Play

4:30-5:00 Dismissal

