



Yaqui Language, History and Culture

The Hiaki Language: The Letter "Bw"

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We would like to share just a few commonly used Hiaki terms with our community members. If the term is a Spanish derivative (derived from a Spanish word) we will mark the term with an asterisk (*). In this issue, we continue our listing of terms with those that begin with the letter "Bw" (our Hiaki alphabet does not have the letter "B").

We will continue to do this every month until we have gone through the entire Arizona Hiaki alphabet. Our alphabet is listed below. This alphabet has been adopted by our Tribe. Remember that our vowels are "A, E, I, O, and U." The vowels "A, E and I" are short vowels and "O and U" are long vowels. Below are a few words beginning with "Bw":

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| <u>Bwa'aka</u> | ate | Aapo munim <u>bwa'aka</u> . <i>He/she ate beans.</i> |
| <u>Bwa'ame</u> | food | Kaita <u>bwa'ame</u> hoara'apo. <i>There is no food in the house.</i> |
| <u>Bwa'e</u> | to eat | Huan nohim <u>bwa'e</u> . <i>John is eating tamales.</i> |
| <u>Bwaana</u> | crying | Uu ili uusi si <u>bwaana</u> . <i>The little child is really crying.</i> |
| <u>Bwaawi</u> | sharp, intelligent | Ume kuchi'im si <u>bwaawi</u> . <i>The knife is very sharp.</i> |
| <u>Bwahi wikosa</u> | cord belt, breechcloth string | Peo <u>bwahi wikosa</u> ta hooa. <i>Pete is making a cord belt.</i> |
| <u>Bwahiravon</u> | bobcat | Uu <u>bwahiravon</u> totoim bwa'aka. <i>The bobcat ate the chickens.</i> |

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| <u>Bwahim</u> | diaper, pants | Uka uusita <u>bwahim</u> po woktua. <i>Put a diaper on the child.</i> |
| <u>Bwahsuma</u> | to braid | Uka ili uusi hamutta <u>bwahsuma</u> . <i>Braid the little girl's hair.</i> |
| <u>Bwe'u</u> | big, huge | Uu kari si <u>bwe'u</u> . <i>The house is very big.</i> |
| <u>Bwe'uria</u> | make big, fatten | Uu wahreo uka kowita <u>bwe'uria</u> . <i>The farmer is fattening the pig.</i> |
| <u>Bweeka</u> | wide | Uu vo'o si <u>bweeka</u> . <i>The road is very wide.</i> |
| <u>Bweituk</u> | because | Uu uusi bwaana <u>bweituk</u> vepsuwak. <i>The child is crying because he/she was spanked.</i> |
| <u>Bwia</u> | earth, soil | Inim <u>bwia</u> po si vu'u yoemia nah kwakte. <i>Many people inhabit this earth.</i> |
| <u>Bwiika</u> | sing | Ume yoeme kaa kusisi <u>bwiika</u> . <i>The man is not singing very loud.</i> |

There are many more Hiaki terms which begin with the letter "Bw." However, due to lack of space we are sharing only a few terms with you. Also, our alphabet is as follows: A, Bw, Ch, E, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, T, U, V, W and Y.

Finally, we would like to apologize for a mistake that we didn't catch in our last word list. That word was "Anoko'ochi." It should have been "Anoki'ichi," which means "liar."

In next month's issue of the YAQUI TIMES: Words that begin with the letter "Ch."