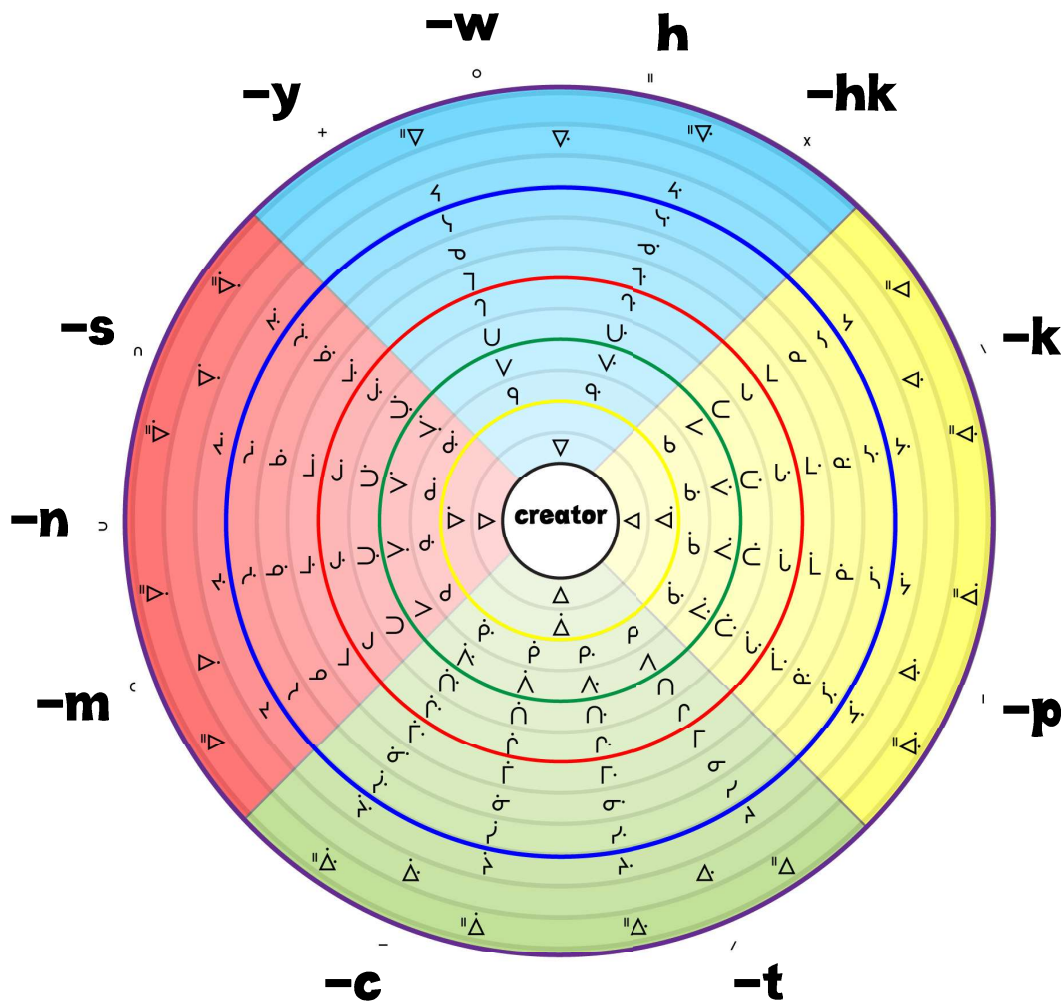


syllabics and the medicine wheel

as nēhiyawak we were gifted the sacred language of nēhiyawēwin to keep our connection strong with the creator. the breath of the creator became our nēhiyawēwin - a language born in creation



there are 17 sounds in the nēhiyaw language and only 14 letters. just like everything else in creation, these sounds have ways they move and sound. the sounds adjust to the placement of the letters. the language is carried by patterns and structures, the ending syllabic sounds are all placed on the outside and the letters k, p, t, and c have distinct sounds (hard and soft) in different positions. when these letters appear at the end of a word they are soft (t/t) (c/ch) (p/p) and (k/k) - at the front or middle of a word these sounds have hard sounds (t/d) (c/j) (p/b) and (k/g)