



Introduction



Language is central to cultural identity. It contains words and phrases that are often hard to translate into other languages because they are so very specific to that culture and its traditions and environment. When a language is lost, a culture is diminished. Sadly, this is happening throughout the world as dominant languages replace traditional languages. Here in Alaska, the Iñupiat language is rarely spoken by the younger generation and those who do speak it are often not fluent.

This coloring book is meant to put Iñupiat words in front of young children as they color so that they learn the names of animals in both languages. Each piece has a Qupak border like the decorative trim used widely in the Iñupiat culture on parkas and other items of traditional clothing. My goal is to provide a visual re-enforcement of the language and culture.

This book is my contribution to efforts occurring throughout Alaska to preserve and protect Native languages.

I hope you enjoy it and that your children have hours of fun coloring and learning.

Dedication



This book was inspired by my daughter Kyree and her friends Carson and Ryliegh.

Kyree's heritage is Inupiat but neither Carson nor Ryliegh are.

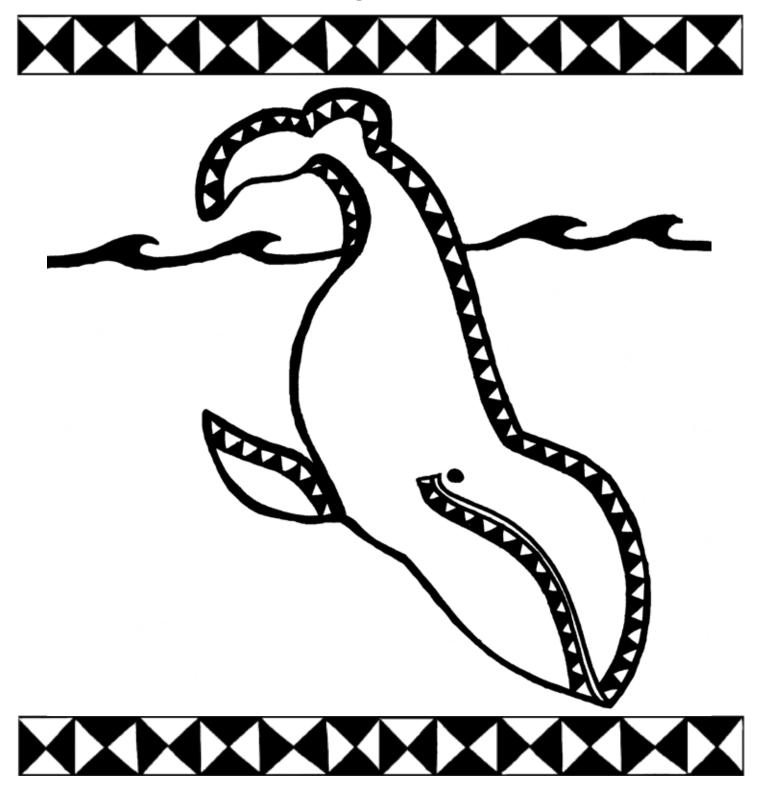
Yet this book is dedicated to them all - to Kyree in the hope that it will stimulate her interest in her Native tongue and to Carson and Ryliegh in the hope that it will help them to learn and appreciate my daughter's heritage.

Their excitement over this book and its creation kept me going when I wanted to stop. Thank you.



Britt'Nee Brower

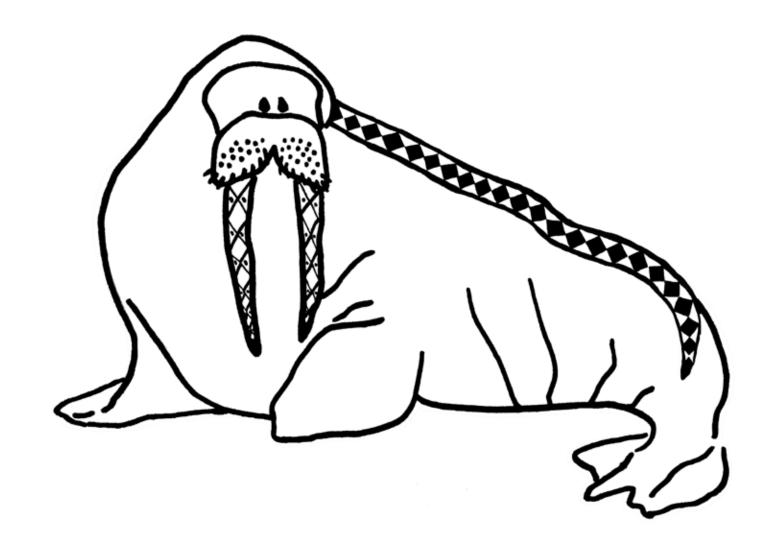
Aġviq



Bowhead Whale

Aiviq



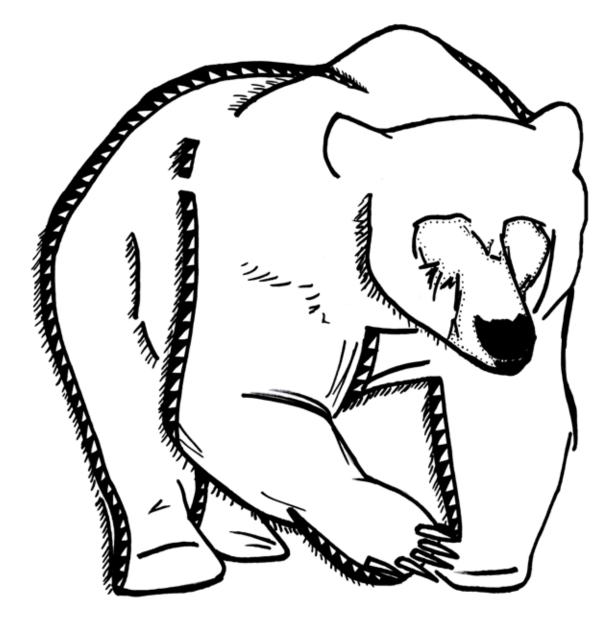




Walrus

Akłaq



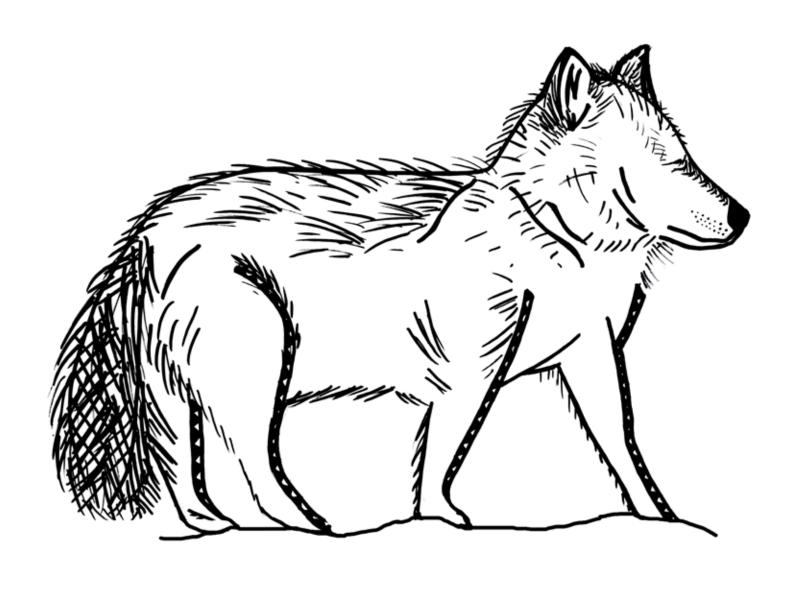




Brown Bear

Amaġuq







Wolf

Avinnaq



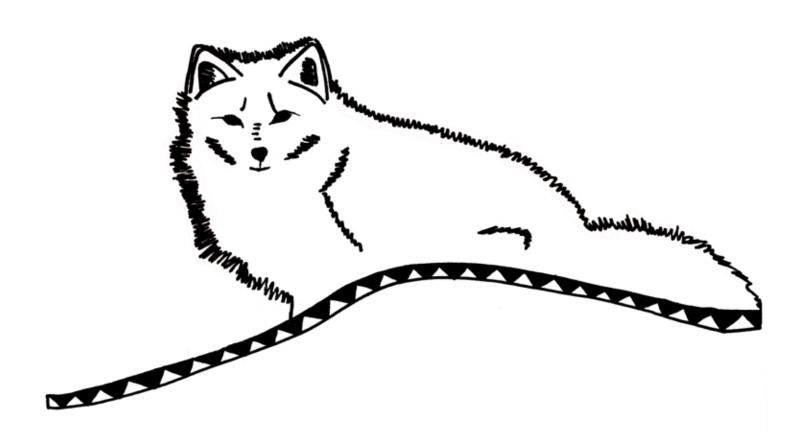




Lemming

Kayuqtuq



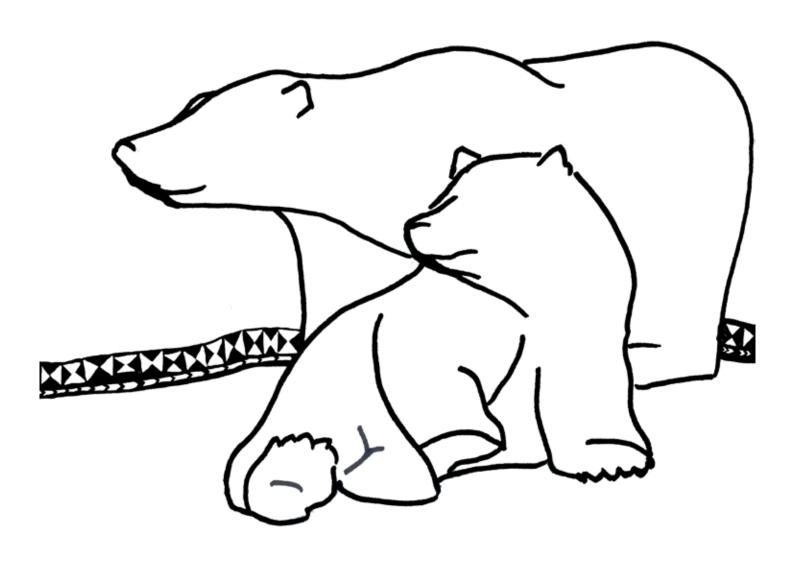




Red Fox

Nanuq



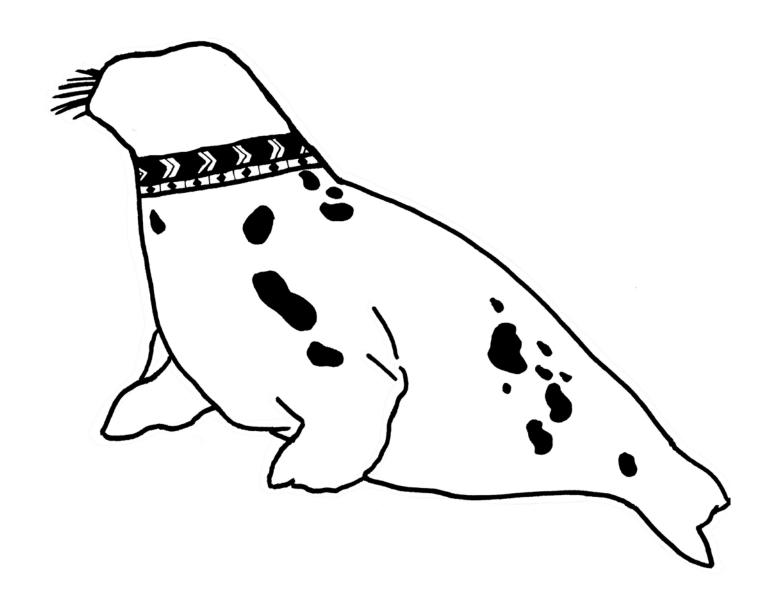




Polar Bear

Natchiq







Ringed Seal

Qavvik

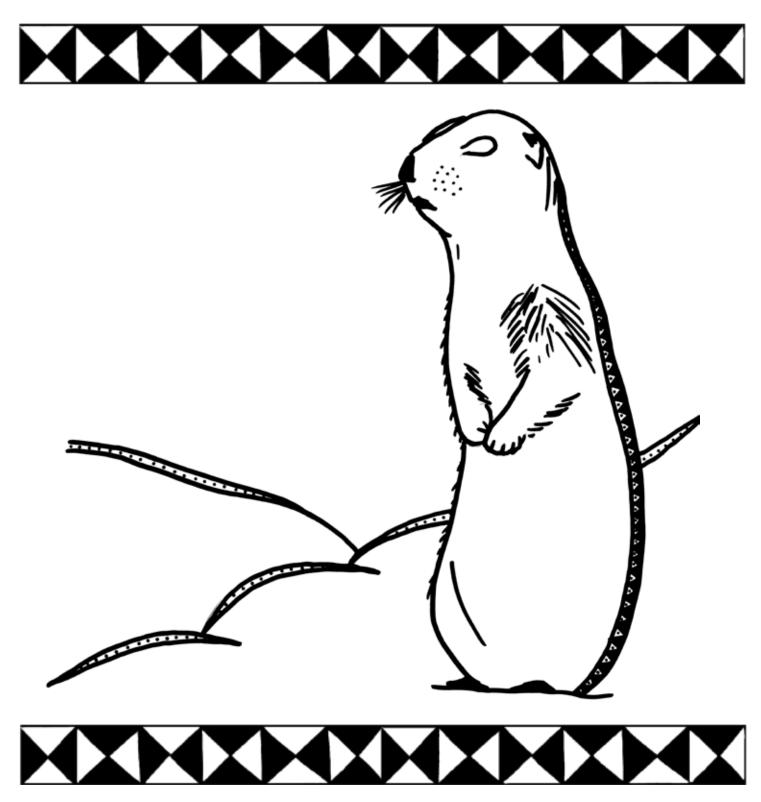






Wolverine

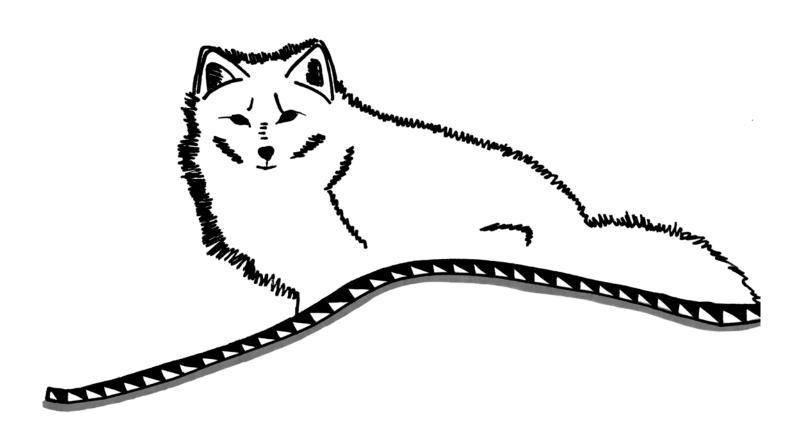
Siksrik



Arctic Ground Squirrel

Tiġiganniaq







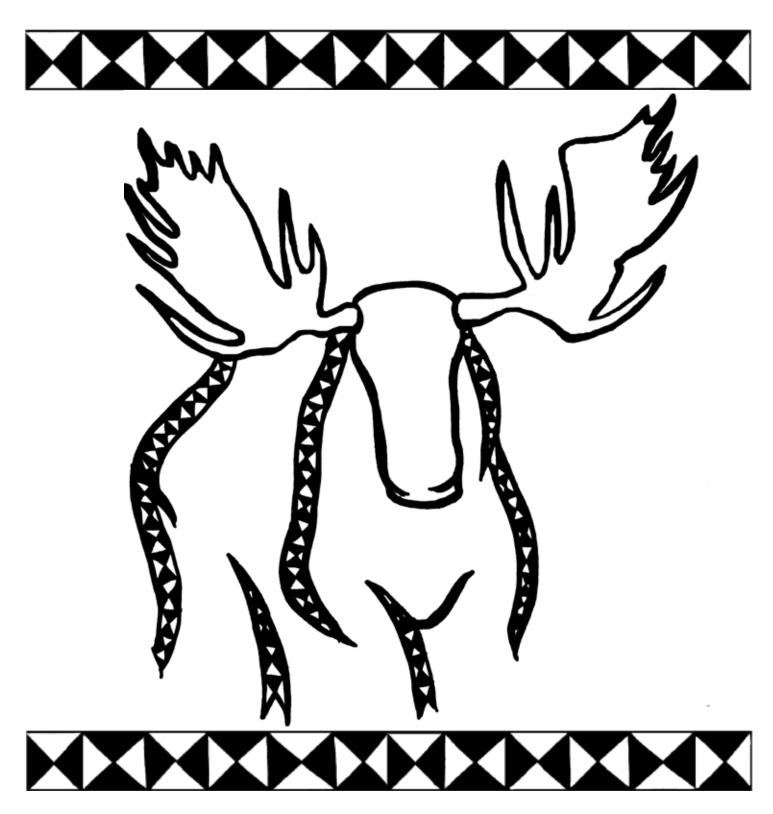
Arctic Fox

Tuttu



Caribou

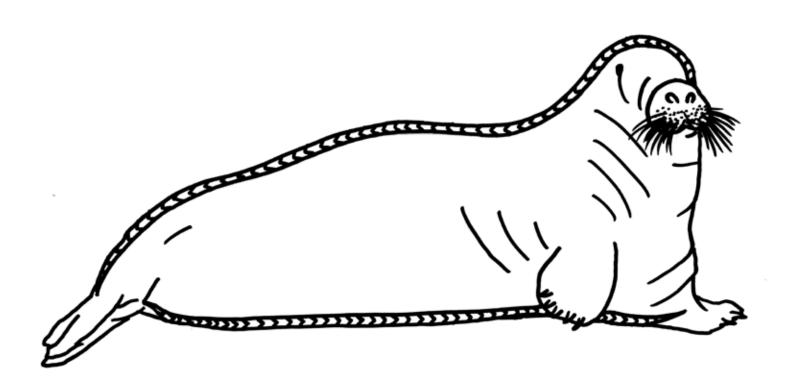
Tuttuvak



Moose

Ugruk



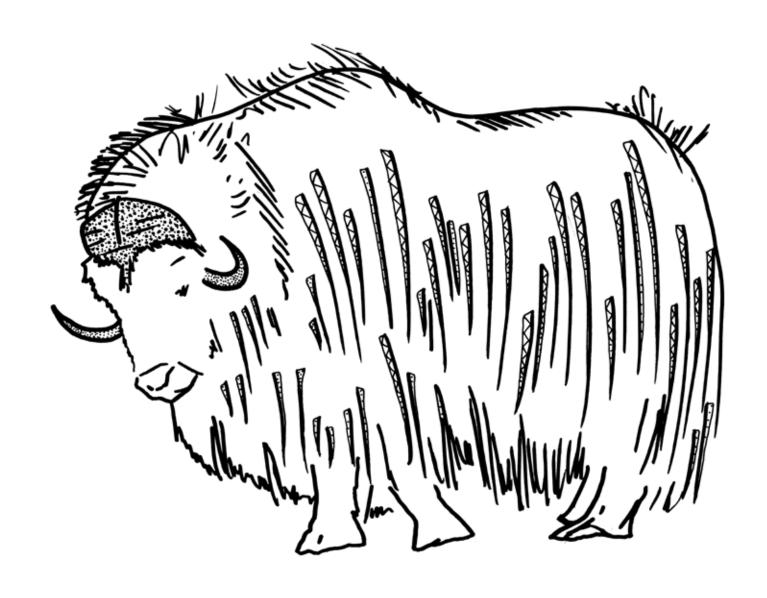




Bearded Seal

Umiŋmak







Musk Ox

Artwork by Britt'Nee Kivliqtaruq Brower



Artist Bio

Iñupiaq artist Britt'Nee Kivliqtaruq Brower was born and raised in Utqiaġvik (formerly Barrow), Alaska. She spent her childhood summers under the midnight sun picking wildflowers for her mother and absorbing the values of her culture from her Elders. Britt'Nee is a strong proponent of Iñupiat values and their relevance in our modern age. She advocates the revitalization of the language, arts and traditions of her Iñupiat people and brings this passion to her artwork. Her work in prints and children's coloring books incorporates traditional Qupak motifs and adds a modern twist.







Visit her website for a virtual tour of her artwork at

www.Kivliq.com

