

Astronomy
nsəlxçín LPP
March 1994

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Moons

suq'ʔim	Moon
ctix	First Quarter
tiłx lʔ ǂəyałəñǂ	New Moon
skʷut ǂəyałəñǂ	Half Moon
yir'əncút	Full Moon
c'əq'mist	Last quarter moon
spəpəl'qín	Last of Moon (waning moon, can barely see it, very end.)
stəpǂəyałəñǂ	Dark, chokecherry colored moon
	Blue Moon (when a month has two full moons)
yir'wiłxʷəm	Circle around the moon
	Harvest Moon
stak'masq't	Zenith
k'łkəliyxʷút	Nadir
nq'aʳq'íws	Center of sky

Months of the Year

sk ^w sús	January	Time of Blizzard
spaqt	February	Time of Frost White
skən'ir'mən	March	Time of Buttercups
packtán	April	Time of Leaves Budding
sp'ił'əmtən	May	Time of Bitterroots
míktu?tən	June	Time of Sunflower Seeds
ksíya?tən	July	Time of Sarvice Berries
łəχ ^w łəχ ^w tán	August	Time of Choke Cherries
sənqa ^ŋ tk ^w ís	September	Time of Salmon Spawn (In the Okanogan River)
sk'a?áyəm	October	Time of Fall Hunt
kc'a?c'a?tán	November	Time of Cold Weather
s?ístkəm	December	Time of Winter
Variation: Southern Okanogan months		
klaqmís	October	Time of Salmon Spawn (In the Columbia River)
sk'a?áyəm	November	Time of Fall Hunt

Seasons

sqipcəm

Spring

scʔaqʷ

Summer

sk'aʔáyəm

Fall

sʔístkəm

Winter

Days of the Week

ska ^ʕ ciw's	Sunday
skix ^w iw's	Monday
sʔaslásq'ət	Tuesday
skaʔhlásq'ət	Wednesday
smaq'ət	Thursday
scəlkstásq'ət	Friday
kłaʔásq'ət	Saturday

Daylight Hours

sənpaɣcín	Dawn
sənpaɣcín	Light before dawn; 4:30 AM
qíslaʔxʷ	Dark, dusky morning
skʷl'ap	Sun rise
sǰəlpúlaʔxʷ	Early morning
słkʷəkʷɤast	Early Morning, Sunrise
xł'púlaʔxʷ	Complete daylight
sǰəlǰɤalt	Day, Day light, Day time
ǰlap	Daytime
cənuɤís	@8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
tsənwist	@ 10:00 a.m.
səntəǰʷəǰʷqín	Noon
sənyakʷqín	Afternoon
maʔán	@ 4:00 p.m.
k'əłk'aɤtús	Nearly sunset
sənk'əłxʷcín	Dusk
sənsuxuxcín	Dusk
qaqsəs	Dusk, Just getting dark
ksaɤʷúsəs	When sun goes out of sight (west)
ksaɤʷúsəs	When sun goes out of sight, Sunset
sənsuxuxcín	Twilight
ł'is	Twilight (lakes)
sk'laxʷ	Evening (before dusk)
k'im, k'əm, k'am	Dark night

(s)k ^w ict	9-10 PM
tx ^w iw's i?_sənk ^w ək ^w ac	Midnight
mi?íw's	Midnight
t'ət'qásq't	Winter solstice (sic spintk (əcp'lak' i?_ǰəyátənǰ ^w))
k'łq'a?tásq't	Summer solstice
k'ał'ásq'ət	The other day
pi?sc'ít	Yesterday
?aǰlásq'ət	Everyday
la ^s wpús	That time again, same time as last year
nkəcx ^w us	Its that time again, get to that time again

Stars

sk ^w ə k ^w úsənt	Star
scəc ^ʰ ásənt	Little Stars
tx ^w ux ^w u ^ʔ ús	Group of small stars
sp'áq'la ^ʔ	Lots of stars
sckutənús	Stars, Put on a fire
tx ^w ux ^w ʔús (tuxúo's)(rise up or united)	Pleisades
tx ^w ux ^w u ^ʔ ús	Milky Way
snpaqłxwít	Milky way
snp'ax ^w łxwít	Milky way
sc'əc'ʰásənt	Stars in a bunch
tqəcəl'xíws	Evening star
ksəlx ^w ʔus	Evening star
k ^w a ^ʔ k ^w ísła ^ʔ x ^w	Morning star
k'a ^ʔ k ^w ísła ^ʔ x ^w qən	Morning star (Sarah Peterson)
km'xaykənásq't	North Star
tuk ^w íls	North Star
łkap	Little Dipper
ki ^ʔ law'násq't	Big Dipper kmusməs i ^ʔ sənčíw's əcpiħməlx (4 stars on 4 corners of the dipper) tka ^ʔ ka ^ʔ ħís i ^ʔ capsíws (3 stars forming the handle) (Andrew McGinnis, Sarah Peterson)
sp'a ^ʔ x ^w áw'ləm	Northern lights
ħəyáłənħ ^w	Sun
yir'w ^ʔ łx ^w əm	Ring around the sun

ʔaskʷəl'áxənəm	Ring on sides of the sun
c'əq'əmnáʔxnəm	Ring on one side of sun (Sun Dog)
snkʷúl'cənəm	Evening sunset (red/orange evening sky.)
k'əl'ʔułxʷ	Eclipse of the sun (sk'ilwip (??))
skʷúykʷiʔ iʔ spətʰaqsts	Shooting star
Comet	
Constellation: Canoe	stałəm
Constellation: Bear	kiʔlawnásq'ət
Constellation: Hunter	səxʷpiǰəm
Constellation: Bow	
Pleiaides	

Direction

sk'ʷλ'əptán	East, Sunrise
sk'əlx'ʷtán	West, sunset
k'aníλ'əlk'	North
swtímtk	South
nʔaw'tús	Go upstream
nʔilx	Go upstream
nʔaǰ'ʷtús	Go downstream

Wind

sniw't	Wind
snínut	Breeze
six ^w mús	North wind
q ^w uytən, qoitən	Strong wind, Blown snow
sǎ ^ʕ ap	Cool summer breeze
nq ^w a?cítk ^w	Warm wind (Millie S)
nq ^w a?cnúx ^w	South wind (Hazel B)
nyir'ílx	South Wind (MS)
sq ^w a?cís	Warm wind (Charlie Q)
nq ^w a?cís	Warm summer wind (MS)
syir'mənáłq ^w əm	Gusty wind, wind getting harder
nc'əłítk ^w	Brisky, cold wind (MS)
sca?átq ^w	Warm wind
sca?ís	South Wind (HB)
k'l_ sk ^w əł'əptán	East Wind
k'l_ sk'la?x ^w tán	West Wind
sla?wála?	Chinook Wind (EE)
sx ^w əx ^w lik ^w	Whirl Wind
ǎłǎłásq'ət	Clear after a rain
niw'x ^w tína?	Gust of hard wind
snsa?átq ^w əm	Wind through Okanogan Valley
snsa?átq ^w əm	Wind comes out of a draw, localized
q ^w uy	No wind

nλ'əxətq^w

Hard wind

Snow

smik^wt

Snow (on the ground)

sməq^waq^w

Falling snow

snq^wułqən

Real big snow flakes, falling late spring

sq^wułt

Last snow of the year, big flakes
(Alice Best)

sx^wuyənt

Ice

x^wúyəntəm

Turn into Ice

q^wa^ʕíl pəm

Coasting

q^wa^ʕíl pəm

Skiing

kłq^wa^ʕq^wa^ʕxəníkən

Skating

q^wa^ʕíl pəm

Sleighbing

syir'íwa^ʔxən

Snowshoe

k^wul'm tə_lisá^ʕs

Make Snow Angels

məlk^wíkstəm

Make Snow Balls

k^wul'm tə_smək^włp'úk^wla^ʔ

Make Snow Balls (Sarah P)

sixcən

Glacier

pux^wtán

Snow Drift

q^wuytən

Strong wind, Blown snow

six^wmús

Blizzard

wik^wt

Cold, sky cleared up and it
gets cold at night

x^wik^wx^wək^wt

Really cold night

q^wałməncút

Snow dust (dictionary)

pux^w

Soft Snow

nir'nært	Slippery
snaq'łsmík'w̄t	Hard Snow Last snow of the year (HB)
q'aʔqít'aʔm	Fishing
kłəḅ'íkən	Make hole in the ice
k'łəḅ'íkənm	Cut Hole in Ice
saʔłi'łx̄w̄	Snow Fort (?)
kp'aʔp'aʔx̄w̄ús	Snow Blindness
	Snow Mobile
t'ər'q'w̄íkst	Snow laden limbs break off (MS)
tx̄w̄ax̄w̄ iʔ_śx̄w̄uyənt	Icycle (MS)
c'q'ap	Frozen trees explode (c'əq'mnípənt c'əq'mnīpm)
swultcənít'k̄w̄	Ice, or thick fluid (suds) along a lake or river edge
ktəm'atk̄w̄	Ice Break up
sk'w̄íy'laʔx̄w̄	Frosty Ground
sk'w̄iyt	Jack Frost
ʔax̄w̄ʔax̄w̄íkst	Frozen hands, (Frost bite)
kp'aʔp'ax̄w̄ús	Snow Blindness
sul't	Freeze
ʔux̄w̄t	Frost Bitten, Frozen (people)
syalt	Avalanche
c'əmq'w̄əm	Chipped, Chopped (ice)
k'ax̄w̄ʔax̄w̄lús	Frozen Snow

	Clouds
k ^w əlk'asq'ət	Rolling clouds
ktmap	Get cloudy
ktəm'pásq'ət	Cloudy sky
sktəm'tam't	Clouds
ktxənásq'ət	Overcast sky
k'əsásq'ətm	Stormy, Bad weather
sq ^w iyq ^w iyáp	Dark weather, Low hanging clouds, not raining yet
sq ^w iyq ^w iyáp	Threatening weather
sq'it	Rain
sq'í?q'a?t	Intermittant rain, sprinkle
sx ^w i?ísəm	Pouring down rain, Hard rain
swi?tíst	Lots of rain
kt'əlpasq'ət	Cloud burst
sc'əc'l'úsənt	Hail
silsíwi?n	Sleet
sp'əp'aŋt'ənt	Sleet, very wet snow turns to slush
q ^w ayásq'ət	Black clouds before snow
ǰəlpasq'ət	Clouds clear after a rain
wi?ásq'ət	Clouds clear after a rain
?al'uscút i?_ sktəm'tam't	Clouds gather

Blue Moon

Every month usually has a full moon, a first quarter moon, a new moon, and a second quarter moon.

Our months are designed to add up to a year: 356.26 days.

Some months are 30 days long. Others 31 days long, and 1 month only 28 or 29 days.

But the full moon turns full every 29.5 days.

From time to time, the 29.5 days between full moons is going to land within one of these months. When that happens we call the second full moon a Blue Moon.

People first used the words Blue Moon back in the year 1883 when the Krakatoa volcano erupted. It put a lot of dust into the air and the moon actually looked the color blue through the dust. It was something you could see anywhere you were on the planet, and people used to talk about it a lot.

These days the term Blue Moon doesn't have anything to do with the color the moon looks. Instead, it means the second full moon in any one month. Either way, a blue moon happens rarely - about once every 17 months.

This glossary was compiled by the nsəlxcín Language Preservation Program and completed on November 14, 1994 at the Chicken House. This glossary was made through the collective effort of nsəlxcin language speakers; Sarah Peterson, Hank George Sr., Millie Steele, Alex Sam, Rosemary Simon, and Elaine Emerson.
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