



AN ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF
Navajo Landscape Terms

David M. Mark • David Stea • Carmelita Topaha
COMPILERS AND EDITORS



The Navajo language (Diné bizaad) has a vocabulary of landscape terms that allows speakers to communicate about their environment. This book documents that vocabulary and provides photographic illustration of many of the terms. The meanings of these terms seldom match the English-language terms one-to-one. Terms include explicit reference to earth materials such as water or rock/stone. Rather than alphabetically, this book is organized by material and form categories.

This dictionary is a valuable resource for language preservation in schools and elsewhere, and for linguists, anthropologists, geographers, and earth scientists interested in indigenous conceptualization of landscape and environment.

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of Navajo Landscape Terms

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Saad Altsé Si'ánígíí (Preface)

Díí ashdladiin kéyah dah si'ánígíí biyi' bitsj' yishtłizhii kéedahat'ínígíí Diné bi'di'nínígíí éí ts'idá aláahdi t'áá bí bizaad yee yádaalti'. Ákonidi hastói dóó sáanii t'áá bí bizaad yee yádaalti'ígíí hadaastih dóó nihits'áá' bihidínidééh daazłjį' biniinaa Diné bizaad t'áá íiyisí yaa kódzaa háálá ánií háánoot'áanii doo t'áá bí bizaad yee yádaalti' da dóó doo yídahool'aah da. Díí t'áá aanií ákót'éego biniinaa kéyah al'aq áat'éego nidahaz'ánígíí dabízhí' doo bíł béedahózin da. Díí kéyah al'aq ádaat'éego bíł nidahaz'ánígíí bízhí' dahólógo chodaa'ínígíí t'áá íiyisí k'ad ánií háánoot'áanii doo bíł béedahózin da dóó doo chodayool'jį da háálá Diné danilínígíí lą'í kin hadaas'ágóó dóó kintahgóó adahaaznáago k'ad áadi kéedahat'j. Diné bikéyah yits'ąąjį' adahaaznánígíí Diné bikéyah bikáa'gi dahózhónigo nidahaz'ánígíí kéyah ádaat'éegi yaa yádadooltih yęę doo bíł béedahózin da daazłjį' dóó dayózhígo ádaalyéhígíí dóó ha'át'íi biniiyé ákót'éego ádaasye'ígíí doo bíł béedahózin da dóó doo yaa yádaalti' da áko éí al'aq áat'éego kéyah dabízhí'ígíí altso baa hoyoo'nééh dóó baa hoyoosnah.

Díí kót'éego kéyah al'aq ádaat'éego nidahaz'ánígíí dóó dabízhí'go ádaalyéhígíí éí t'áá íiyisí aláahgo baa nitsáhákees dóó ha'át'íi biniiyé ákódaosye'ígíí Diné bizaad dóó bee é'ool'jį dóó binahjį' nát'ąą' náhane' bii' naaznil áko il'jįgo baa nitsáhákees. Díí naaltsoos hadilyaaígíí éí kót'éego kéyah al'aq ádaat'éego nidahaz'ánígíí aheeskid dóó hane' yázhí bídaolta'go ályaa áko náas hodeeshzhiizhgóó doo baa dahodiyoo'nah da biniiyé dóó díige'át'éego naaltsoos ályago éí doo nanitl'agóó bídahoo'aah dooleel il'jįgo dóó da'ólta'góó da chodayool'jį dooleel biniiyé dóó t'áá hooghan góne' da díí bínidahoo'aah dooleel biniiyé naaltsoos hadilyaa.

