

My Name is Ekpak

By James Aknavigak

My name is Ekpak and I am going to tell you about the biggest fish I caught.

My uncle Ehalvak asked me to go fishing with him. Of course I said yes!

We gathered our hooks and put them in a box and headed out to the lake by skidoo and looked for a good fishing spot. My uncle made four holes with his chisel and we started jigging.

When there were no fish at we'd move on to the next. Soon both of us were pulling fish out every minute and it was very exciting.

One fish on the end of my line seemed to be very heavy. When I tried to pull it out of the hole I couldn't. The fish was too big and the hole was too small.

I shouted to my uncle and he came running. He grabbed his spear and chipped at the hole to make it bigger. When he finished getting the ice out of the way he told me to pull it up.

Out came the biggest fish I had ever seen. It must have weighed 20 kilograms. Now we definitely had enough fish, so we loaded the sled and headed home. When I showed my parents they were surprised.

Uncle and I cut the fish up, put it in the frying pan and cooked it.

That was the best meal I have ever had.

Uvanga Attira Ekpak

Ovanga atiga ekpak ona onipkaginiaktaga elingnot ekalokpighimayaga.

Anggangma eghakloap ekaloghiogiakatigiyomaploringa apigiyanga. Talva Angginaktaga!

Aolatijjotikpok piplogik tahikmongaoyogok siikitookot aolatiyaktokhonok. Anggaga aolativighamik hitamanik tooktakmat aolatiliktogok.

Ekalolimaigangamnok ataotimin aipanot aolativingmot notpaktogok. Ekalokpaligamnok alianaghivaliayok.

Aolatiplonga ekaloktaga okomaitotot elikpiaktok. Amonahoaghogo ayoghaligaloakonga. Ekaloktaga anggivalangmat aolativigiyagalo mikivalaaghoni!

Anggaga togholagapko akpatoni kaiyok. Tooni piplogo aolativigiyaga tooliktaa anggighilighogo. Tooktangmat hekoiyaktaghogolo aolatijjotiga amotkoya. Amogapko ekalokpingmik takoniktonga. Okomailitanga ahoo okomaitigiyok 20 kilograms-nik.

Ekaloit amigaivyakmata anggilgaoliktogok. Anggayokamnot takopkagapko akligyaat.

Ekalok avgoktagaptigo egaliktakot hekanaghighthogo.

Nigigama mamagohotaktonga.

— Inuvialuktun