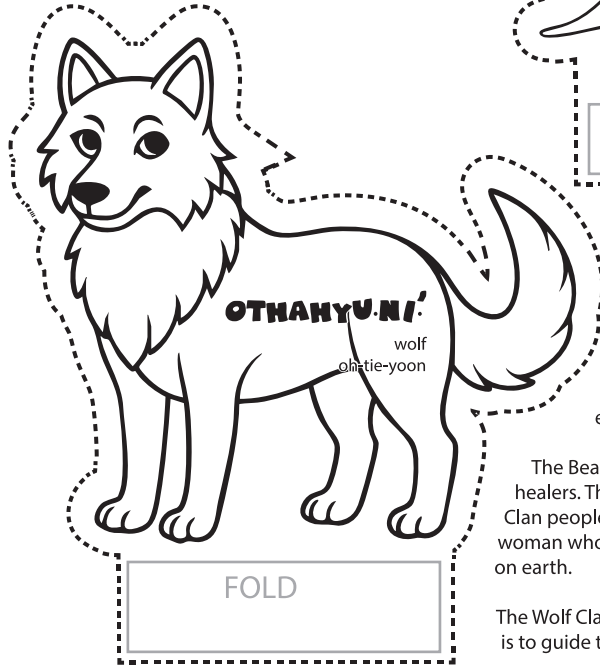
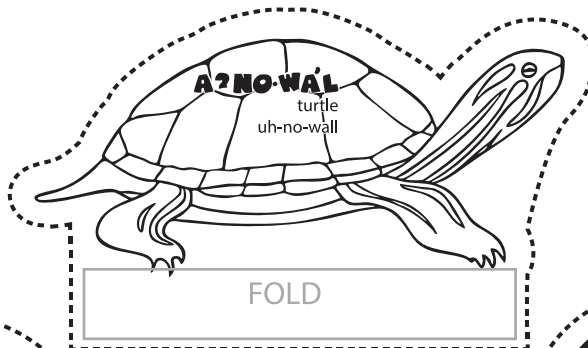




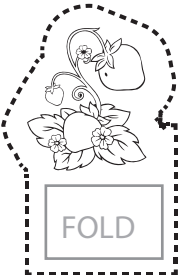
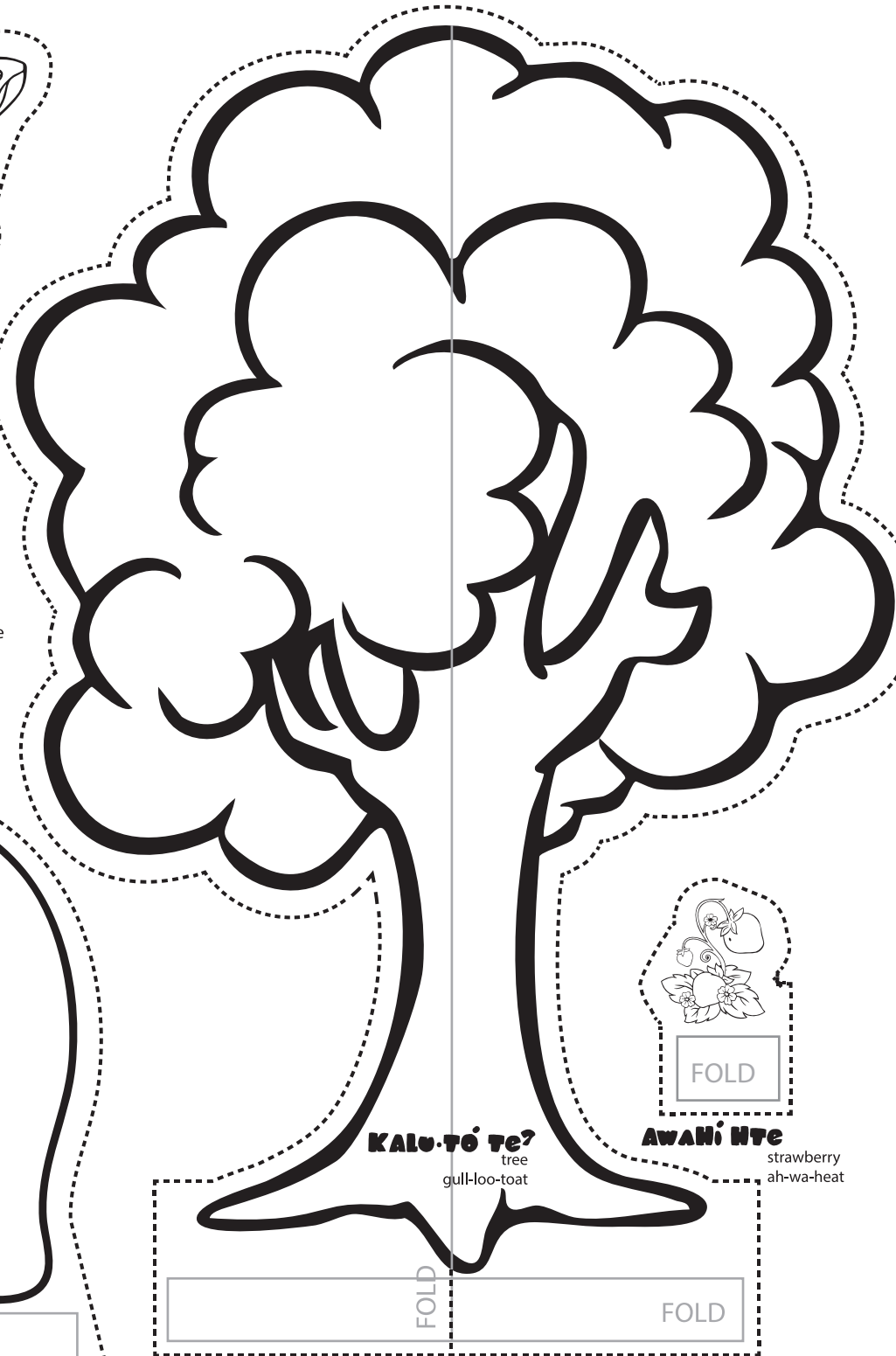
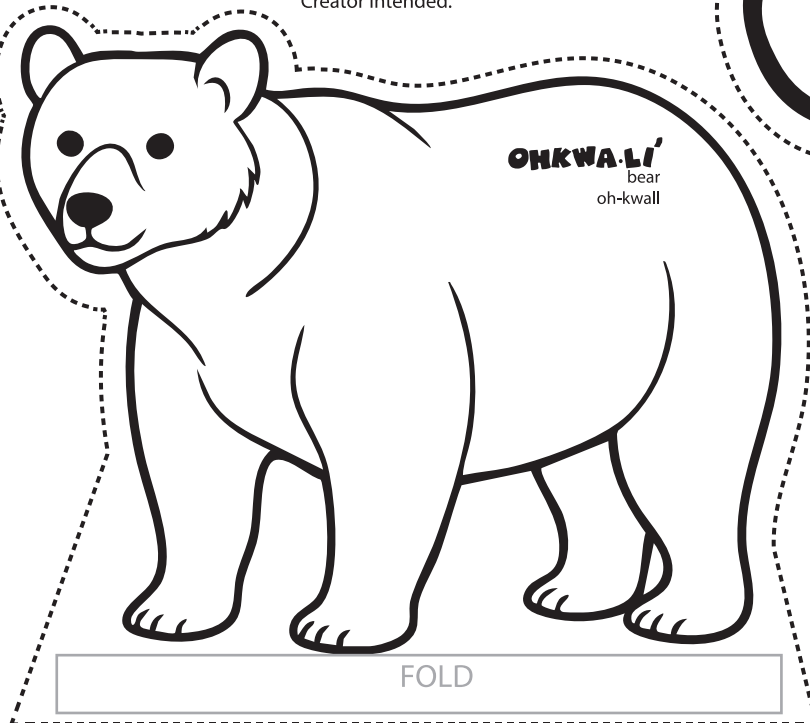
## ONEIDA'S CLANS

The Turtle Clan represents the shifting of the earth and the cycles of the moon. The people of the Turtle Clan are considered the well of information and the keepers of the land. The responsibility of the Turtle Clan is everything that has to do with the environment.

The Bear Clan people are known as Medicine People, the healers. There are stories passed down about how the Bear Clan people were given the gift of medicine from an elder woman who had the knowledge of all the medicine plants here on earth.

The Wolf Clan represents the path finders. Their responsibility is to guide the people in living their lives in the way the Creator intended.

OHV?KWA?U.WE.  
tobacco  
oh-you-kwa-ooh-way



KALU-TO? Fe?  
tree  
gull-loo-toat

AWANI NTE  
strawberry  
ah-wa-heat

# Oneida Clans

The Iroquois clans were developed at a time in our history when there were a lot less people than there are today. It was a time when the people were not sure who they were related to. The elders were worried that the young people were getting together with their closely related family members. There was much apprehension about how to relate with each other. The elders began to meet about how this was going to be addressed.

After a few meetings had failed to bring any ideas to address this, a young man stood up and asked if it would be ok to address them. He was the kind of man that was usually very quiet and reserved. He told the Council about his idea to alleviate the problems that people were having. He said the animal world all have their own ways of doing things. The birds all have their own ways, each species. The trees have their own ways also, each family. He suggested that each family have their eldest woman intently pay attention to what she sees in the next morning. Each woman seen a different animal in the morning. This animal is to represent the clan for each of the women's families.

<https://oneida-nsn.gov/our-ways/clan-systems/>

