Lenape Names for Wheeled Vehicles

These are the names and photographs of wheeled vehicles known to the Lenape or Delaware Indians. Sometimes older names were applied to newer things as automobiles became common. Some words marked with DN are by speakers from the Delaware Nation and differ from that used by the Delaware Tribe especially since the two groups lived over 200 miles apart in Oklahoma. In the first column there are links in blue that can be clicked to take you to the Lenape Talking Dictionary (www.talk-lenape.org) where you can hear the Lenape name. The middle column contains a photo of the item. In the third column is English and the literal translation or additional information about the Lenape name.

hàtëmopil

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=1276

amànkshkinkw {DN}

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=15196

tëpchehëlas

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=10108



car

copied from English automobile

car (literally: big eyes from the headlights)

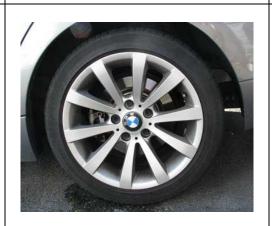
wagon; car

tëpihëlas

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=10121

tëpihëlakàn {DN}

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=15272



wheel; tire

wëlàkwshi inner tube https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=10567 this is actually the Lenape word for Gut but since the uninflated inner tube looked like one that is what they called it mpàki buggy https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=12134 the name is borrowed from English hèk hack https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=1289 the name is borrowed from English pèhpëmiphuwès taxi https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=13870

ehalëmskusès

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=12386



driver

Delaware Tribe member Betty Skye is driving

chichànkw

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=729



mirror



òsëlenikàn

https://www.talklenape.org/detail?id=8059



light

this word is also used for other lights like flashlight and lamp

	 ,
kpahun https://www.talk- lenape.org/detail?id=2763	door
lehëlëmatahpink https://www.talk- lenape.org/detail?id=3813	seat
tunkshèkokàn https://www.talk- lenape.org/detail?id=10354	key
èhèshàntèk https://www.talk- lenape.org/detail?id=995	window

Compiled by Jim Rementer, director Lenape Language Project