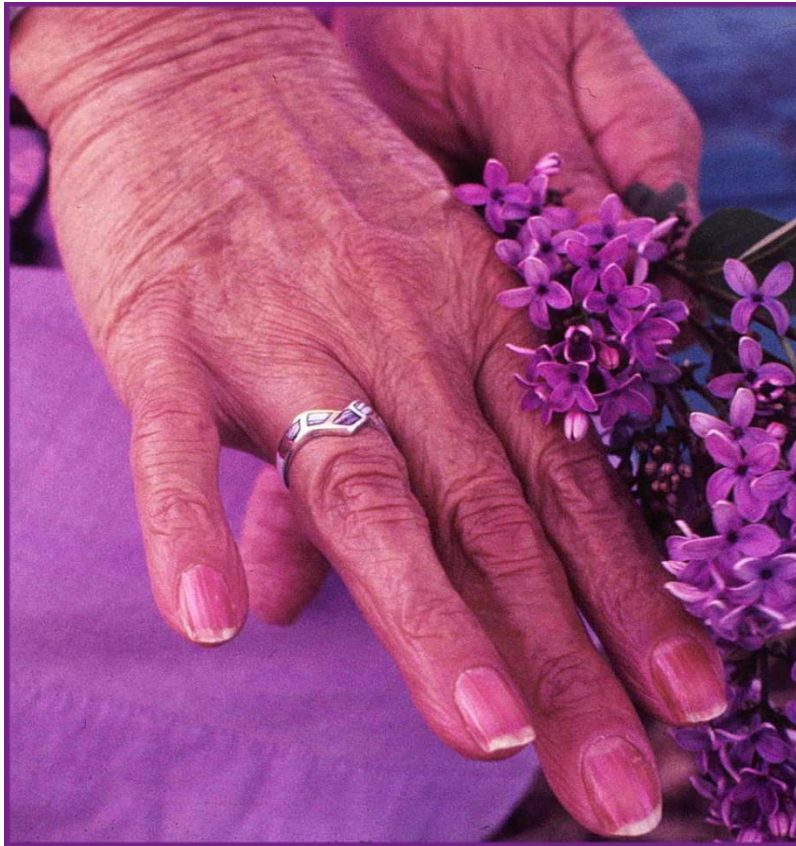







Lenape Names for the Hand





These are the names and parts of the hands known to the Lenape or Delaware Indians. 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 part. In the third column is the literal translation or comments of the Lenape name.






Touching Leaves' (Nora Dean) Hands Holding Lilacs

<p>nàxk</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=5565</p>		<p>hand</p>
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<p>wtëluhikàn</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14238</p>		<p>his index finger</p>
<p>lelawëlënych</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=3847</p>		<p>middle finger</p>
<p>shapwëlënychehun</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=9329</p>		<p>ring</p> <p><i>none of the speakers could recall a word for this finger but the name for a finger ring contains the -lënych part that means finger.</i></p>
<p>mèkëlënych</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4531</p>		<p>little finger</p>

<p>kitëlëñch</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=2540</p>		<p>thumb</p>
<p>kithùkwëlëñch</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=2550</p>		<p>ball of the thumb</p>
<p>hwikàsh</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=1484</p>		<p>fingernail</p>
<p>lënapeokàni sàhkihëlëñch</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14372</p>		<p>lunula</p> <p><i>The halfmoon white area at the base of the fingernails. When a person is ill the Lenape will look at these to get an idea of the person's health.</i></p>

<p>pàkalëncha</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8181</p>		<p>palm</p> <p><i>Nora holds a doll she dressed in the palm of her hand</i></p>
<p>mènànchi</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4594</p>		<p>left hand</p> <p><i>Nora doing ribbonwork</i></p>
<p>mayaylëncha</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4496</p>		<p>right hand</p>

Words for Parts of the Hand

In the lists below are additional examples of how Lenape combines word elements to create new words that are like sentences in English.

<p>ahkonëlënche</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=105</p> <p>-or-</p> <p>kwënëlënche</p> <p>https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=3382</p>	<p>he has a long finger(s)</p>
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alukëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=351	he has a thin finger(s)
amànkëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=386	he has big hands; he has big fingers
hwìkahsha https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=13080	fingernails; toenails
lëlxawëlëncha https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=3867	between the fingers
òkchëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=7899	he has a crooked finger(s)
pukwëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8928	he has a broken finger; he has broken fingers
siakwëlënchèxin https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=17181	he spreads his fingers out
siakwëlënchètu https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14060	the 'little one' has his fingers spread (as when speaking of a baby)
tànkëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=9873	he has a small finger; he has small fingers
tëmëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=12732	he is missing a finger, hand or forearm

aputëlënxuwe https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=575	he walks with the palms of his hands turned backwards (as if swimming)
àspinxke https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=615	raise your hand(s)!
këlënao https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=1912	he holds him in his hand
këlënëm https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=1915	he holds (it) in his hand
mayaylëncha https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4496	my right hand
mësilënëmën https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14385	he uses his hands to hold it in different positions; he moves things by hand to different places
nëmënànchi https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=5857	I am left-handed
nshilënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=7126	I wash my hands
shipinxke https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=9522	he hangs his hand down
tëmëlënche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=12732	he is missing a finger, hand or forearm

wëlëlä́nche https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=10661	she has nice hands
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