

## Diné

Some terms and concepts

### Emergence Story and the [Seven Worlds](#) – “the Trail”

**Diné** – “Earth Surface Peoples” or “Navajo” – “Enemies of the Cultivated Fields” (Pueblo word)

**Yei** – “Holy Ones,” also translated as “immune”

Central among the *Yei* are **Changing Woman** and her two sons, **Monster Slayer** and **Child of the Water**. It was Changing Woman who the other *Yei* conducted the first ***Kinaald’a*** – “Walking into Beauty” ceremony (girl’s puberty ritual), and it is Changing Women who created the Human Peoples, **the Diné**.

***Bii-gi-isti*** – “an animating being lies within” or “inner forms,” and as expressed for Humans, “in-standing wind soul” - distinguish “thought from speech, spirit from action”

***Sa’ah Nah’gi Bik’eh Hózhó*** – “continual reoccurring long-life in an environment of beauty and harmony” Also ***Sa’ah Nah’gi*** = thought and ***Bik’eh Hózhó*** = speech. ***Hózhó*** – beauty and harmony, is contrasted with ***Hocho*** – disorder and ugliness

**Ceremonialism** and the ***Hataali*** – “singer” (medicine man), and the “hand-tremblers” and “star gazers” Align the “Trail” with the Dry Painting and Ritual.

- **Blessingway** – maintain and restore *Hózhó*, i.e., general well-being
- **Lifeway** – treat bodily, physical injury
- **Holyway** – infuse *Hózhó* into patient, thus removing *Hocho*; the largest grouping of ceremonials, includes the Beautyway and the Holyway
- **Evilway** – remove *Hocho* from patient, thus restoring *Hózhó*, i.e., treat ghost sickness, e.g, via the Enemyway

### World View:

1. progressive movement (not static nor spatial focus)
2. lawful interrelatedness of the universe (*Hózhó*)
3. “knowledge” of “inner forms,” of *Yei*, of “Creation Trail” is power of *Hózhó* (not visionary experience)
4. disorder is illness (*Hocho*)

Examples of [Billy Yellow and Beatrice](#) (18 and 13 min.)