

## T.C. Cannon Week

### Beadmaking Activity

Native American beadwork is done with a variety of materials and was associated with many different tribes. Materials include stones, shells, bones, and other items that can be found in the area. Nowadays, glass beads are used most frequently when creating beadwork.

When creating beadwork, Native Americans stranded beads together to make jewelry or stitched beads onto leather to create moccasins, pouches, and other clothing items.

In this activity, you'll be creating your own beads out of paper or use other found objects to create your own jewelry.



*Beaded Pouch. American Indian: Iroquois. 67.29.6.*

**Duration:** 45 minutes

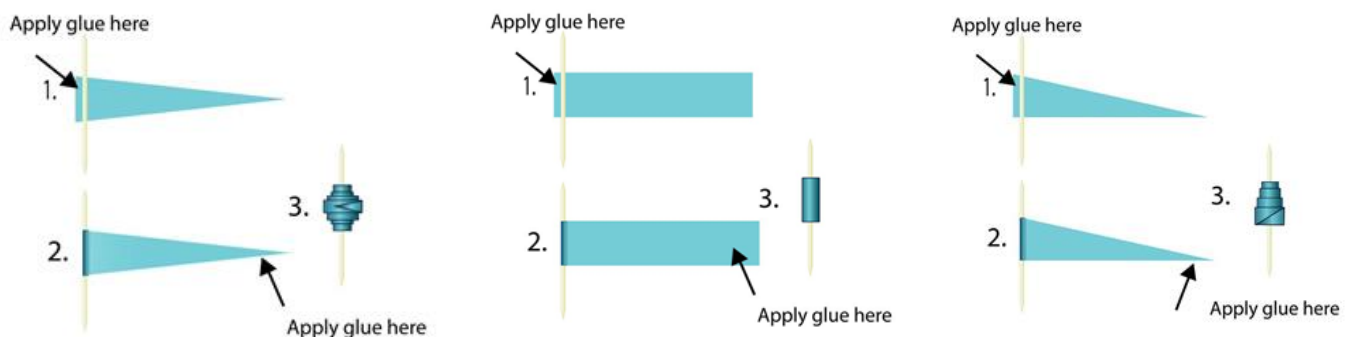
## Materials:

- Heavy weight paper or cardboard for templates
- Ruler
- Pen or Pencil
- Magazine pages or colorful paper
- Glue stick, or Elmer's Glue
- Scissors
- Wooden bamboo skewer, toothpick, large nail or knitting needle
- String, beading cord or elastic, heavyweight thread or yarn
- Found objects around the house, like old beads from a necklace to add to make it special to you
- Markers or paint (optional)
- Modpodge (optional)
- Imagination



## Instructions:

1. Draw out your templates first on a heavier weight paper.  
Use these images to pick which bead types you want templates for.



2. Place your paper for your beads face down.
3. Using a pen or pencil, trace your bead paper template shapes onto the back of the sheet of paper. (You can draw the shapes directly onto the paper with a ruler)
4. Cut out the drawn shapes.
5. Place a toothpick or bamboo skewer on the long edge of the paper triangle (or one end of the tubular template style).
6. Roll the end of the triangle towards the pointy edge and secure the end with Elmer glue or a glue stick.
7. Allow the glue to dry.
8. If you like, you can use a marker or craft paint to color the ends of the beads.
9. Gently remove the toothpick.
10. Continue rolling beads until you have the desired amount of paper beads
11. Optional: Place aside until you are ready to seal and coat the beads with Mod Podge
12. String paper beads with other beads or trinkets of your choice. The possibilities are endless!

