

Paper Bead Necklace

Ages 8–12

This Zuni Pueblo necklace is made with natural materials like coral, shell, and turquoise. The unknown artist turned these materials into beads, which were then strung onto a necklace. Learn how to make beads out of paper and create your own powerful jewelry.

Materials:

Old magazines or newspapers, scissors, glue, toothpick or skewer, string, large sewing needle, paint and brush (optional)

Instructions:

Step 1: Cut several long triangles (about six inches tall and one-inch wide) from pages of magazines or newspapers. Each triangle will make one bead, so you'll need about 30 triangles for a full necklace.

Step 2: Starting with the widest end, wrap the paper triangle around a toothpick. When you reach the end, place a small drop of glue on the triangle point to seal the bead.

Step 3: Hold for 30 seconds to dry. Remove toothpick to reuse, and set bead aside.

Step 4: Repeat until you have at least 30 beads. If you made newspaper beads, you can paint them to add color.

Step 5: Use the sewing needle to thread your beads with string. Leave enough string on each end to tie the necklace together. Take a photo and share with us using #BarnesatHome.



Unidentified Maker, Zuni Pueblo. *Necklace*, c. 1880