Meeting 18

Bead Crafts

Here are three fun bead activities that you can do with Builders. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Builders or create your own activities.

The following activities partially complete the requirements for the Bead Craft award.

ACTIVITY 1

Melted Bead Bowl

20 MINUTES

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Perler beads
- Non-stick cooking spray
- Oven-proof bowl
- Baking sheet or pan
- Hot pads
- Oven

WHAT YOU DO

Preheat the oven to 350°F (177°C). Give each child an oven-proof bowl that has been coated with cooking spray. (This keeps the beads from sticking to the bowl.) Have the Builder place the beads in the bottom of the bowl and then press down on them. This should push some of the beads up the side of the bowl. Once the beads are pressed, they should form a single layer. Place the bowl on a baking sheet. Bake for about 15 minutes or until the beads are melted. Remove the melted beads from the oven-proof bowl once the beads are cool to the touch. (Have the children work on Activities 2 and 3 while the bowls bake and cool.)

Bead Wind Chime

15 MINUTES

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time:

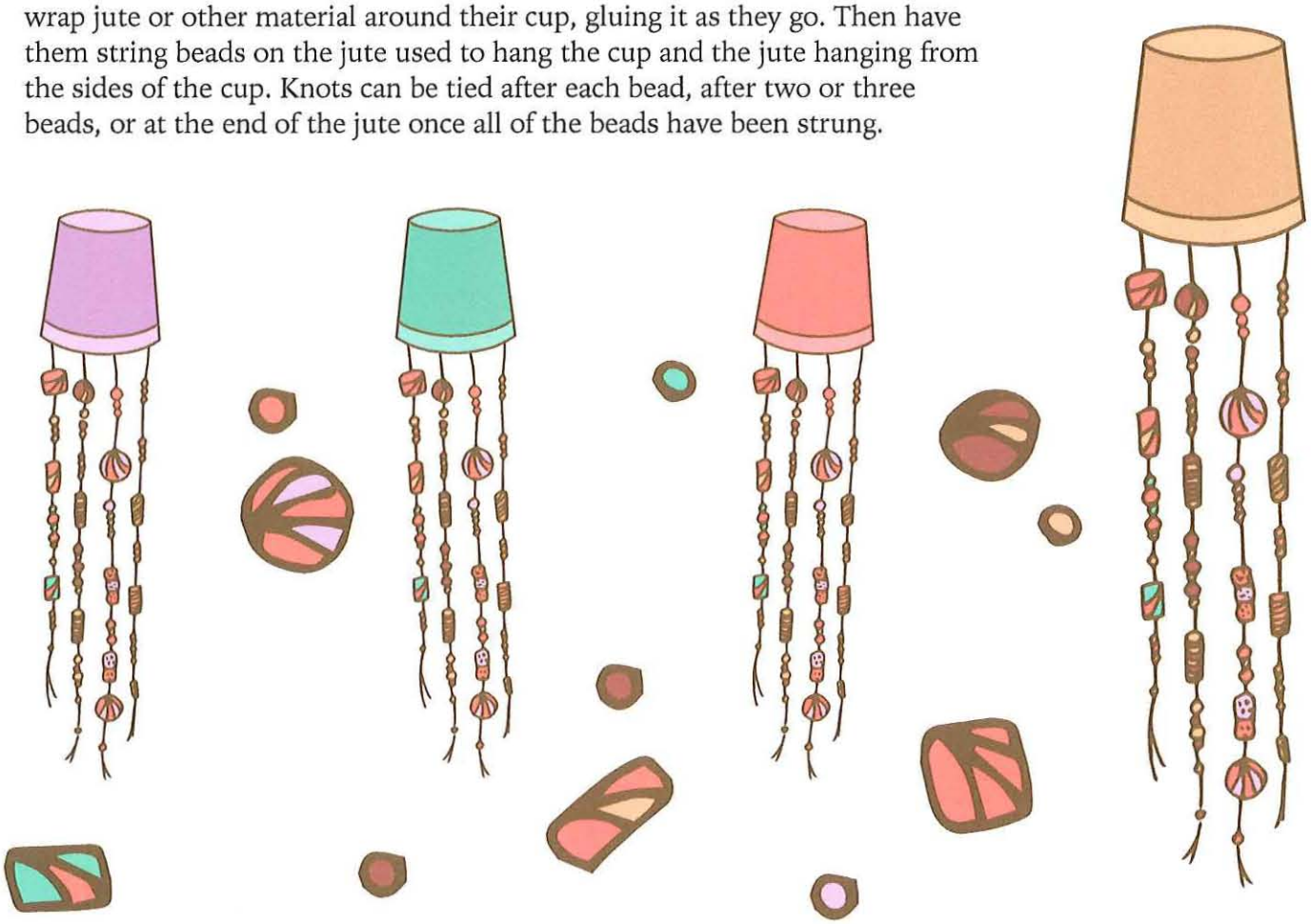
1. Punch four to six holes around the rim of each cup.
2. Make a small hole in the bottom of each cup at the center.
3. Cut a 12 in (30.5 cm) piece of jute and tie a large knot at one end. Pull in through the hole in the bottom of the cup so it hangs upside down. Tie a loop at the unknotted end of the jute. This will be used to hang the wind chime.
4. Cut 8 in (20.5 cm) pieces of jute and tie them through each of the holes around the rim of the cup.

Show the Builders a completed bead wind chime. Begin by having the Builders wrap jute or other material around their cup, gluing it as they go. Then have them string beads on the jute used to hang the cup and the jute hanging from the sides of the cup. Knots can be tied after each bead, after two or three beads, or at the end of the jute once all of the beads have been strung.

2 ACTIVITY

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Plastic cups, one per child
- Jute, twine, ribbon, or yarn
- Wood or clay beads
- Hole punch
- Craft glue



ACTIVITY 3

Pasta Bead Belt

15 MINUTES

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Pasta, variety of shapes with a hole through the middle
- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes
- Twine or jute
- Smocks
- Newspaper

WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Cover the work area with newspaper.

Measure each Builder's waist and cut a piece of twine for their belt. Have each Builder lay his or her twine/jute on the work area. Then place some unpainted pasta next to the twine and have the Builders paint their pasta. Once the paint has dried, knot one end of the twine and string the pasta "beads." When finished, knot the other end of the twine.

Award: Bead Craft

To complete this award, check the requirements on p. 135 and add activities as needed.