

Make a Corn Necklace

Native peoples of North, Central and South America have grown corn for thousands of years. It began as a wild grass, called teosinte, and came from Mexico. By selecting and planting the best seeds, it became the corn we eat today. Many Native communities continue to show respect through songs, dances and artwork.

Materials Needed

- 24 pony beads the colors of corn. White, yellow, purple, blue, red, brown.
- Pipe cleaners. Brown, green, or yellow.
- Twine, raffia, yarn, or sinew.



HERE'S WHAT TO DO



1 Cut a pipe cleaner in half. Twist the two pipe cleaners together in the middle.



2 String six pony beads on each of the four lengths of pipe cleaner.



3 Bring each of the four parts up and twist them together so the beads do not fall off.



4 Next, fold the ends of the pipe cleaner down to look like corn-husks. Be careful the edges may be sharp.



5 Now, string a piece of twine through the corn to create a necklace.

Ask your students:

Is there an important food in your family?
 What are you grateful for?
 How do you show gratitude?
 Have students share a food story or write a short poem.