

QUALITY CHAPTER MEETING
Number 7—Indian Craft Zone

Background: Create an individual Indian craft project members can use if they participate on the dance or ceremonial team—or just have fun making!

Meeting resources: Check out public libraries for information, search the web for Indian craft ideas, talk to experienced craft folks within your lodge or section, reach out to the American Indian Activities NOAC team for guidance regarding specific, easy to construct, useful projects, and utilize the NOAC AIA teams video distributed at NOAC 2009.

Meeting Content: This can be a lot of fun as a group and will carry over to other chapters. Be the first in your lodge; set the trend. Encourage your chapter membership to wear their project at the next lodge ordeal.

- ♦ Set aside a specific time within your agenda to focus on the construction of these projects.
- ♦ Invite instructors to assist with your project and don't forget to invite your lodge dance and ceremonial chairmen.
- ♦ Advertise your activity well in advance to encourage membership to attend.
- ♦ Have the materials needed to complete the project available. American Indian craft kits or raw materials can be found through a variety of resources. Check out Boys' Life for advertisements or go online. Many vendors give BSA discounts for their products if you buy in bulk. If you have to charge a small fee to offset the cost of the project materials, try to collect and plan in advance as much as possible.
- ♦ Consider an award for the best project. A certificate, ribbon, or patch will recognize those with the most skill, creativity, or originality. Give awards to both youth and adults.
- ♦ For larger projects, the "craft zone" may have to be carried out over several meetings.
- ♦ Don't forget to thank visiting instructors, especially those from outside your chapter or lodge!