

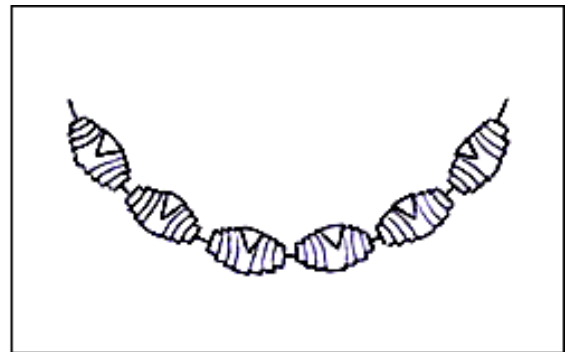
# Somerset Interfaith & Belief Network

## Storytelling Beads

Beads have been made and worn in many cultures, all around the world for thousands of years. They are among the earliest human ornaments and have been valued as currency, for holding stories, for prayer, for protection

This workshop using beads, stories and memories from Somerset & around the world, draws on sharing, making and designing to create beads to take away. Explore how beads are used to tell and hold stories, how beads play important roles in the journey of life and can be family or community heirlooms.

One way to make beads is by rolling strips of paper on knitting needles or drinking straws. Then string the beads on long pieces of yarn to create strings of beads, for nbracelets, necklaces and even curtains that separated rooms. You can make these beads by re-using paper, and string them together to make jewelry, beads for a story jar, reminders!



What you'll need:

- strips of wallpaper, magazine pictures, used wrapping paper, colored paper, etc.
- pencil, ruler, and scissors
- pva glue works well and can be uused to coat/ varnish the beads
- drinking straws
- thread or yarn or laces

How to make:

1. With your scissors, cut long triangles from your paper scraps that are about 1/2-inch wide and 2 1/2-inches long. Making a template to trace can save time.
2. Cover one side of a triangle with glue. Put the glue on the inside of the paper so that the colorful pattern will be on the outside of your bead.
3. Place the triangle's glued short side on a drinking straw.
4. Wrap the paper completely around itself on the straw.
5. Cut away the straw at both ends of the rolled paper.
6. To make beads with different shapes, vary the size and shape of the paper triangles that you cut. Or try out different shapes
7. Let your beads dry, and then string them together on your thread or yarn. Knot the ends of the thread together.

**For more materials & activities visit: <https://interfaithbelief.glade.org/>**

