

USING PROJECTS TO TEACH INDIANA HISTORY

By Patricia Johnson

GRADE LEVEL: Elementary

Prepared in partial fulfillment of requirements for

Project of the Indiana Department of Education

Using projects to teach Indiana History

A Lesson Plan for Using Projects to Make History Fun

Prepared by Patricia C. Johnson

Indiana and The New Nation      A USI and NEH Project

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History class is divided into six units making a timeline

Each unit covers six weeks of the school year. The units are Indians in Indiana ( this includes pre-historic as well as historic), Pioneers Statehood, Indiana and the Civil War, the Invention period and Indiana Today. With each unit I do a series of crafts designed to go along with that unit. I set aside one day a week as a project day. Usually Friday, is my project day. This gives projects two days to set before they have to be moved.

Projects for the Indian Period include clay pottery, beadwork, tom-toms, canoes, tom-a-hawks, tee-pees, picture writing, Indian Dancing, etc. I buy a 25 lb. block of red clay from a ceramic supply house (this usually last two years and cost less than \$10.00). I show the students how to use the coil method, the pinch-pot method and the slab method. They inturn design their own project. Some of the more daring have begun making peace pipes.

The beadwork, I learned working at Little Hoosier Camp. I have wooden looms which I made, crothet cotton and regular sewing thread. I use regular Indian seed beads, which can be purchased at craft shops or through school art

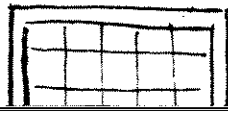
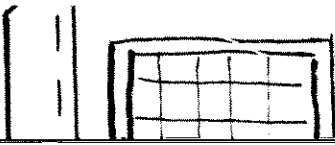
The students use a piece of craft paper and work out

shapes. The writing is done in a circular fashion beginning at the middle and  
working your way out. Indian Dances are taught by water basket...

up at various places. The tomahawks are made using roll ends of material used  
in making cast for broken bones. The plaster craft is wetted and placed

around a form cut from a folder, which has been secured around a handle made  
from a tree limb, broom handle or dow rod. The finished project is then paint-  
ed black and decorated with feathers and painted designs on the handle.

The Pioneer projects include log cabins, made from twigs, craft sticks,



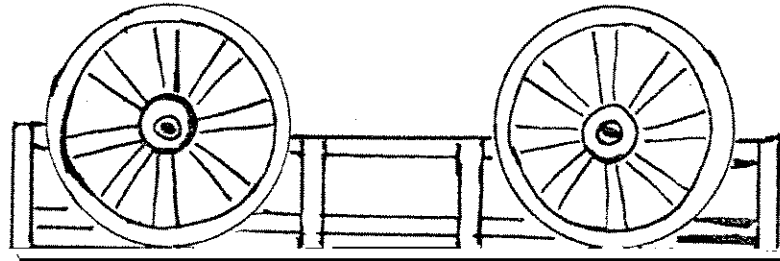
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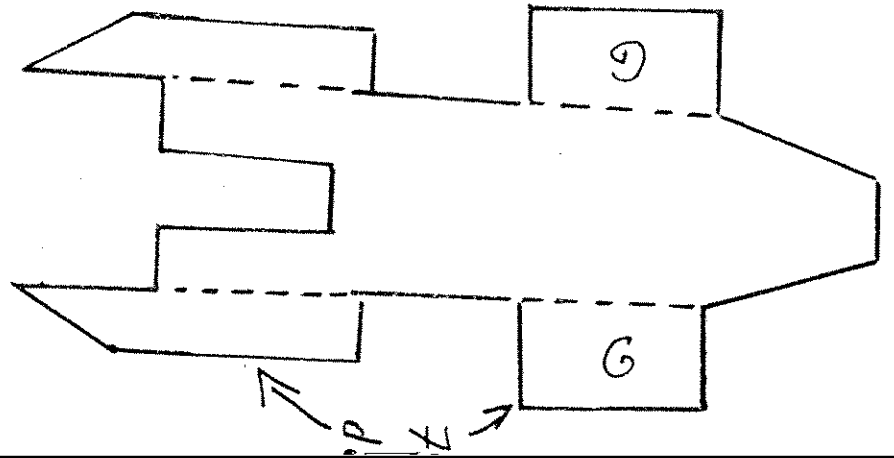
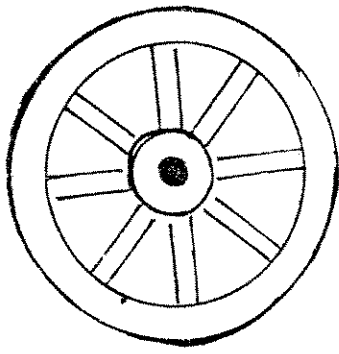
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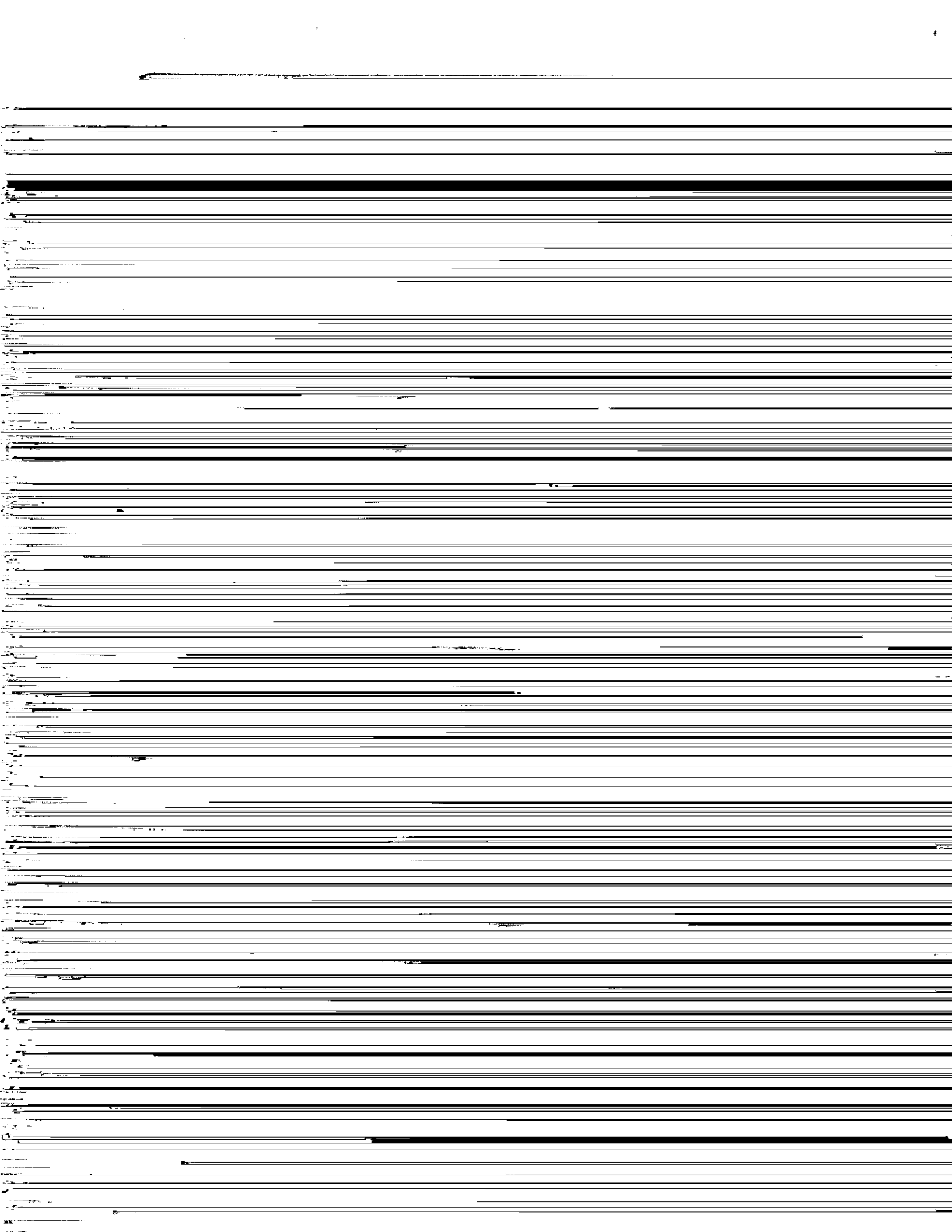
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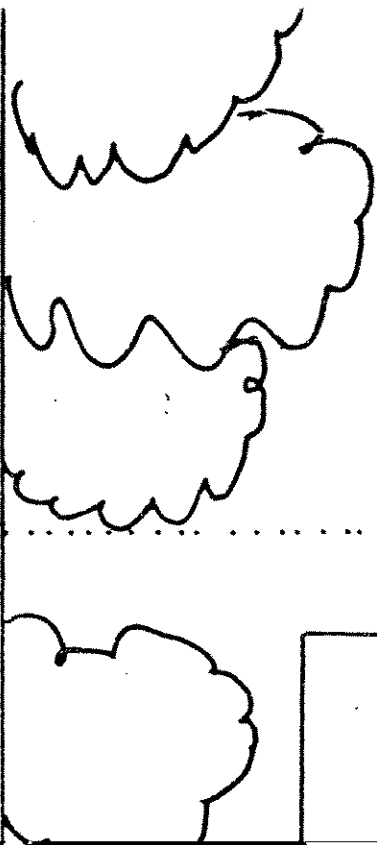


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Cannons

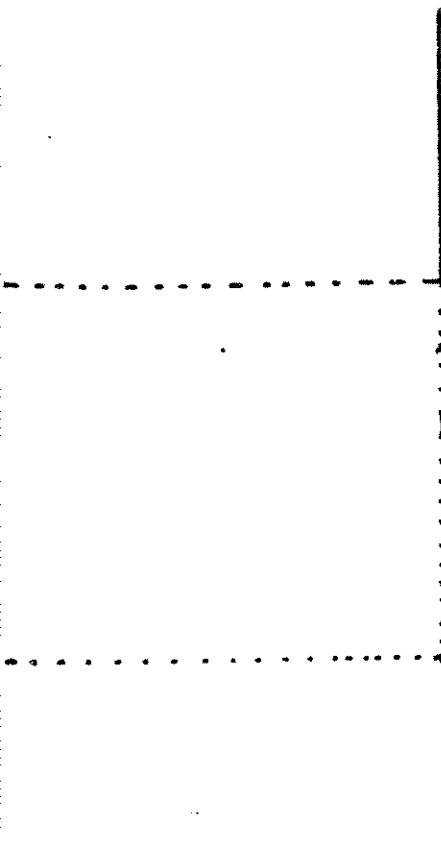




40 Family Worship build



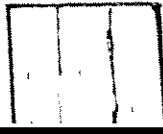
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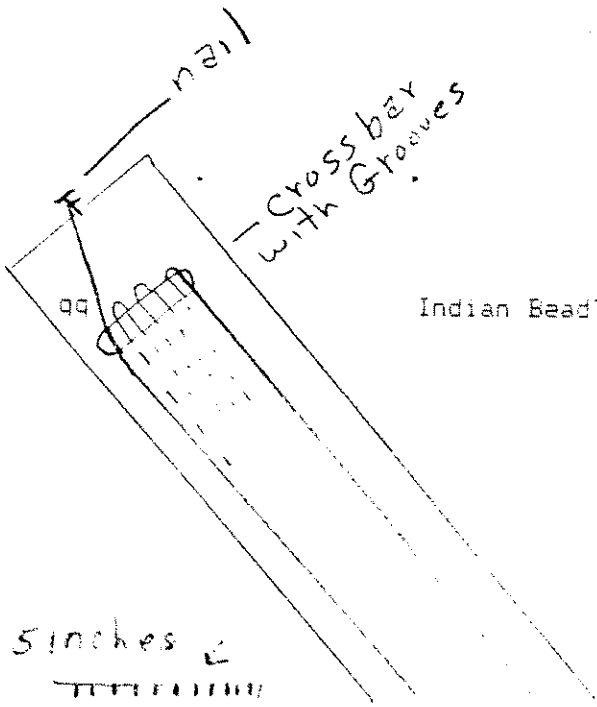




No. 2

W. C.  
W. S.  
S. T.





Indian Beadloom

1. Tie string to nail at one end of board.
2. Thread string through grooves in small boards (back and forth), tie off on nail at other end. You need at least 10 spaces.
3. Place placer beads on strings (tie thread to loom string of left side of loom, pick up 10 beads, take needle under loomstrings and push beads on

