



MANY HANDS

ONE SHARED INSTALLATION



Phyllis (Jack) Webstad's story in her own words...



I went to the Mission for one school year in 1973/1974. I had just turned 6 years old. I lived with my grandmother on the Dog Creek reserve. We never had very much money, and there was no welfare, but somehow my granny managed to buy me a new outfit to go to the Mission school. I remember going to Robinson's store and picking out a shiny orange shirt. It had string laced up in front, and was so bright and exciting - just like I felt to be going to school!

When I got to the Mission, they striped me, and took away my clothes, including the orange shirt! I never saw it again. I didn't understand why they wouldn't give it back to me, it was mine! The color orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared.

I was 13.8 years old and in grade 8 when my son Jeremy was born. Because my grandmother and mother both attended residential school for 10 years each, I never knew what a parent was supposed to be like. With the help of my aunt, Agness Jack, I was able to raise my son and have him know me as his mother.

I went to a treatment centre for healing when I was 27 and have been on this healing journey since then. I finally got it, that the feeling of worthlessness and insignificance, ingrained in me from my first day at the mission, affected the way I lived my life for many years. Even now, when I know nothing could be further than the truth, I still sometimes feel that I don't matter. Even with all the work I've done!

I am honored to be able to tell my story so that others may benefit and understand, and maybe other survivors will feel comfortable enough to share their stories.

$13 \times 15 = 195 \times 50 = 9,750 \text{ beads}$

EVERY BEAD MATTERS.

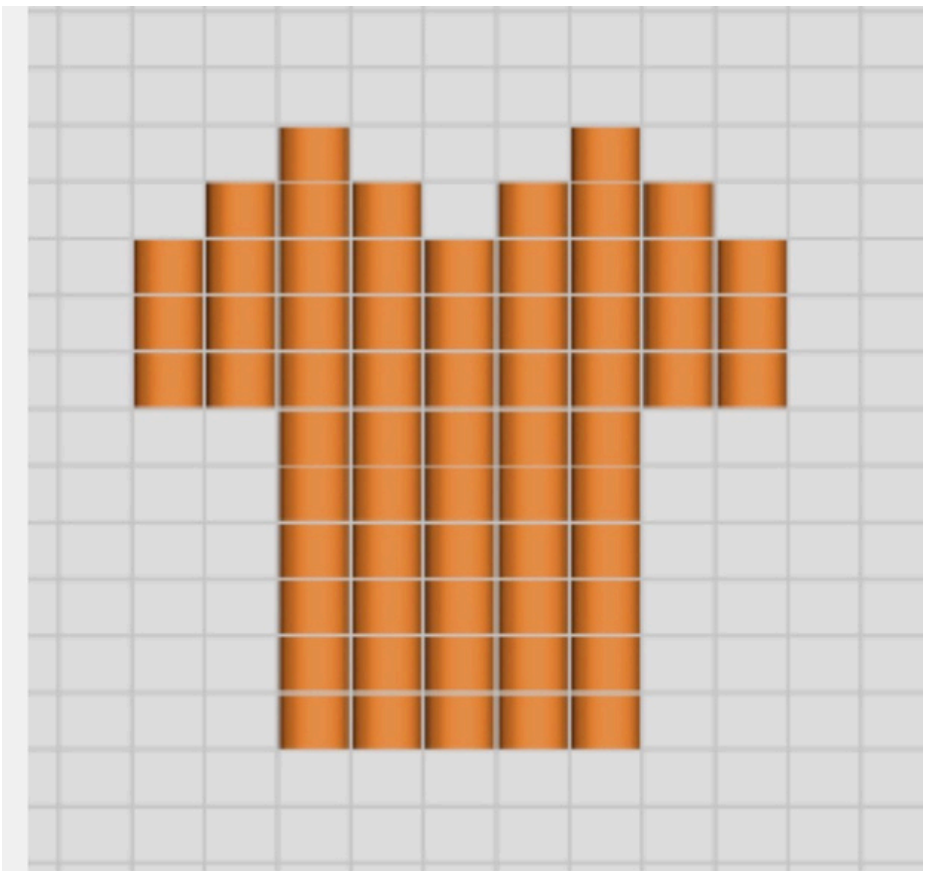
One bead is small.

One bead isn't the whole story or Art.

But put them together...

and something much bigger appears.

The Design and process



15 columns

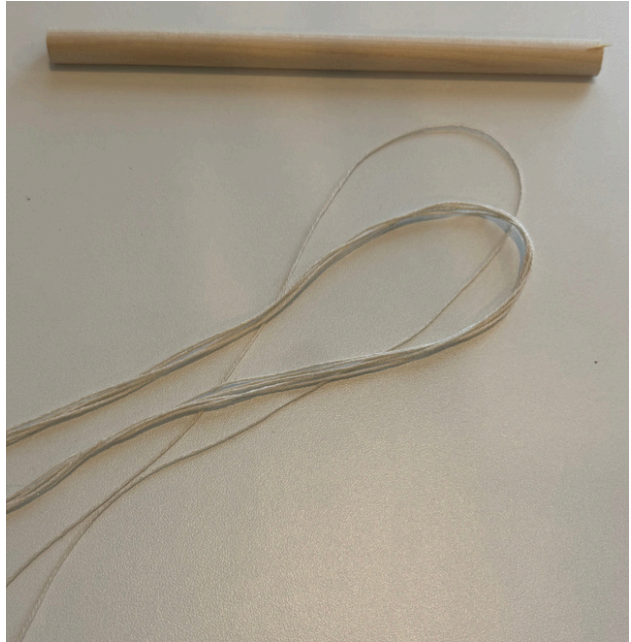
65 orange pony beads
130 white pony beads

13 rows

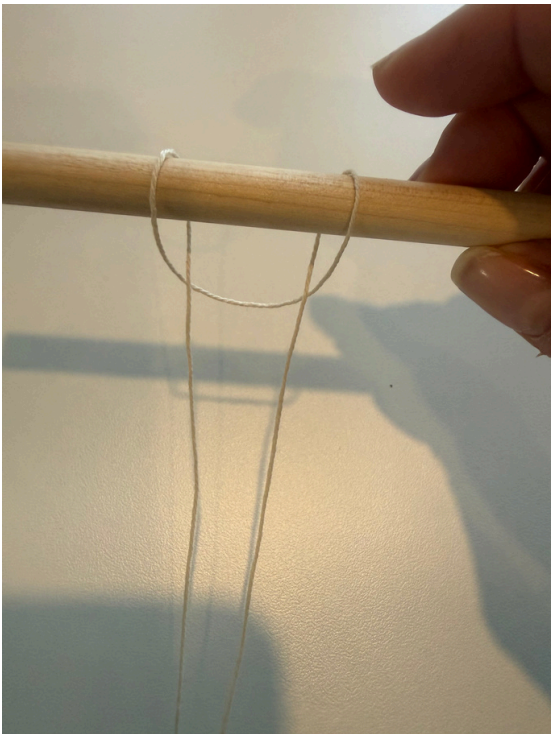
Rows												

Columns

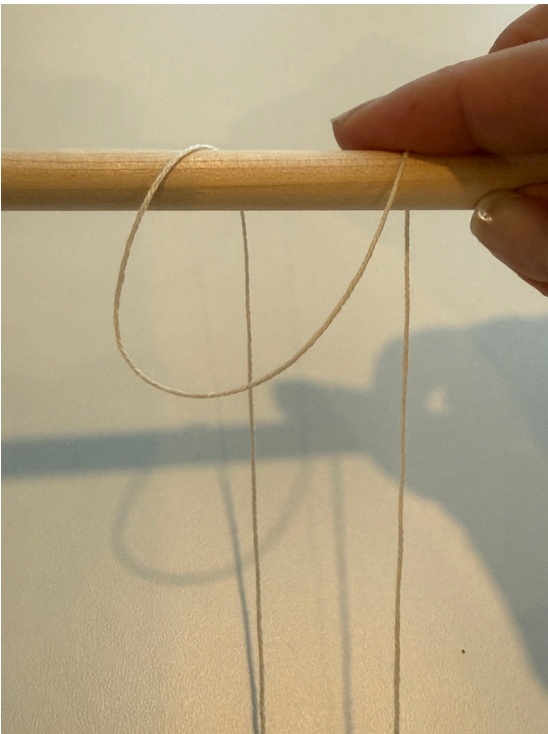
6" dowel



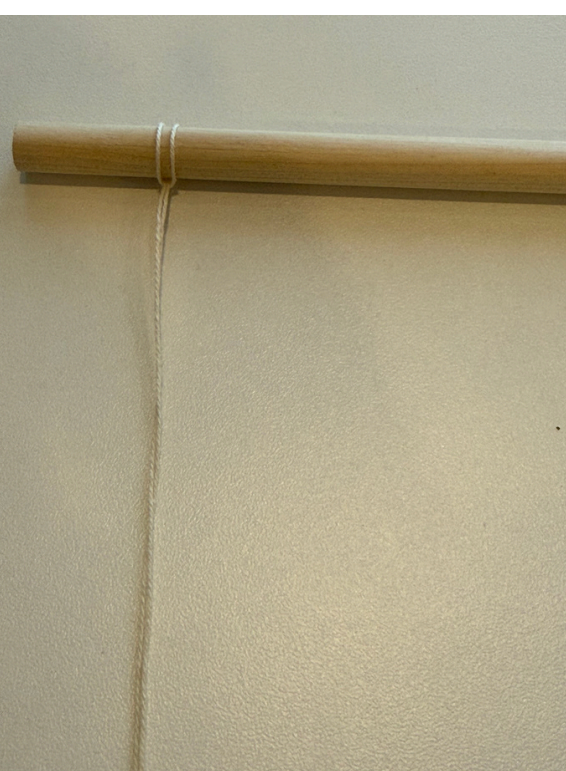
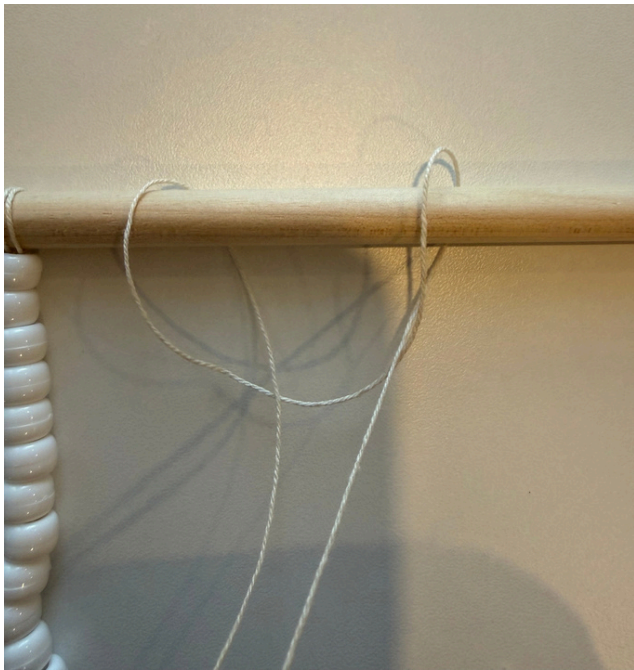
I used crochet
thread
14 pieces about
16"



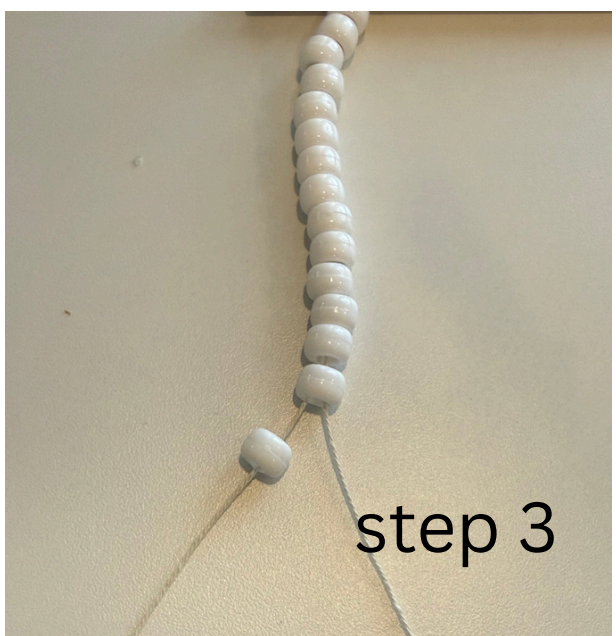
step 1



Pull the two strings through loop

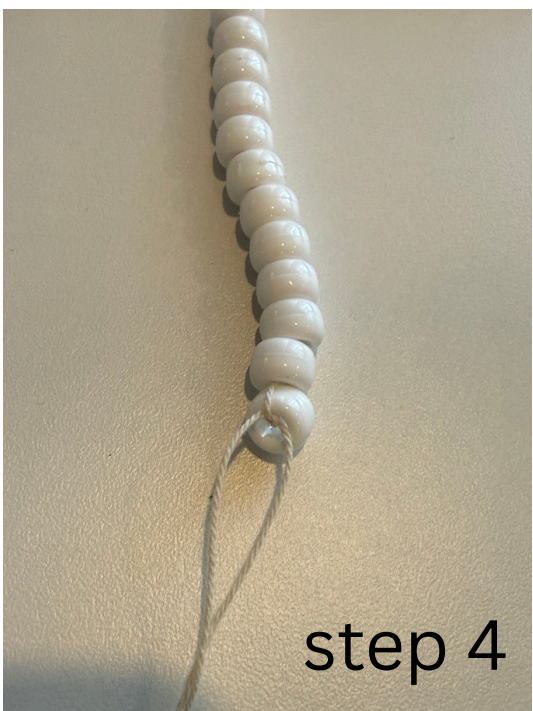


step 2



step 3

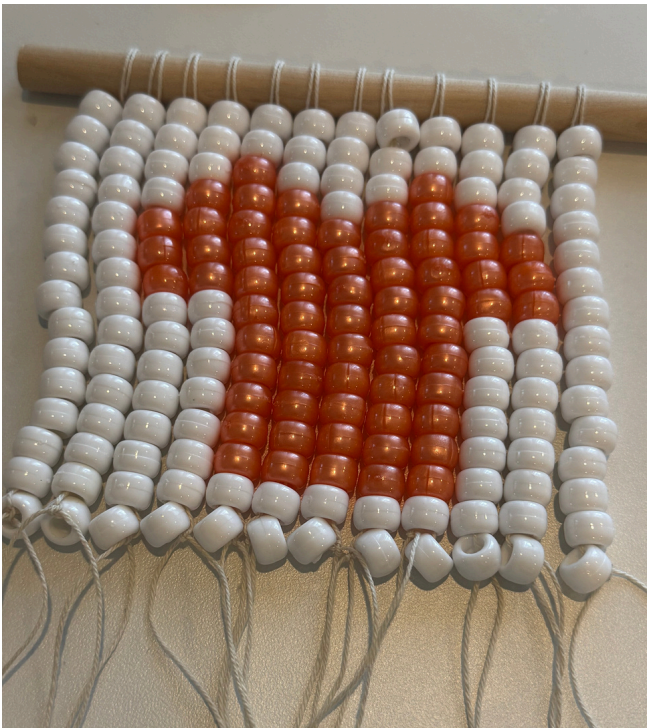
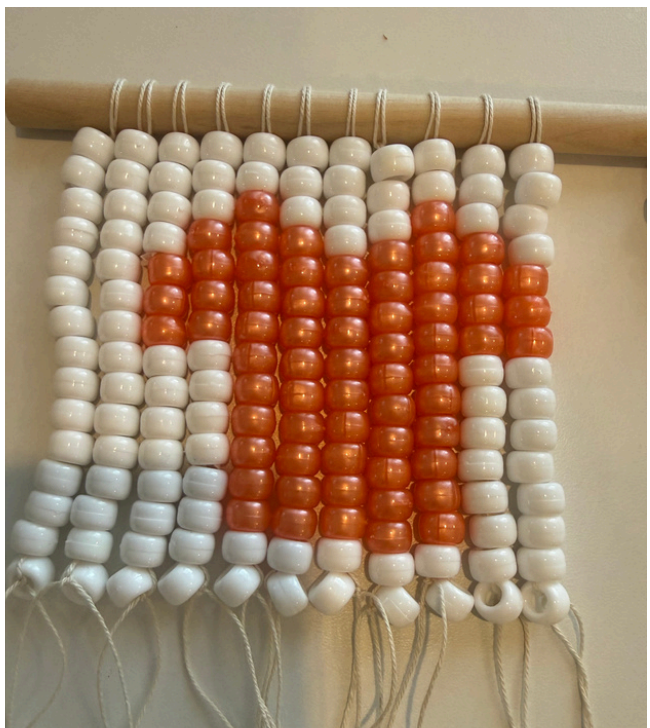
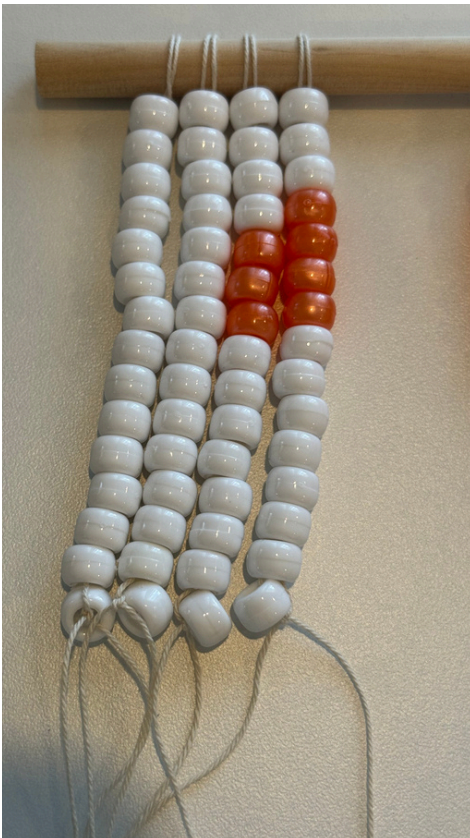
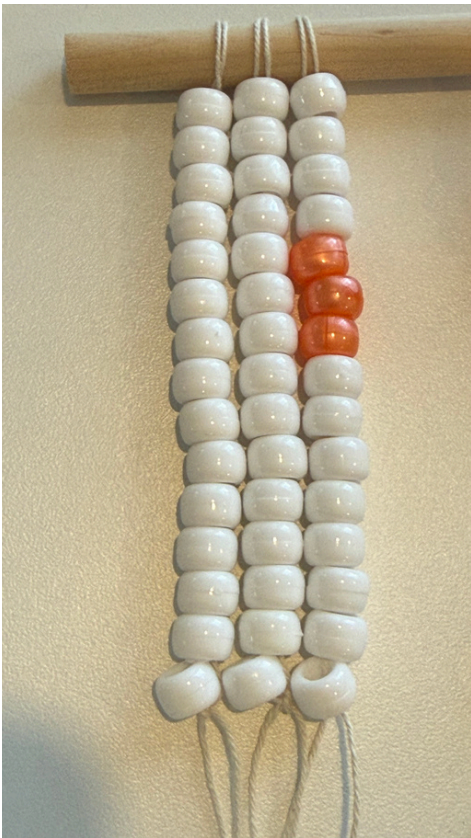
14 white beads on both
strings then last white
bead only through one
piece



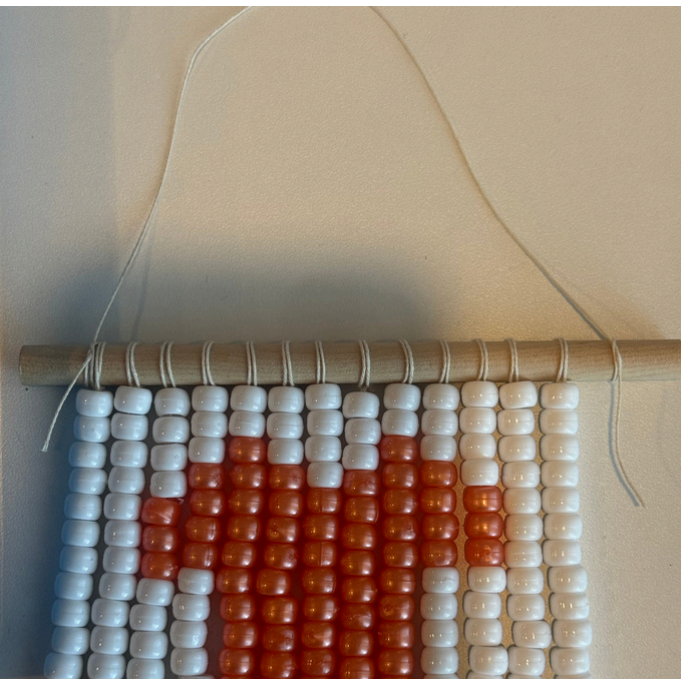
step 4

and tie two knots to
secure

Then
continue
steps 1-4
(adapting the
pattern of
beads as
needed for
each column

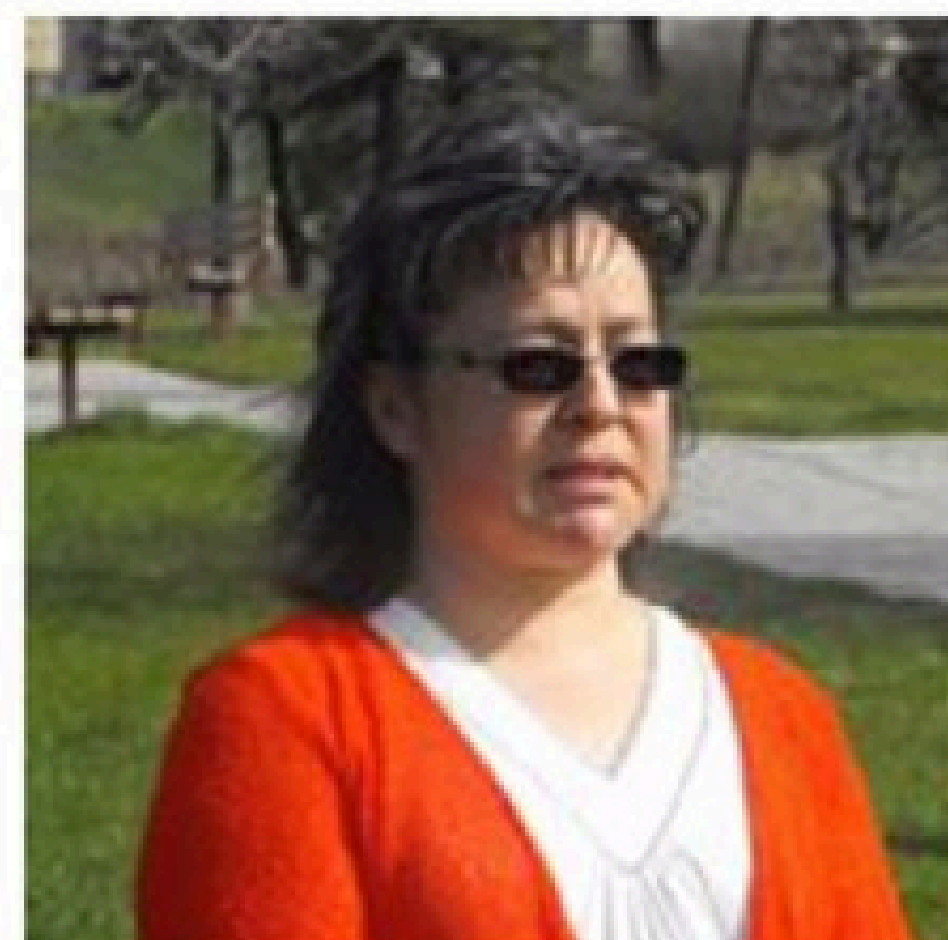


Tie ends of extra piece of
string to hang
can use a constrictor knot or
any to attach



September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and well being, and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters.

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What will your contribution represent?

You don't have to know exactly what your contribution to this project represents right now.

Maybe it represents something you already know.

Maybe it represents something you're learning.

Maybe it represents someone you're thinking about.

Or maybe you won't know until you see all of our pieces come together.

The important thing is that you are part of the story we are creating together.

“What is something worth carrying forward ?”



Every Child Matters