

Arrow of Light Arrows

Items that you will need in addition to the kit:

Glue – 2 types: Loctite brand Superglue and Aleene's Quick Dry Tacky Glue (silver plastic bottle);

Feathers – 7" is preferred – Red, Blue, Yellow, Orange, Green and Black;

Strings - 45" Braided Nylon Cords – Multi-Color (Orange, Blue, Yellow, Red, Green and Purple);

Black Waxed String (Siene):

Pony Beads – 6x9mm - Purple, Green, Orange, Pink, Blue, Yellow, White, Gold and Silver

All of these items can be purchased at Hobby Lobby, Michael's; AC Moore's and Wal-Mart are good back-ups.



Stain the shafts of the arrows – Walnut is a good color – use a rag and rub the color on the shaft lightly. They don't need to be dark, just tinted.

Put the Arrowhead into the arrow shaft – use a little superglue, then use the black waxed string to "x" lash the arrow to the shaft. Wind the black up the shaft about 1/2" so for effect.



Trim the fletching feathers for the shaft as shown on the instructions – one will be a different color than the other two – it is the one to go on the shaft perpendicular to the arrowhead – the other two will go on the shaft evenly spaced – refer to the instructions. Unlike the instructions, use the superglue to attach the feathers to the shaft and then at each end use the black string to cover the ends of the feathers that have been stripped – extend about a 1/2" or so up the shaft with the string for effect.

The two Eagle Feathers will need to be assembled before you can attach them to the shaft. First thing – Get all of the Eagle feathers out of all of the kits and sort them by length and size. Use the worst two feathers on the arrow to be broken. Sort the others into pairs – one large and one small for each arrow.

Each kit has two short black fake leather or "Pleather" strips and one longer real leather lacing strip. Use the pleather strips to form the feather loops.



Lay the feathers out so that they “crown” up (curl up). Superglue the pleather to opposite sides of the shaft of the feather to form a loop. With the eagle feather still down on the table with the feather curving up, take three or four of the fluffy red feathers and lay them in a bed of Tacky Glue at the base of the Eagle Feather – line up the red feather shafts to the eagle feather shaft as much as you can. Take the Red felt – I used enough to wrap around the shaft of the Eagle Feather 1-1/2 times around the Shaft and the base of the Red Feathers. The kit has enough to do about 10 feathers – so you should measure and cut. Use the Tacky Glue – it will dry clear and stay flexible – to glue the felt in place. Wrap the felt kind of tight and then go along the edge to completely seal it together then use some tape to wrap around the felt to hold it in place for about an hour.



Use the real leather lace to tie the feathers onto the shaft. I wrapped around once, then through a loop on one of the feathers, then around again then through the second feather loops and then around again. I finished with a square knot – look at the picture – you can see five passes of the leather with the two middle passes holding on the Eagle Feathers.

Take the colored cords and cut them in half (hot melt method to seal the fibers – heated knife or wood burning iron or go to Renfrow’s and use their cord cutting station). In the past, the Orange stood for Tigers. Blue for Bobcat, Red for Wolf, Green for Bear, Yellow for Webelos and Purple for Extra (World Conservation, God and Me, God and Family, etc...)



The Cords should be 22.5” long – fold them in half and tie a knot as close to the capped end as possible. All of the cords should be even (knot and cut end together) except the Yellow (Webelos) Cord. Tie the knot so the cut end hangs past the capped end by about 1-1/2”. Slide the pony beads over the doubled cord – the folded end of the string and slide down to the knot. Beads are to represent the Awards and Achievements earned by each boy.

In the past we have used Gold and Silver for the Wolf and the Bear Arrow Points, Yellow for the Tiger Beads (the extra beads, not the required Black, Orange and White). For the Webelos we have used the pink, purple, blue, orange and green to represent the five different categories in the Webelos Beads – look in the first part of the book. On the Purple Cord, we have used Gold for the God & Me and the God & Family Awards, Silver for the World Conservation, BSA Family or Outdoor Award, etc.. After you get the bead on the “doubled cord” – slide them to the knot end, then form a loop in the cord and slide it over the arrowhead and slide it into place on the shaft of the Arrow. In order from the Eagle Feathers or Notch end – Webelos, Bear, Wolf, Bobcat, Tiger and Special. If a boy did not join until Bear, then just leave those other years out. If he did not earn any special awards, then leave that one out. The minimum would be the Blue (Bobcat) and Yellow (Webelos) Cords and the maximum would be all six (6).

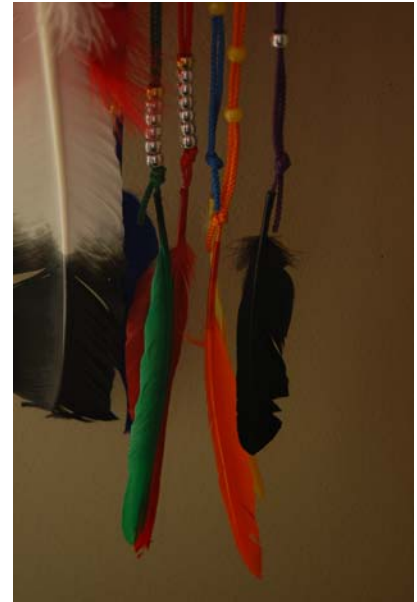


On the Webelos Cord and Feather – notice that there is a longer “tail” – use it to put beads on that the boys earn after the Arrow of Light. All beads earned prior to the Ceremony are on the main “doubled” cord.

Each Cord has a “capped end” – this is the part that will be superglued into the feather shaft. (The Shafts are hollow) You may have to

cut off some of the feather shaft in order to open up a spot for the cord end to slide into. Some of the feather shafts will have a crevasse (not hollow) and you can just glue the end of the cord into the shaft crevasse – that works just as well. (Feather to Cord) Purple or Black on Purple (Specials), Orange on Orange (Tiger), Yellow on Blue (Bobcat), Red on Red (Wolf), Green on Green (Bear) and Blue on Yellow (Webelos),

On top of the Arrow Shaft at the Arrowhead end – write each boy’s name and the date of the ceremony on it in black ink. This will help the presenter and the boys keep the arrows separated.



Finally, superglue the plastic notch onto the end of the wooden arrow shaft. The notch should be aligned in the same direction as the arrowhead and perpendicular to the odd colored fletching.

Remember, there has to be an extra arrow for the ceremony – it gets broken in dramatic fashion. Use the feathers to “dress-up” the dream-catcher or other items for next year’s ceremony.