

African necklace

Tyke (4-5 years)

What we are going to do:

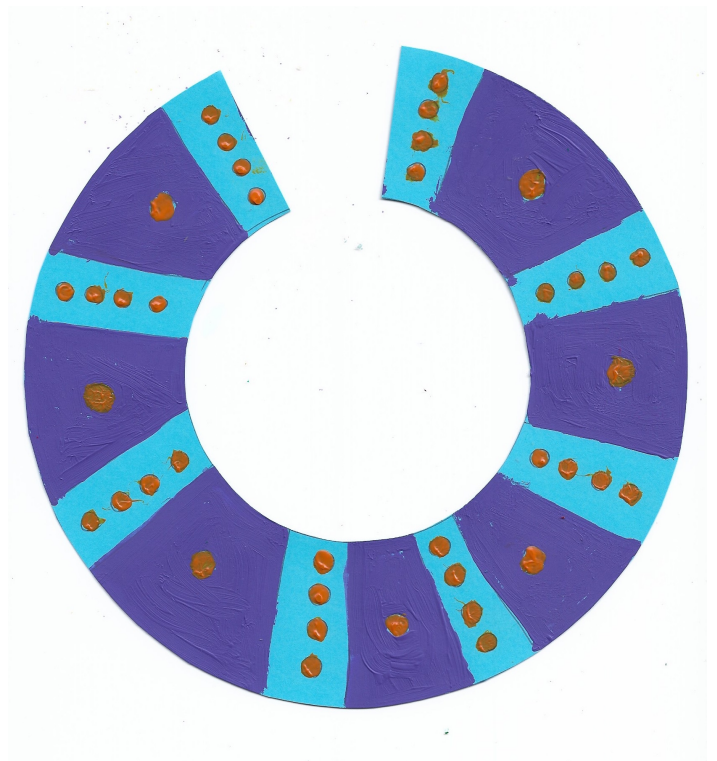
Create a colourful African necklace using paper plates or cardstock.

What you will need:

- Paper plates or cardstock paper (any colour)
- Scissors
- Paint or Markers
- Pencil and eraser
- Paintbrushes

What you can also use:

- Beads



African Necklaces

Let's travel to Africa! Africa is the world's hottest continent and is known for its rich mineral resources. The African culture has many traditions and today we are going to learn about the significance of African necklaces.

African necklaces are one of the earliest types of worn ornaments. In African culture they are symbols of wealth and status, and also serve ceremonial, religious, magical and funerary purposes. These necklaces are often made of metals and stones. Africans believe that wearing and possessing an old African bead or jewelry can bring them good luck, wisdom and hope. Take a look at the photo below of the African woman wearing a very large and colourful Zulu beaded necklace. Colour and pattern are important elements of these necklaces because each element represents something about the wearer. Are you ready to make your African inspired necklace?

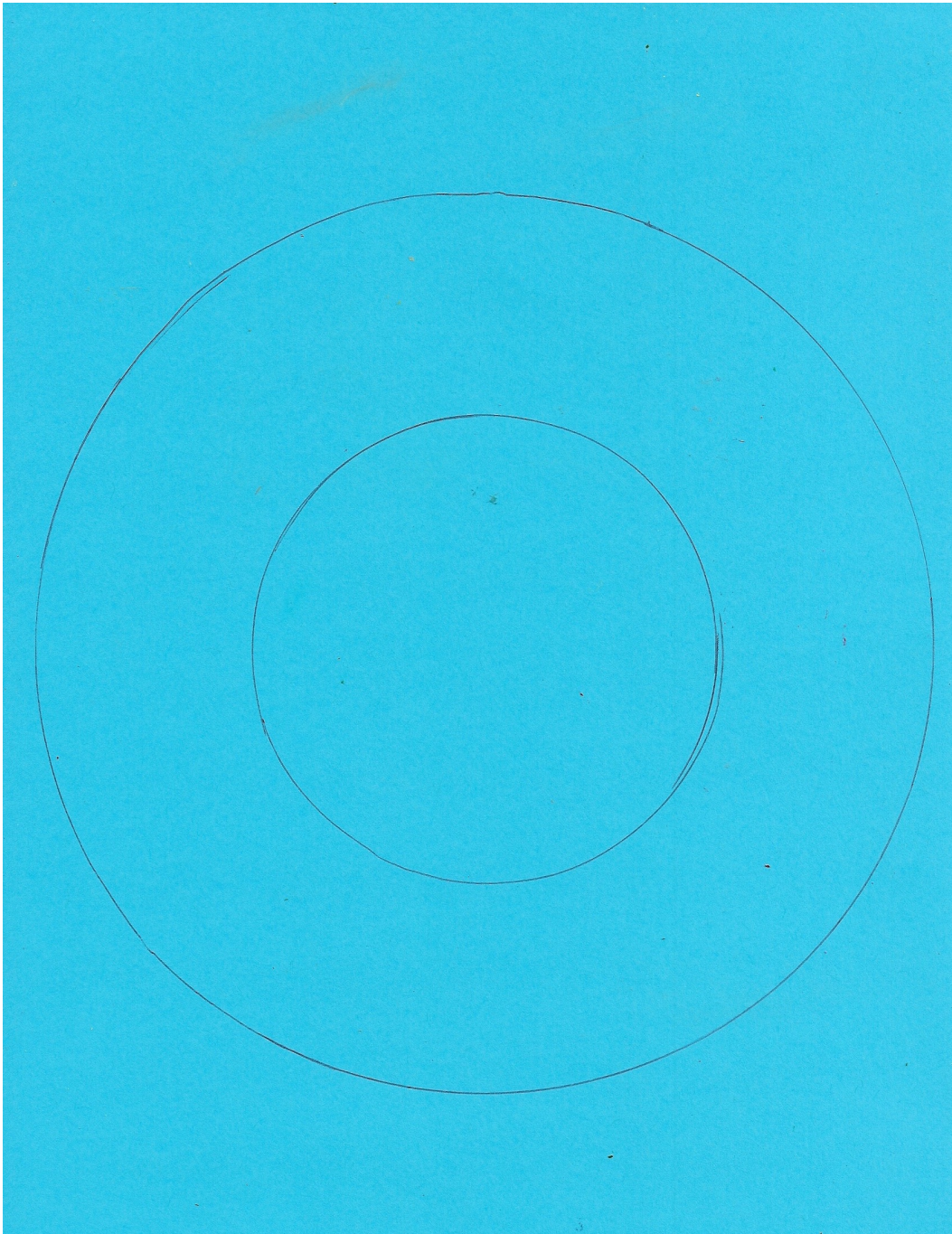


1

DRAW THE CIRCLE

Let's get started! If you're using a paper plate you can skip this step but if you're using cardstock then follow these instructions.

Use your pencil to create a large circle using as much of the paper as possible. Inside that circle add another circle – this circle will be the size of your neck so make sure it's large enough. Tip - use round objects in your house to trace around.



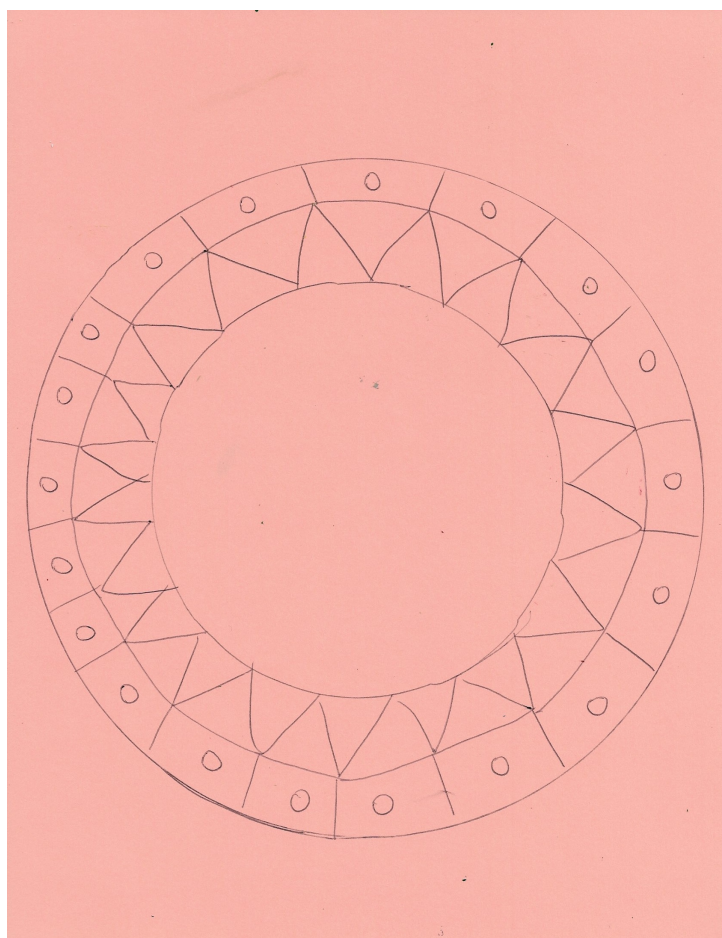
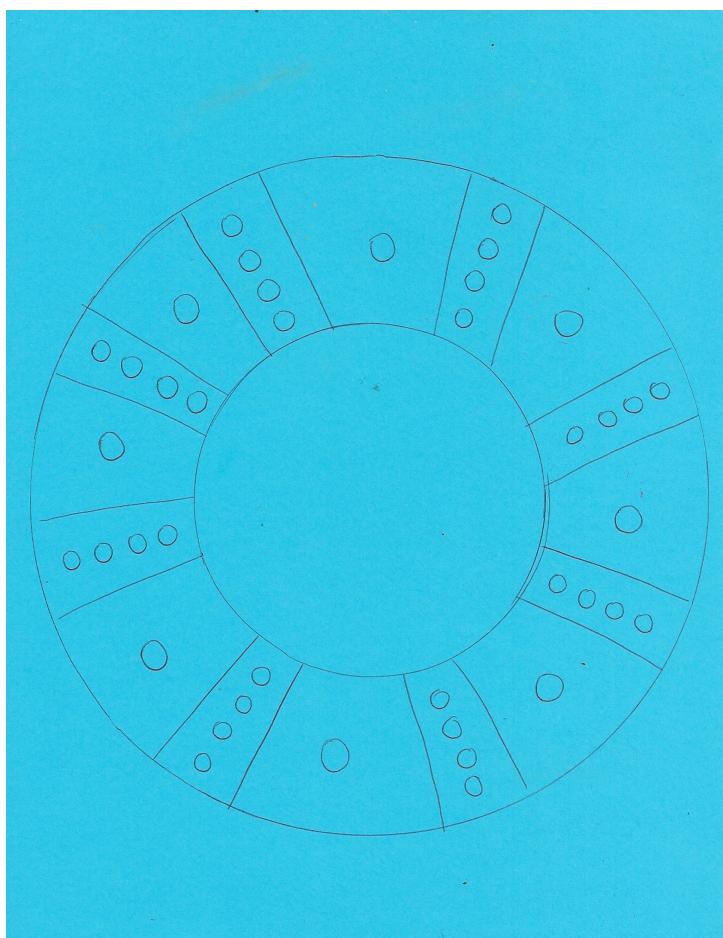
2

CREATE THE DESIGN

Now it's time to add pattern to your necklace. Add simple shapes like circles, triangles and rectangles to create a pattern.

Patterns are repeating shapes and lines; they create symmetry and movement. Take a look at the examples below.

If you're using a paper plate create the pattern around the rim of the plate, but feel free to make the area larger by having pattern inside the rim.

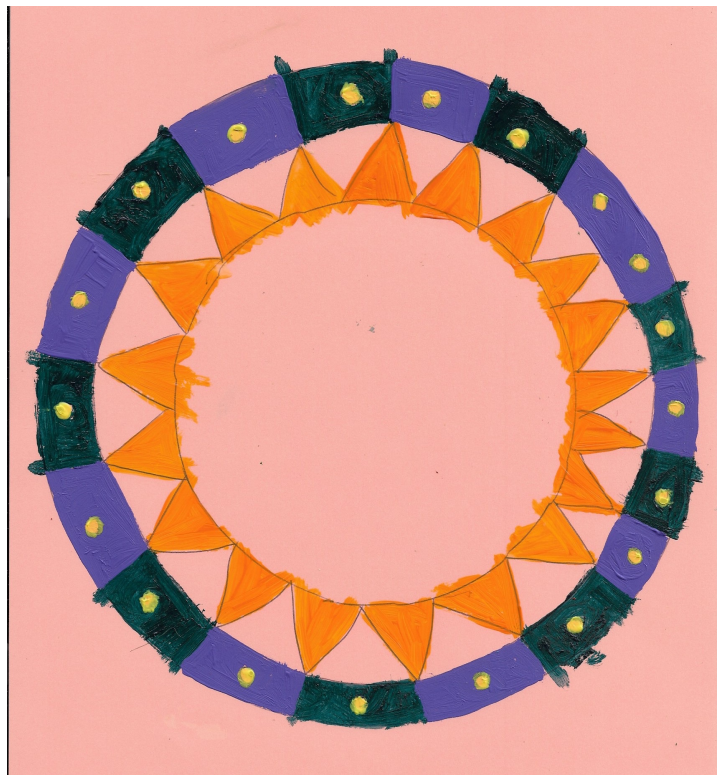
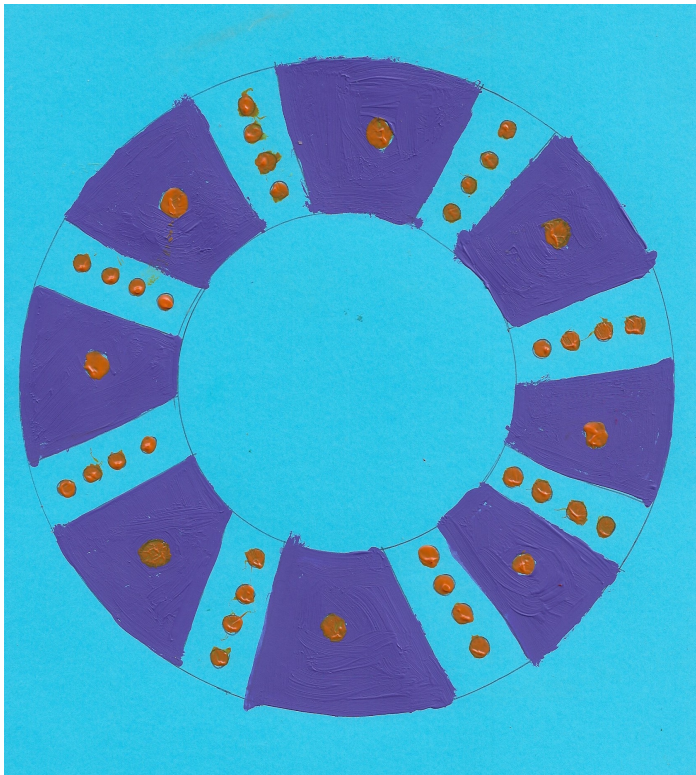


3

ADD COLOUR

Now it's time for the fun part! Let's add colour to your necklace patterns. Colour in the shapes of your pattern using paint or marker. Don't worry if you colour outside the lines, because the necklace will get cut out in the next step. In my examples I used coloured paper so I was able to leave some areas the colour of the paper. Use as much or as little colour as you want!

If you have any beads around the house that you want to add to your necklace go ahead and glue them on.



4

CUT OUT THE NECKLACE

It's the final step! Using scissors cut the outside of the necklace out if you're working with cardstock paper.

Next, for both cardstock paper and the paper plate, cut an opening at least 1 inch wide and then continue to cut the inside of the necklace out. Try the necklace on, and if you need more room you can always cut the inside area larger. Take a look at the finished examples on the next page.

