



# NATIVE AMERICAN

• HERITAGE MONTH •

## Jeffrey Gibson

Jeffrey A. Gibson is a Mississippi Choctaw-Cherokee painter and sculptor. He is known for his works which combine elements of traditional Native American art

with contemporary art references. Jeffrey Gibson has a strong pride in his culture and often incorporates powerful words into his art. Choose a word that means something to YOU and create textile artwork around it inspired by Gibson's beadwork and contemporary street art style.

# 1



### Gather materials:

- Piece of Cardboard (6-8" on either side)
- Pony Beads (different colors)
- Glue
- Yarn
- Scissors

# 2



Choose a word that is powerful and meaningful to you. Try to find a word that is less than 6 letters long if you are using a 6-inch cardboard. Test out to see if your word fits on your cardboard using the pony beads to write it out.

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3



After testing the placement of the letters, begin writing each letter with glue. Then, add the pony beads.

4



Create a pattern around the border by adding rows of pony beads of a certain color. You can add a big section of one color and a smaller section of another color. Colors can be repeated or not. Create a pattern that is interesting to you!

5



Add a row of multicolored beads under the pattern row you created. You can add another pattern under this if you'd like or let this row be the last.

6



Repeat the pattern and multicolored rows from Steps 4-5 on the bottom underneath your word. Leave an inch of space on the bottom to add yarn later.



# 7



Create yarn tassels by wrapping yarn around your hand a few times.

**NOTE:**

If tassels seem too difficult for you, skip to Step 10!

# 8



Lay the bundle of yarn down and tie the top of it with a tiny piece of yarn. Then cut off the bottom loop with scissors.

# 9



Add glue to the bottom space we left open and attach your tassels.



# 10



Cut pieces of yarn and glue them to any open space left on the bottom.

# 11



Finish the piece up by adding beads to the two sides to complete the border. And you're done!