



ALASKA
NATIVE
HERITAGE
CENTER

Cultural and Educational Services

ANHC School Programs

**Extending Your ANHC School Visit
Program 1: Dance and Drumming
(K-12)**



Extending Your ANHC School Visit Program 1: Native Dance and Drumming

Yup'ik Dance Fans for Girls and Boys (Grades K-8)

Background:

In Yup'ik culture both men and women use dance fans, though fan and dance styles differ between genders. Fans can be made of wood, feathers, woven grass, and/or fur. Long pieces of caribou hair, taken from the neck of the caribou, are ideal for women's fans because when the fan moves, the long hairs sway with the motion of the dancer, emphasizing her gracefulness. Women's dance fans are typically made of wood or woven grass and decorated entirely with caribou hair or with three feathers and two sections of smaller whispier feathers or whispy fur. Lower Yukon-style women's fans are made with three feathers from the pintail duck with tufts of down attached to the tips. The fans described in this lesson are meant to be extensions of the dancer's fingers, making the dancer's hands and arms more obvious when dancing. In this activity traditional materials are substituted with items from your classroom or recycling bin. Men's fans are typically made of wood and decorated with up to five sturdy feathers. This design reflects the abrupt and forceful movements used by men during many Yup'ik dances that imitate hunting.

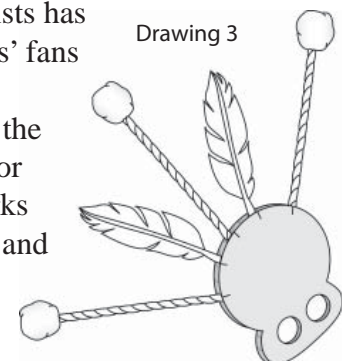
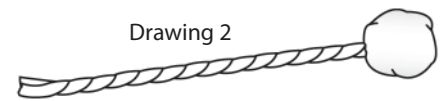
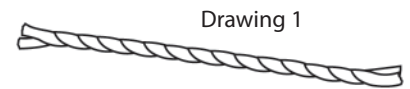
Materials:

- Fan pattern (on the next page)
- Cardboard
- Scissors
- Paint, magic markers, crayons, raffia, yarn and/or construction paper
- Pipe cleaners
- Medium-sized whispy feathers
- Pencils
- Glue

Instructions:

GIRLS' FANS

1. Each student picks out 12 pipe cleaners, 6 cotton balls and 4 feathers.
2. Divide the pipe cleaners into pairs of two. Twist each pair of pipe cleaners together (see Drawing 1) so that you have a total of six pipe cleaner twists.
3. At one end of each twisted pair of pipe cleaners place a drop of glue and attach one of the cotton balls (see Drawing 2). Do this until each of the six pipe cleaner twists has a cotton ball attached to one end. Set these aside and let them dry. Girls' fans should have six pipe cleaner twists.
4. Trace the girls' fan pattern twice onto cardboard. After tracing, cut out the fan shapes, making sure to cut out the holes on the inside of each fan for finger holds. Make small marks on each fan that correspond to the marks on the pattern. Later, these marks are where you will stick the feathers and pipe cleaner twists.
5. Attach a drop or two of glue to the end of each of the feathers. Stick a feather into the corrugated part of the cardboard at the second and fourth marks. After the pipe cleaners and cotton balls are dried, put a small drop of glue on the end of each set. Stick a pipe cleaner twist into the first, third and fifth

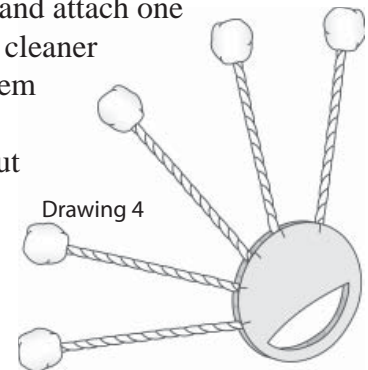
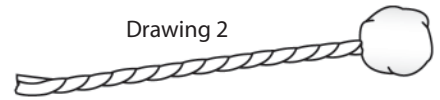
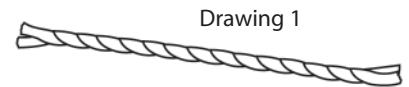


marks of each fan.

6. Decorate the cardboard parts of the fans with magic marker, crayon, construction paper, yarn and/or raffia.

BOYS' FANS

1. Each student picks out 20 pipe cleaners and 10 cotton balls.
2. Divide the pipe cleaners into pairs of two. Twist each pair of pipe cleaners together (see Drawing 1) so that you have a total of ten pipe cleaner twists.
3. At one end of each twisted pair of pipe cleaners place a drop of glue and attach one of the cotton balls (see Drawing 2). Do this until each of the ten pipe cleaner twists has a cotton ball attached to one end. Set these aside and let them dry. Boys' fans should have ten sets of pipe cleaner twists.
4. Trace the boys' fan pattern twice onto cardboard. After tracing, cut out the fan shapes, making sure to cut out the semicircle hole on the inside of each fan for finger holds. Make small marks on each fan that correspond to the marks on the pattern. Later, these marks are where you will stick the pipe cleaner twists. (See Drawing 4)
5. After the pipe cleaners and cotton balls are dried, put a small drop of glue on the end of each set. Stick a pipe cleaner twist into each of the marks on each fan.
6. Decorate the cardboard parts of the fans with magic marker, crayon, construction paper, yarn and/or raffia.



Now that you have fans you are ready to dance. The Anchorage School District has two Yup'ik dance recordings. To obtain these recordings please call the ASD Music Department at 907/753-0350.

ART RESOURCES

Children's Art- Alaska Native

Merrill, Yvonne Y. *Hands on Alaska: Activities for All Ages*. Anchorage, Alaska: K/ITS, 1994.

Moses, Shirley and Krieg, Holly, eds. *Sharing Alaska Native Cultures—A Hands-On Activity Book*. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Museum, 1993.

Haslam, Andrew and Parsons, Alexandra. *Arctic Peoples (Make It Work!)*. London: Two-Can Publishers, 2001

Children's Art- General

Wiseman, Ann Sayre. *Making Things: The Handbook of Creative Discovery*. New York: Little Brown and Company, 1997.

Needham, Bobbe. *Ecology Crafts for Kids: 50 Great Ways to Make Friends With Planet Earth*. Sterling Publications, 1998.



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Yup'ik Dance Fans Patterns

