



**Book Title:** *47,000 Beads*

**Written by:** Koja Adeyoha and Angel Adeyoha

**Illustrated by:** Hollie McGillis

**Age Range:** 6–9

**Grades:** 1st–3rd

### Identities/Lived Experiences/Themes in This Book

- Native American/Indigenous
- General racial/ethnic diversity
- Gender diversity
- Religion/Faith
- Feelings
- Kindness
- Community
- Identity affirmation
- Identity safety

### Literacy Connections

- Realistic fiction
- Personal narrative
- Identify details in the text
- Identify theme or main message
- Character point of view
- Use illustrations/pictures/photos to gain information
- Make predictions
- Make inferences
- Make text connections (to self, text, the world)
- Describe characters/Character development
- Describe major plot events
- Sequence events

Anti-Bias Education	Social-Emotional Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Empathy and Understanding</b></li> <li>• <b>Healthy Complex Identities</b></li> <li>• <b>Respect Across Differences</b></li> <li>• Notice, Name, and Reject Bias</li> <li>• Responsiveness and Action</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Self-Awareness</b></li> <li>• <b>Self-Management</b></li> <li>• <b>Social Awareness</b></li> <li>• <b>Relationship Skills</b></li> <li>• Responsible Decision-Making</li> </ul>

**Background Information for Adults**

Powwows are important Native American celebrations of community and culture, featuring Native drums where everyone comes together to dance, and many wear full regalia.

The jingle dress is a traditional outfit that originated with the Ojibwe and is worn by Native women of many different tribes. It is a garment that has many small, silver, cone-shaped bells that make a jingling sound as they move. It is worn during the ceremony portion of a pow wow and as part of a healing dance performance. Usually, someone in a jingle dress is dancing for someone else who cannot dance for themselves.

Regalia for men during pow wows typically consists of a form of headgear, such as a war bonnet, porcupine head roach, headdress, ribbon, or band, and a bustle of feathers that are tied to their lower backs. They may wear deerskin leggings or dance bare-legged and may carry objects such as feathered fans, hoops wrapped in fur, or staffs. Moccasins are usually worn by both male and female dancers and may have special beads or feathers attached. There is a **Glossary** of Indigenous terms in the back of the book that may be helpful.

**Two Spirit** is an umbrella term used across tribes to describe Native/Indigenous people who have both masculine and feminine characteristics within them. It acknowledges the continuum of gender identity and expression. They may or may not identify as LGBTQ+. Individual tribal languages have their own terms, and many include multiple pronouns beyond the Western binary of male or female. For more information about gender roles and expectations, and how to navigate conversations with children, see the **Gender Diversity Primer**.

**Reflection Questions for Adults Reading This Book to Children**

1. What cultural traditions and celebrations are important to you? How do they make up important parts of your identity?
2. What stereotypes or negative messages did you receive from home, school, society, and/or media about Native Americans or pow wows? How does this book offer a different perspective?
3. What might you need to consider before having conversations about gender with the children in your life?

**Book Summary to Read to Children Before Reading the Book**

*Do you like to dance? In this story, Peyton loves to dance, especially at pow wows. Lately, her Aunt Eyota has noticed that she's been dancing less and less. When Peyton shares that she just can't be comfortable wearing a dress anymore, Aunt Eyota asks some friends for help to get Peyton what she needs.*

**Discussion Questions**

(essential questions in **bold**)

1. Describe Peyton's relationship with her Aunt Eyota. Do you have someone in your life who is special to you, like Aunt Eyota is to Peyton?
2. **How do I and other members of the community help Eyota meet Peyton's needs as a two-spirit dancer?**
  - a. When was a time when people in your life came together to help you?
  - b. When was a time when you supported someone else?
3. What does Peyton choose for her giveaway at the pow wow?
  - a. What would you choose to give away that is "something you value that you give first"?
4. **What is important/significant about Peyton's new regalia? How does it support her as a two-spirit person?**
5. **How do you think Peyton feels after performing in her new regalia at the pow wow?**

**Journal Prompts and Extension Activities**

1. **Write or Draw:** What important cultural traditions does your family celebrate and take part in? How do these traditions help you to feel connected with others? Which ones do you most look forward to?
2. **Design an Outfit:** How do you express your identity through your clothing? Design an outfit that is a visual representation of your personality. In what ways does your outfit conform to traditional gender roles or forms of expression? In what ways does it not?



3. **Activity:** Show children videos of jingle dancers and pow wows. Websites such as <https://powwow-power.com> provide videos from authentic sources and give children a chance to see ceremonial dances from many different Native cultures. Have children compare and contrast the different forms of regalia that are worn, and take some time to read more about pow wow history and etiquette.



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