



# The People of Cascadia Activity Kits

## Cedar Bark Weaving

This activity introduces students to the amazing properties of the inner bark of the Western Redcedar tree which was used for objects throughout the daily life of the People of Cascadia, from containers, clothing and mats to rope and line used in hunting and fishing.

Each student will make a bracelet (or arm band) from prepared cedar bark, using a 'diagonal plaiting technique', a form of braiding. After completing the bracelet they can further decorate it with an ornamental button and fringed fiber in natural or various colors.



Several stages of cedar bark processing: from the rough inner and outer bark (center and below); bundles of cured thick inner bark (upper); and strips of cedar bark processed and ready to use to make cedar bark bracelets (lower).

Cedar bark is processed from long strips removed from Western Red Cedar tree. The rough outer bark is removed, saving the long fibered inner bark. Strong and pliable it is easy to work when moistened. The cedar bark provided in these kits are ethically harvested from downed cedar trees, never from standing trees, then properly cured and prepared for use.

Diagonal plaiting is a technique used to weave many objects such as mats, burden straps, headbands, canoe sails, and baskets. Though these bracelets only use 3 strands the same technique can be used for many more as shown here (right).

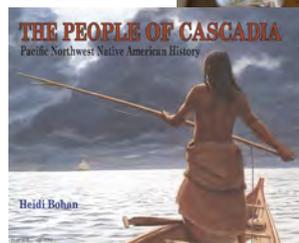


This activity is designed for elementary school students, but can be ordered for middle school to adult programs (which need longer strips) and is suitable for ages 7 and up, though the younger ones will need more guidance. The activity generally takes about 30-45 minutes to complete.



Each Kit includes:  
Cedar bark strips and supplies for 25 students  
Activity instruction sheets  
Coloring activity sheets  
Props: Sample of Inner/outer bark, Sample of layers of inner bark; Sample of a completed bracelet, Plaiting model to show technique.

**Price:**  
Activit Kit: \$95  
with Book: \$115  
Additional students \$2/each  
Replenishment supplies \$70 (Max 2 per kit/ per year)  
Class set of 25 books: \$500  
Research set of 6 books: \$135



**To Order: [hbohan@peoplepc.com](mailto:hbohan@peoplepc.com); [www.peopleofcascadia.com](http://www.peopleofcascadia.com); 425-549-0093**