Make a Tipi

Introduction: The Shoshone tribe used the tipi as a home that could be moved from place to place. Construct your own tipi or village to show how the Shoshone people lived.

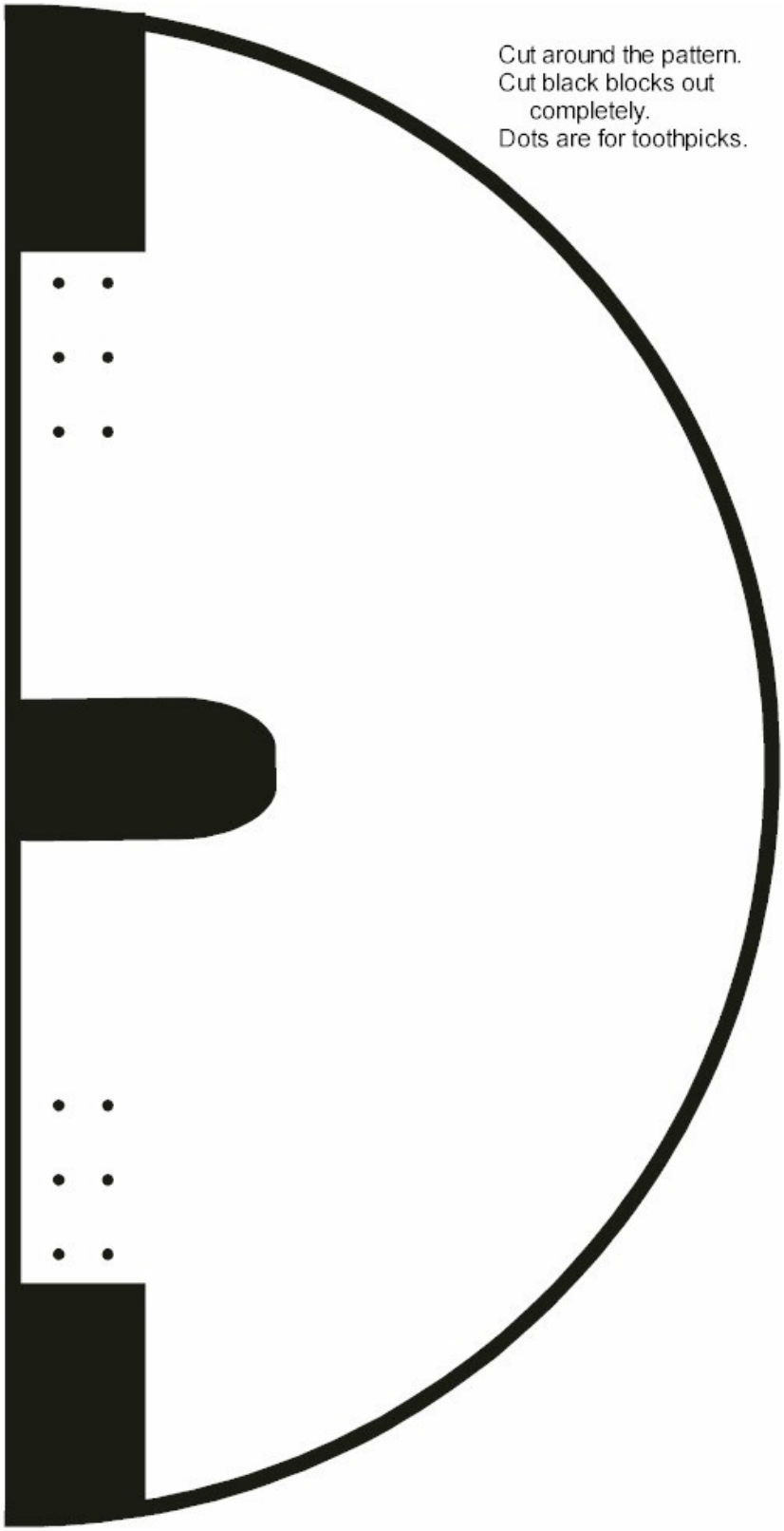
Materials needed:

- 8 x 10 brown paper bag or butcher paper
- 4-6 small tree limbs, sticks, or popsicle or sucker sticks (hint: round sticks work best.) Sticks need to be 5-6 inches long.
- 6-inch long string, yarn, or brown twine
- Scissors
- Crayons, markers, or paint
- Tape or glue
- Toothpicks
- Pan of water
- 2-3-inch high box, and 12 x 12 perimeter (or desired size for village)

Directions:

1. Trace the tipi pattern on the brown paper bag and cut it out. Solid black blocks will be cut out completely as you cut around the tipi pattern.
2. Place sticks on an angle so that they lay against each other and stand up. Tie your piece of string around the top of the sticks.
3. Draw or paint designs on the paper bag. Wet the paper in a pan of water and crinkle it into a ball (make sure it is not too saturated). After you are done, open the paper bag up.
4. Take the wet paper bag wet lay it over the poles so it will mold to the desired tipi shape.
5. Above the door take the toothpicks and push them through the dots to hold the tipi together.

You may place dirt, rocks, moss or ground cover in the bottom of the box. You are now ready to create your Indian village with your tipi, fire pits, people, animals or any other objects you want to place in your village.


Cut around the pattern.
Cut black blocks out completely.
Dots are for toothpicks.