

## Balboa Park Journey's End Field Study Closing Activity/ Ceremony

This comes right back to our idea of these things we value, the skills, etc. that help us along the way. Students will be making paper beads, but before rolling them, they will write on the paper a value or strength they think will help students who will be new to middle school.

<https://modpodgerocksblog.com/paper-beads/>

### Materials:

Slips of paper as directed in the tutorial (one color for each student if possible, number of strips is the number enrolled for next years 7th grade + 2 more)

Modge Podge

Cocktail straws

Pencils

String

1. Gather students to circle.
2. "There is a saying that you can never step in the same river twice. Next year there will be a Room 7 community, but it won't be exactly this community. As the 6th Level students join Room 7 next year, they will start their own adolescent journey. What values and strengths will help them on this journey? I want you to think of one word, it could be a value, a virtue, a strength, something real and tangible, that would be helpful to the 6th Level students as they start their journey."
3. Explain the bead making process. Before rolling their beads, they will write the helpful word they are thinking of. They are going to make enough beads for one for each 6th level student (plus a couple of extra.
4. Once these are dry (probably the last day of school, but it might be after school gets out) we/ I will make them into bracelets.
5. Break for students to complete the activity (30 minutes?)
6. Return to circle, lighting the candle, and chiming the vibra-tone to signify the official beginning of the end.
7. Have each student go around and share what their word is and why. (Create a master list so I can remember when I give them to the 6th level students next year.)
8. Reflect on how tomorrow is graduation, which is the "highly official" end of our time together. It will be formal and it's almost as much for

families as it is for the students, but at this moment I want to share my personal feelings, express my gratitude, cry a lot, etc. This is my acknowledgment of the class.

9. If students want to share acknowledgements as well, they can, but it really isn't a requirement.
10. Put out candle, chime vibratone, dismiss, cry