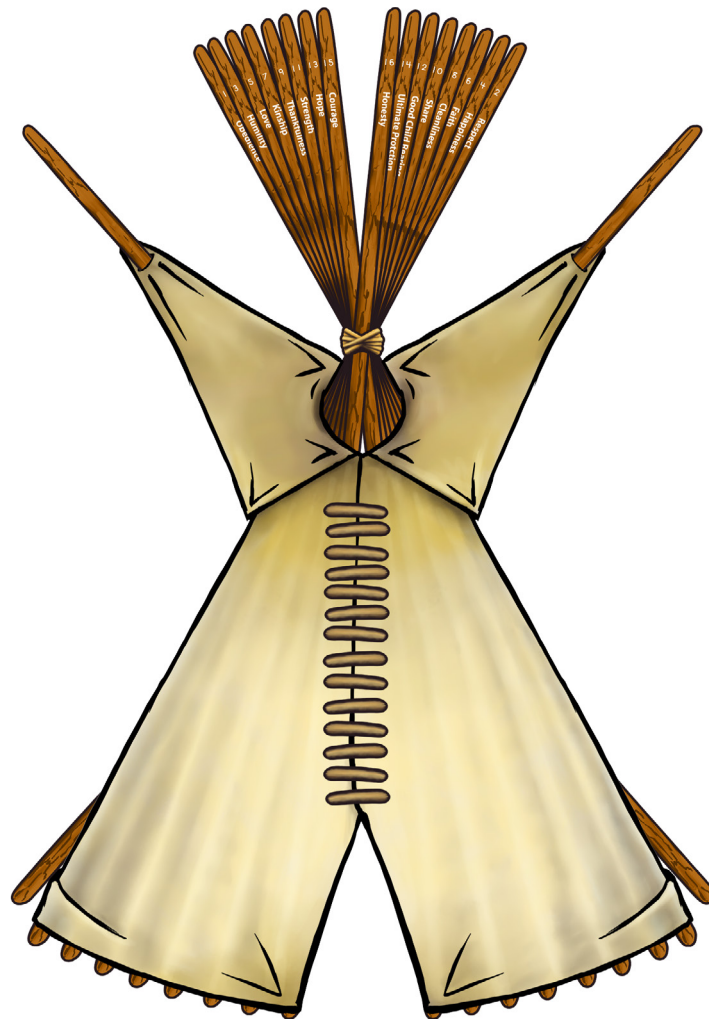


# Tipi Teachings



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Written by Sandra Samatte

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# TIPI TEACHINGS INSTRUCTIONS

## A tipi is made up of:

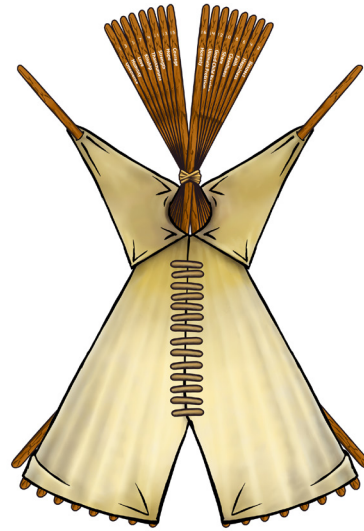
**15 Poles**

**2 Control Flap Poles**

**1 Canvas**

**1 Rope**

**14 Pegs**



The Tipi served as a home for the Anishnabie people but it was much more than just a home. Every part of a tipi was important and each had a teaching or meaning. The traditional teachings of each piece may vary from group to group but not its importance. By living in a tipi everyday, a person could not help but see the teachings surrounding them come to life.

The intent of this bulletin board set is to focus on the teaching of the poles and the canvas that surrounds them. The tipi is seen as the spirit and body of a woman who is the foundation of family and community.

*You must always begin with 3 poles as they fortify the structure of the tipi:*

***Obedience***

***Respect***

***Humility***

The tipi teachings are a great guiding tool for our journey through life. It is our goal that each and every child be taught about the tipi teachings.

When putting together your tipi you may take more time with one teaching than another, depending on your classroom dynamic.

# OBEDIENCE

## Pole 1

Our family is the first to teach us about obedience. We learn by listening to our family members. Parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins are a child's first and most important teachers. They model for us what obedience looks like, feels like and sounds like. We put obedience first, as the next two teachings can only come if you are obedient and ready to accept the teaching.



# RESPECT

## Pole 2

Respect is a code of conduct that we must use in life in order to honor the rights of others and the land. Part of that code of conduct is attitude which must be taken seriously as it shows honor to our land, Elders and community.



# HUMILITY

## Pole 3

We are all equal in the circle of life. When you humble yourself you open doors to see things you might have overlooked. Humility lets you live your life free of arrogance. There is no room for arrogance inside the tipi. To not be boastful, frees your mind to see beauty in all that is around you.



# HAPPINESS

## Pole 4

Happiness flows through our being as we have already become obedient, respectful and humble. We will see happiness in others and all that we do. We have to be able to create happiness when there is none for others. We will smile and greet each other every day.



# LOVE

## Pole 5

Love means to be caring, kind and good to all that is around us. When we have love, we have acceptance. The world in which we live in is peaceful and happy. With love all things upon Mother Earth thrive and grow.





# FAITH

## Pole 6

Faith shows us that the Creator will walk with us in this time and in the spirit world. We are not one but a whole. Together we make up the human race. We must learn to believe and trust in each other and a power greater than ourselves.



# KINSHIP

## Pole 7

Family is the beginning of each of us. Our parents, brothers and sisters are our roots. We must keep our families connected. This will then keep the extended family; grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and in-laws strong. We will always be taken care of if we keep our family loop strong.



# CLEANLINESS

## Pole 8

Cleanliness can be taught in a couple of ways. We need to teach our young about spiritual cleanliness and personal cleanliness.

A clean mind free of unwanted and unhealthy thoughts, will only wish for happiness and prosperity onto others. We must also keep our body clean, free from drugs and alcohol. We need to put healthy things into our body to keep our mind clean. When we have clean thoughts we have peace which in turn brings peace to others.

You must keep your body clean by bathing, washing your hair, brushing your teeth and wearing clean clothes. Being clean leads to healthy thoughts and a healthy attitude.



# THANKFULNESS

## Pole 9

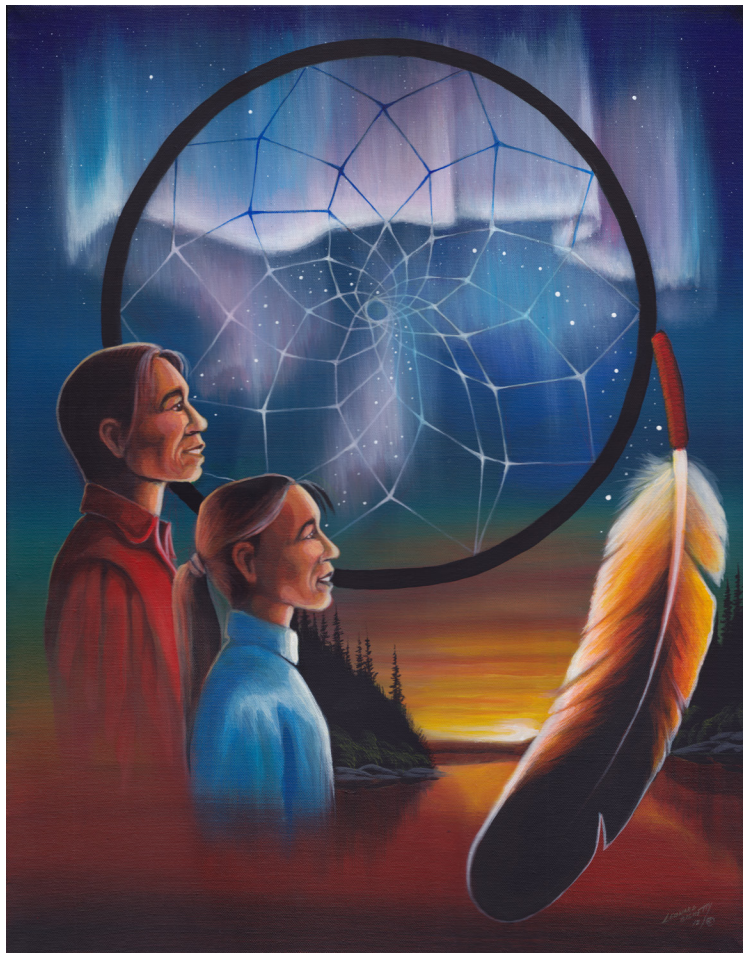
There are so many things that one can be thankful for in life and many things we forget to take time to give thanks for. Try to give thanks to someone or something of the Creator's beauty at least once a day. Be thankful that we are given the tipi teachings as a guiding tool for our journey through life.



# SHARING

## Pole 10

Sharing brings family and community members together. Through sharing we show our thankfulness to one another. We see the value of how working together and sharing duties and responsibilities can bring harmony to our lives.



# STRENGTH

## Pole 11

We are all given spiritual strength to help us to be patient in times of trouble. We must not complain, but use our inner strength to show understanding of the difficulties and tragedies that can happen to us. Only then will we be able to give others strength when they encounter hardships.



# GOOD CHILD REARING

## Pole 12

When a child is born we must nurture that child.

<i><b>Spiritually</b></i>	<i><b>Emotionally</b></i>
<i><b>Physically</b></i>	<i><b>Intellectually</b></i>

If one chooses to have a child, one must always remember that children are a gift from the Creator. Good child rearing will help to make healthy, happy and successful children.



# HOPE

## Pole 13

If we have hope we are always moving forward toward good things and happiness. Hope keeps children, families and communities strong.





# ULTIMATE PROTECTION

## Pole 14

Ultimate protection comes with the responsibilities of balancing your body, mind, emotion and spirit for yourself, families, community and nature.



# COURAGE

## Pole 15

Courage is being brave in the face of life's problems. Daily challenges take courage to overcome.



# CONTROL FLAPS

## Control Flap Pole 1 and 2

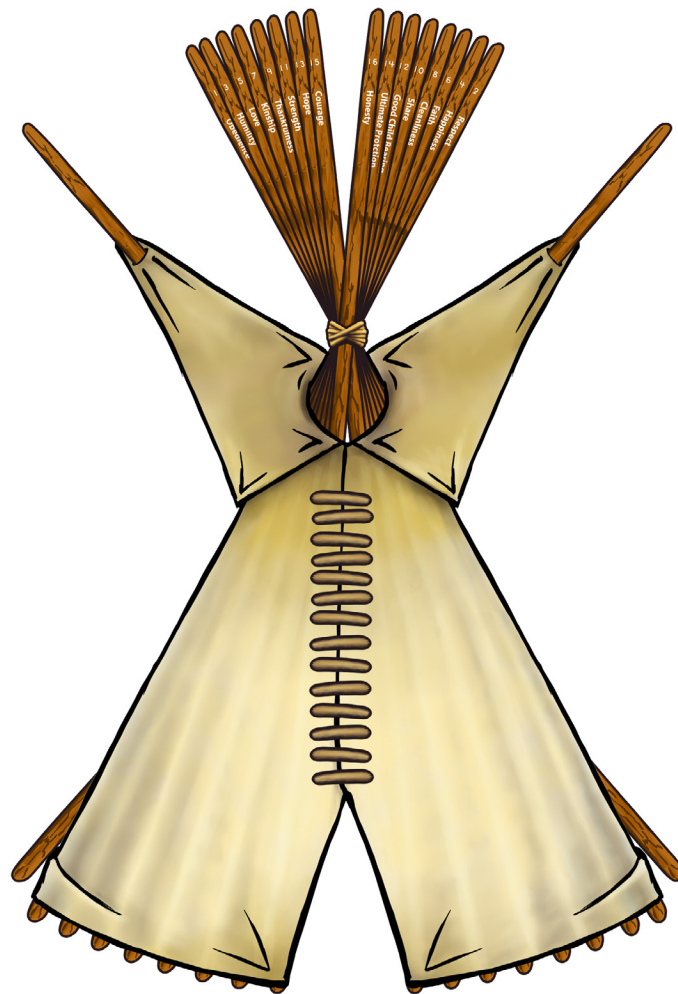
The control flaps teach us that we are all connected and that we must work together to create peace, harmony and balance within the circle of life. When the control flaps are used correctly it will never be smokey inside the tipi, and you will always see clearly.



# BINDING

## Rope

Each time a pole is added, rope is used to bind that pole into place. This is a sacred bond, binding all the pole teachings together to show they are all connected.



# BUILDING THE TIPI Step 1

- 15  Courage
- 14  Ultimate Protection
- 13  Hope
- 12  Good Child Rearing
- 11  Strength
- 10  Sharing
- 9  Thankfulness
- 8  Cleanliness
- 7  Kinship
- 6  Faith
- 5  Love
- 4  Happiness
- 3  Humility
- 2  Respect
- 1  Obedience



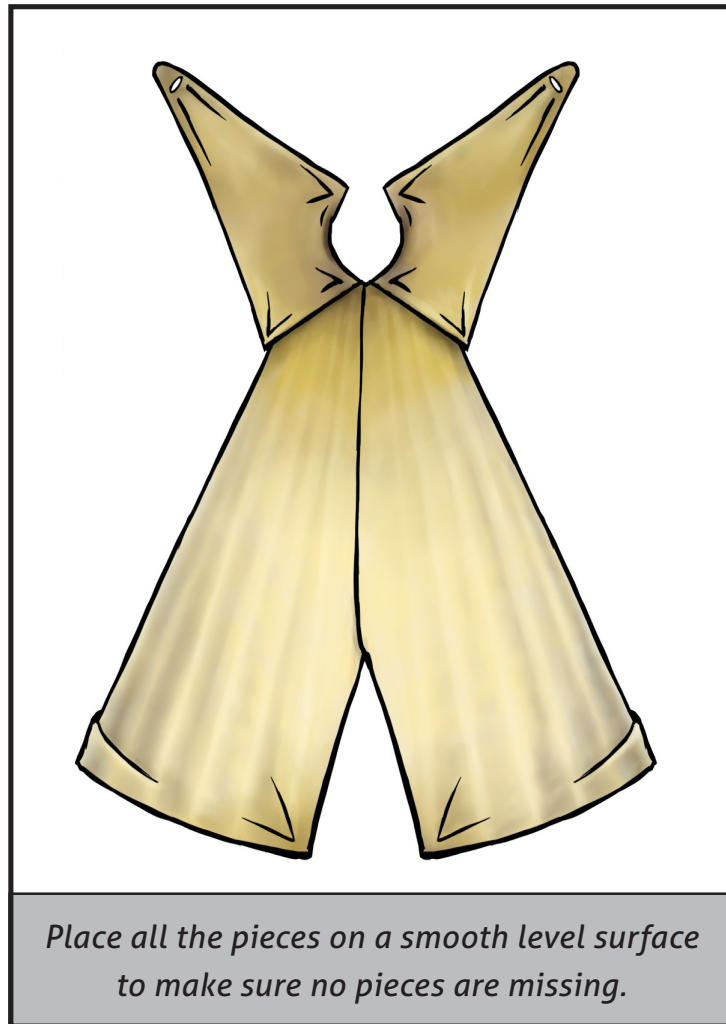
2 Control Flap Poles



14 Pegs

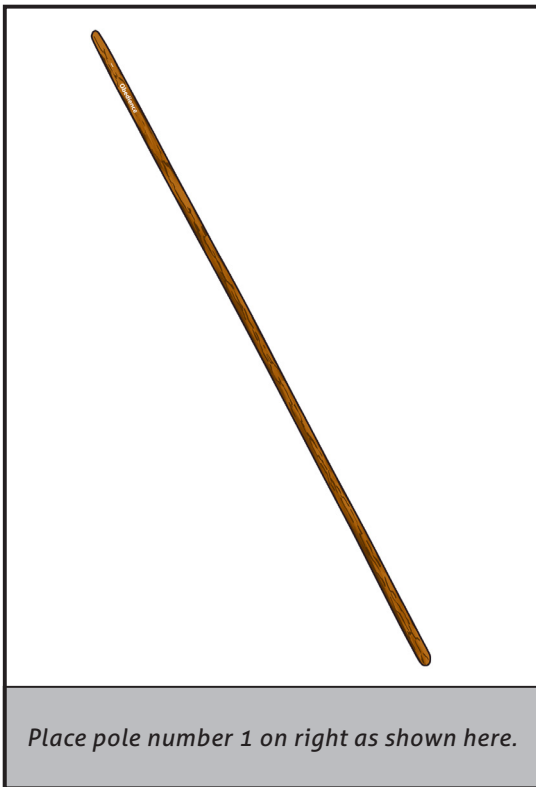


Rope

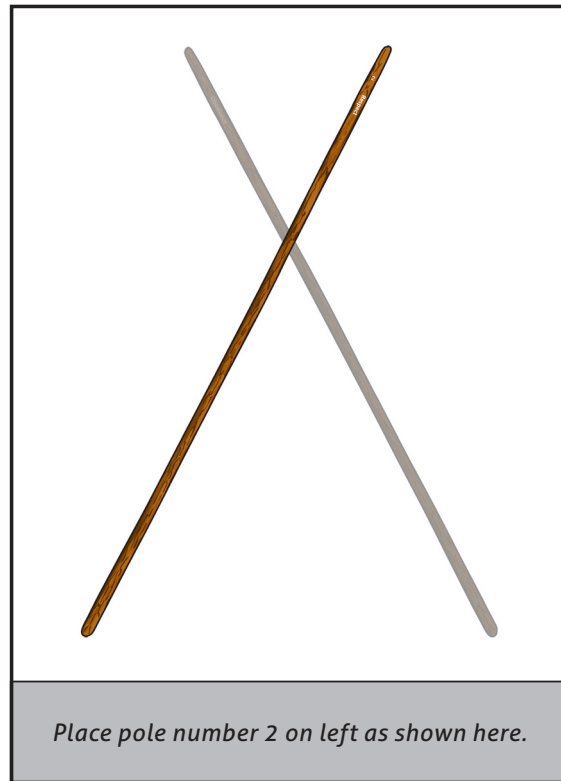


# BUILDING THE TIPI

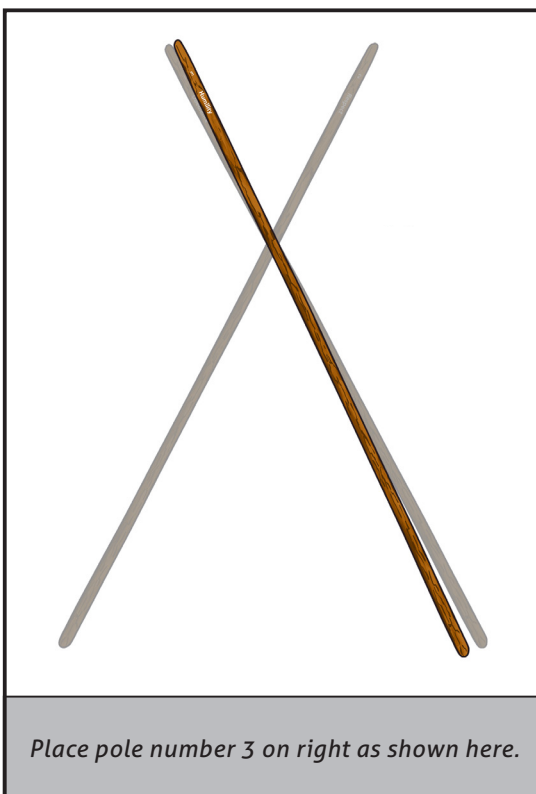
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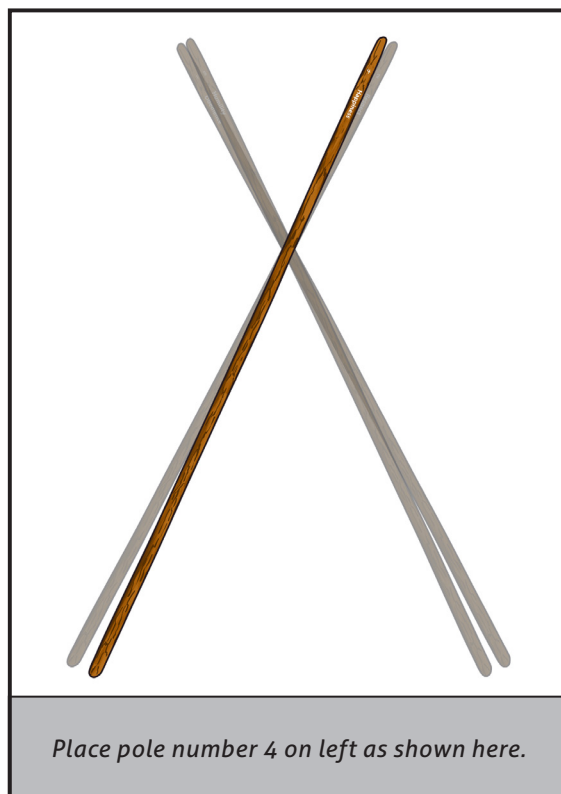
## Step 3



## Step 4

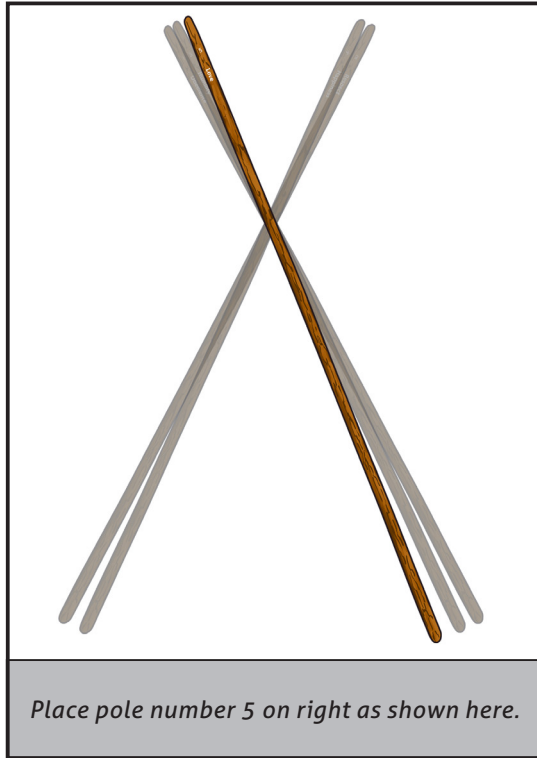


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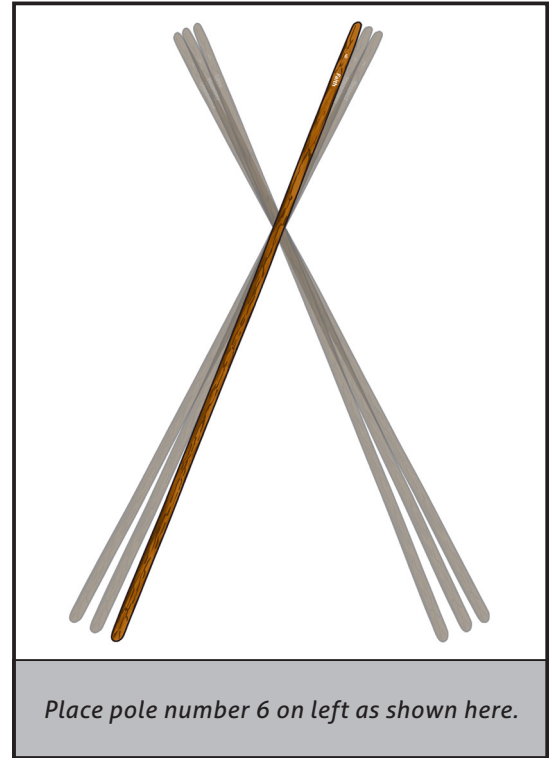


# BUILDING THE TIPI

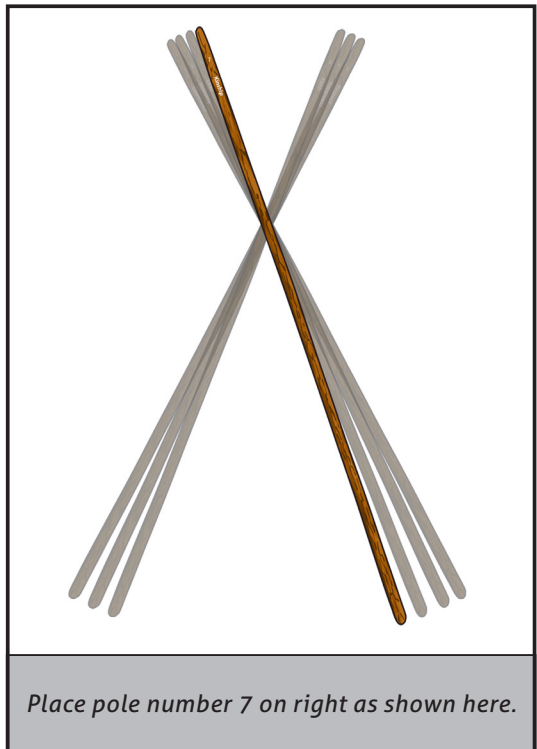
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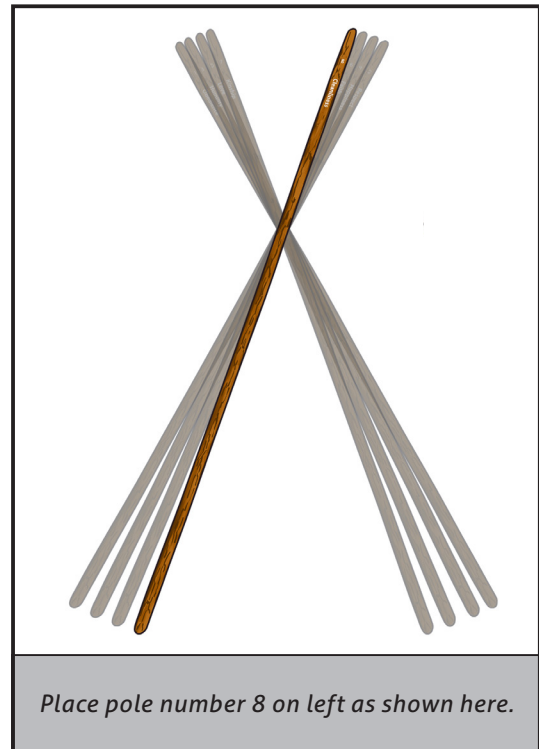
## Step 7



## Step 8

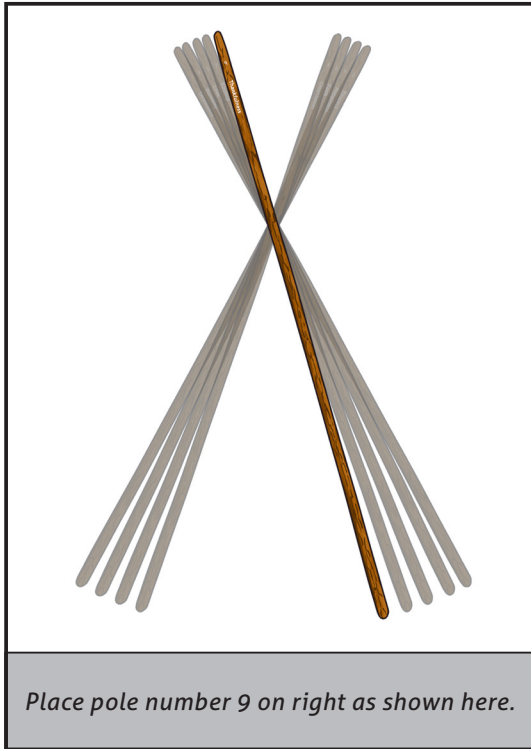


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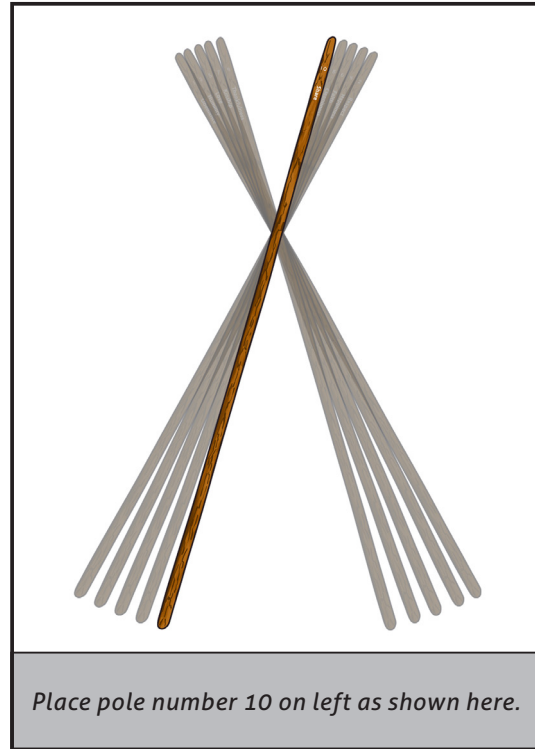


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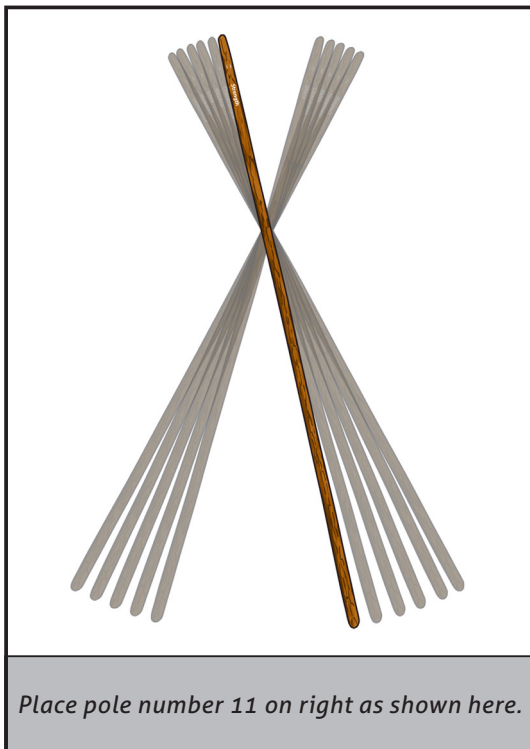
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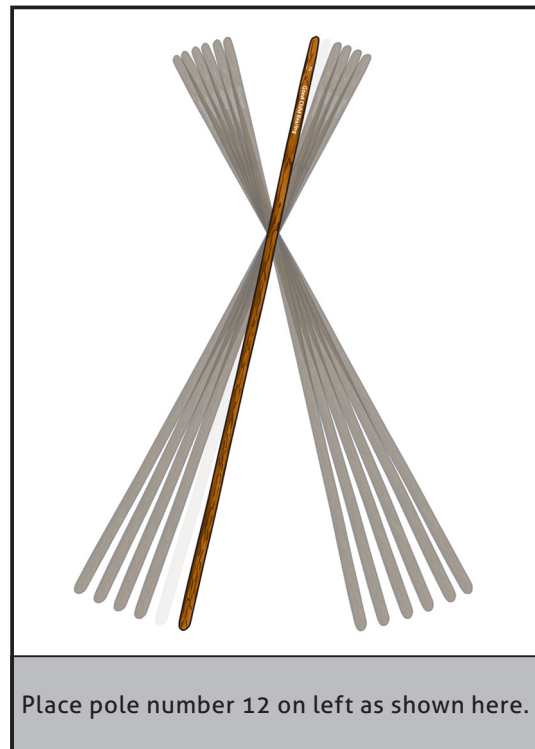
## Step 11



## Step 12



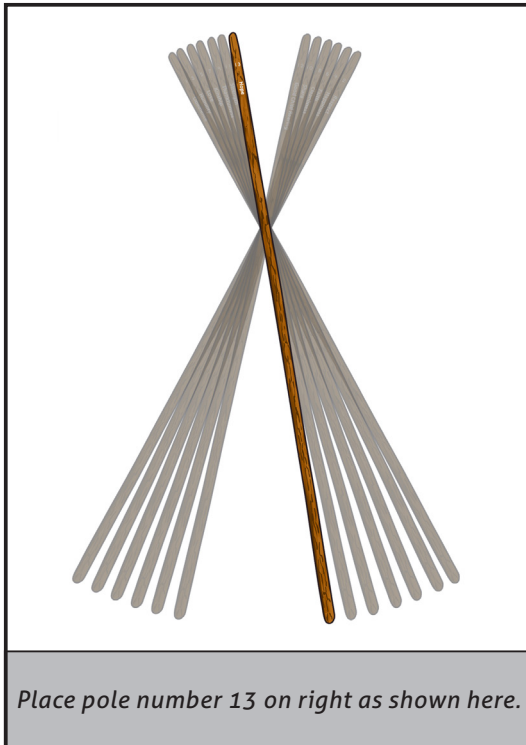
## Step 13



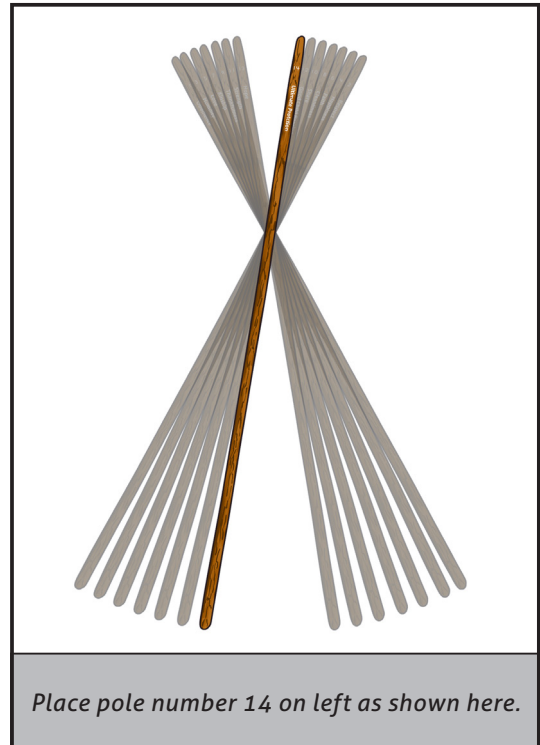


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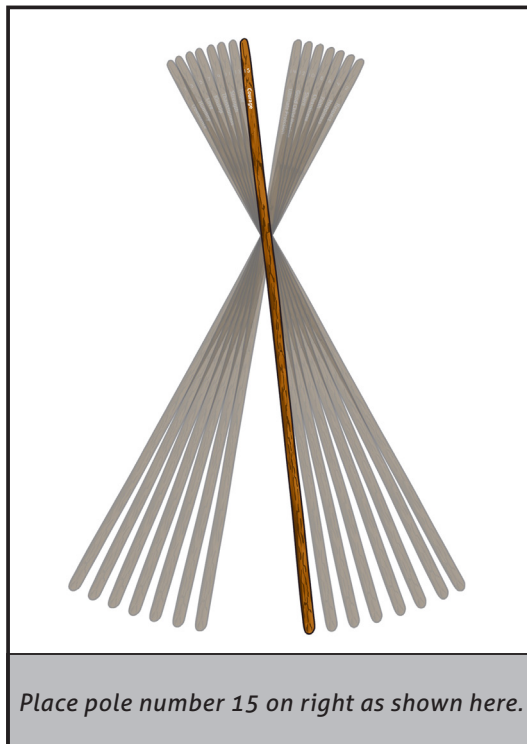
## Step 14



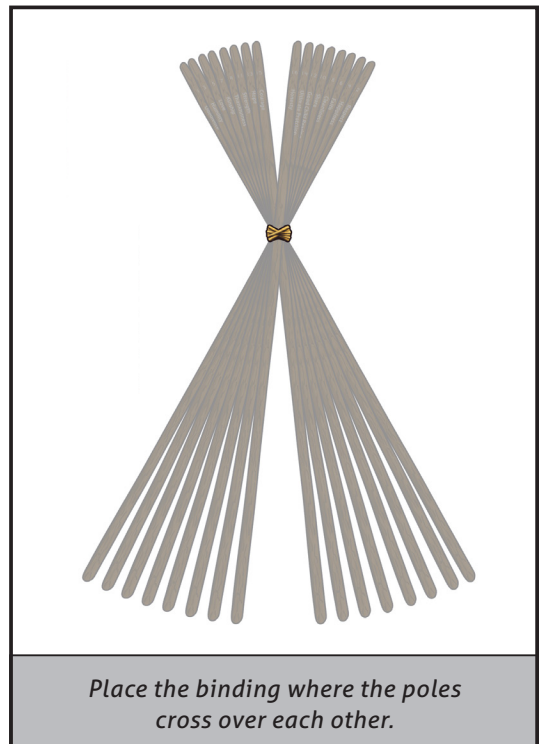
## Step 15



## Step 16

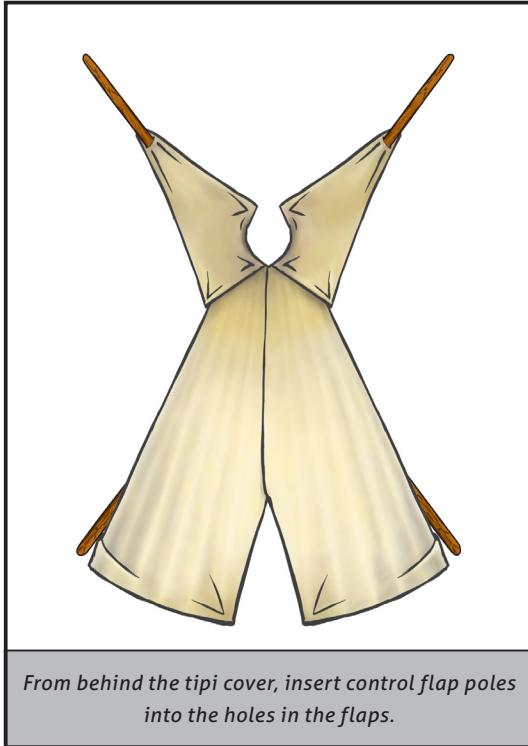


## Step 17

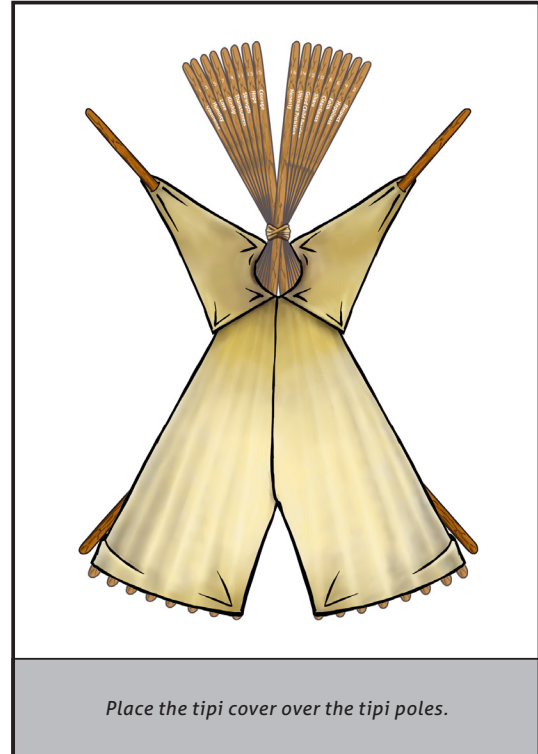


# BUILDING THE TIPI

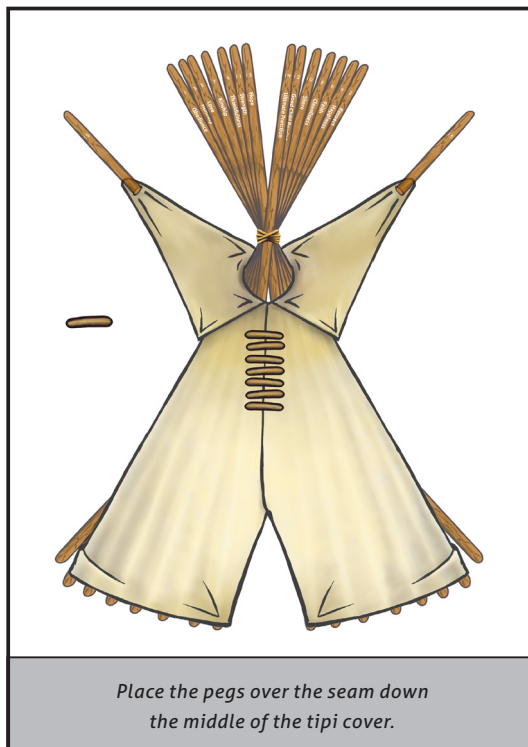
## Step 18



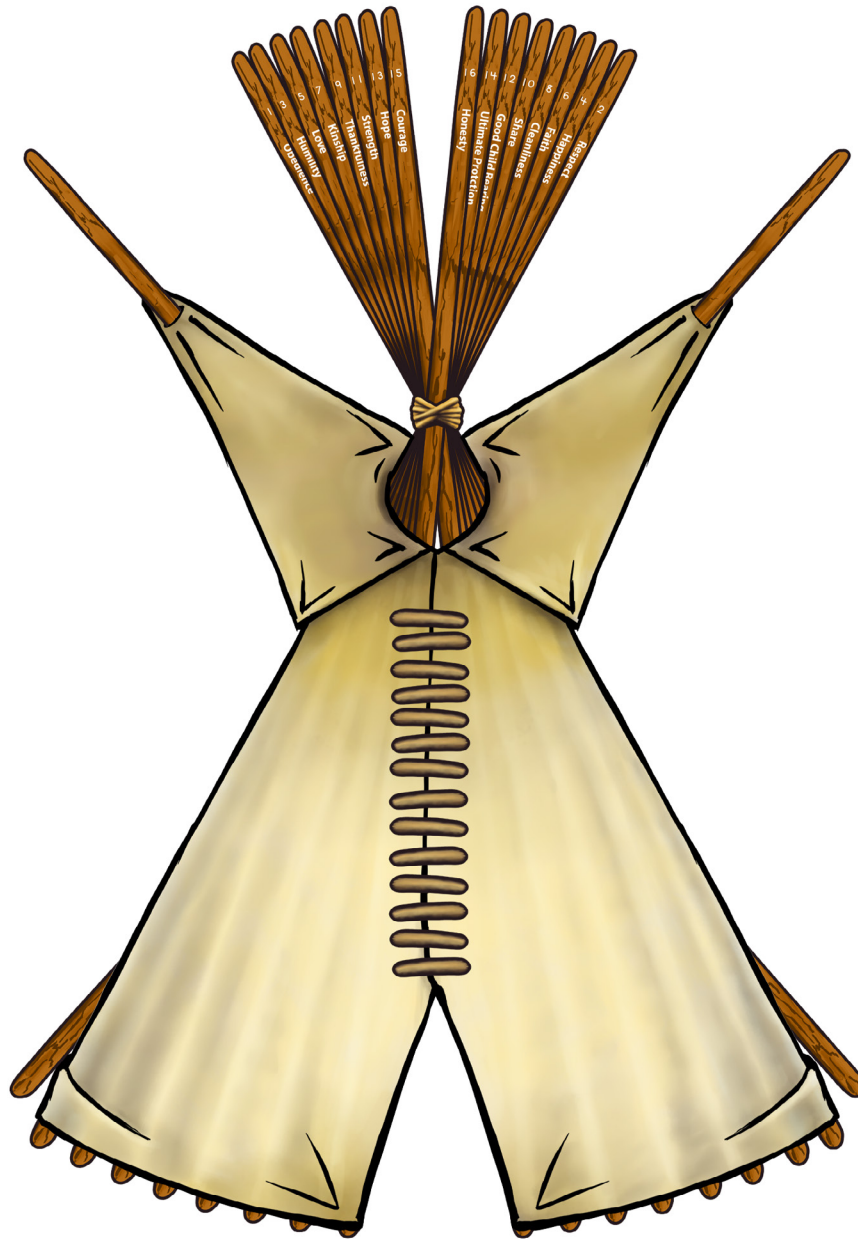
## Step 19



## Step 20



# COMPLETED TIPI TEACHINGS



*This is what the completed tipi should look like.*

# TIPI TEACHINGS

## Poles Represent

1. Obedience
  2. Respect
  3. Humility
  4. Happiness
  5. Love
  6. Faith
  7. Kinship
  8. Cleanliness
  9. Thankfulness
  10. Sharing
  11. Strength
  12. Good child rearing
  13. Hope
  14. Ultimate Protection
  15. Courage
- 16/17. Control flaps from the wind.

