

Paracas and Nazca Culture

Category	Yarn
Time to allocate (mins)	5
	<p>I wanted to tell you a little bit about the Nazca and Paracas people from a long, long time ago in Peru! Imagine a desert, hotter than a pizza oven, where the sun beat down all day. Now, these Nazca people were super clever. We already know they made the Nazca lines which are only truly visible from high up. However, they were also amazing artists, especially with cloth! They could weave the most incredible tapestries with bright colours that they dyed. They use llama wool and other natural materials to make their yarn. Some were pictures of hummingbirds bigger than a person, others of fierce jaguars, all told in yarn! It took teamwork, lots of planning, and sharing ideas to make these giant pictures. They used natural things like cotton and dyes made from plants to create their beautiful textiles and they shared these skills from generation to generation.</p>
Story	<p>The Nazca people (along with many others) thought that having a longer heads was a sign of beauty and strength. So, when they were babies, they'd carefully wrap their heads with cloth, like a super comfy bandage. It didn't hurt, it just gently shaped their heads as they grew! This shows how important traditions are in every culture. This wasn't unique to them - we have many examples of shaped skulls from different cultures - flat, bulging or conical. These traditions may seem unusual to us but I think they would find our Cub Scout traditions very weird.</p> <p>They were brave to live in such a hot place, clever to make beautiful things, and worked together as a community. Remember, Cubs, whether you're weaving a story, tying a knot, or shaping your future, teamwork, courage, and respect for different cultures are the best threads to weave with!</p>

Entry written by Sharon Venn of 1st Randburg