Southeastern Indian Gorgets

Indians decorated their bodies with gorgets. A gorget is a relatively large flat or gently curving object of polished stone, shell, or metal which can be worn as a neck ornament. Indians carved a design in the stone or shell gorgets. Many of the designs were symbols of the sun, animals, or held religious meaning.

Look at the examples below and design your own gorget.

Southeastern Indians! Activity Sheets
Go to archives.alabama.gov for more information about Alabama!
Southeastern Indian Gorgets

You can make your own gorget out of clay!

Make a Gorget

1. Roll a lump of clay into a ball in the palm of your hand, press to flatten into a pancake shape.
2. Use a pencil of sharp stick to draw or carve a design in the clay.
3. Let clay air dry, bake, or have fired depending on type of clay used.
4. Run an 18" length of cord through the hole in the gorget; knot the ends together and wear.

Color the picture below. How many gorgets can you find?

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