Title: Talking Stick: Day One  
Recommended for: 3-5 Year Olds

Objectives:

**Children**
- Fine motor
- Follows direction
- Cooperation
- Attention to detail
- Turn taking

**Adults**
- Fine motor
- Teamwork
- Positive mood
- Recognition

Materials Needed:

- Feathers
- Scraps of fabric
- Paint
- Paintbrush
- Large, firm sticks
- Glue

Methods:

**Facilitator Preparation**
1. Purchase or collect all ingredients.
2. Obtain large, firm sticks about ½ – 1” in diameter and 8-20” in length.
   a. Option: have adults and children go outside and pick out a stick together.
3. Set up stations: place stick next to the child, place the glue next to the adult, and all supplies should be located in the middle of the table.

**Intergenerational Participants**
1. Introduction-pair each adult with a child and sing the hello song. Explain the tradition of talking sticks (visit website below for further information).
2. Take the IG pairs outside and have them select their stick or provide them with a selection to choose from.
3. Let the IG pairs create a decorative, talking stick.
4. Have the IG pairs decide what stories they would like to share with the group, in part 2 of the activity, using their talking stick.
5. Clean up and sing the goodbye song.

Helpful Websites

- [http://www.firemtn.org/history/talkstick.php](http://www.firemtn.org/history/talkstick.php)

Special Considerations

- If you are taking the IG pairs outside, be sure to have proper transportation, including: wheelchairs, nurses, and facilitating staff.

Getting To Know You

- Ask IG pairs to discuss other things they have created with nature.
- Ask IG pairs to discuss what they think a talking stick is used for.
• Ask IG pairs how they show respect for others’ ideas and let people know they want a turn to talk.

**Encouraging Interaction**
• “_____ could you ask _____ to hold the talking stick while you decorate it?”
• “_____ could you ask _____ to help you design the talking stick?”
• “_____ could you ask _____ to help you glue the decorations onto the talking stick?”
• Discuss with your partner what else sticks are good for.

**Extension Opportunities**
• Talking Stick: Day Two -- Use the talking stick to share stories.