

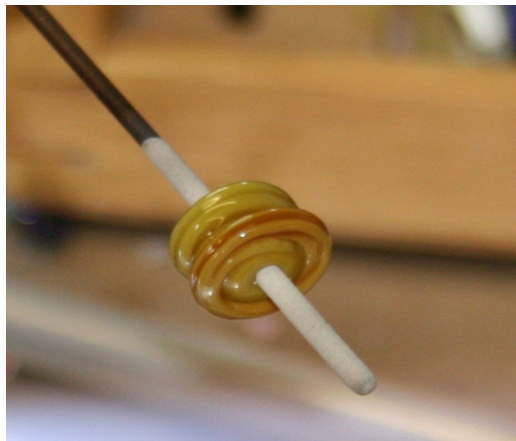
Making an Alien bead for Beads of Courage Laney Mead aka Izzybeads

I love my creature beads and love making them for Beads of Courage. The challenge for BofC beads is to make them with no 'sticky' out parts. I came up with the Alien bead as its fun, bright and for both boys and girls.

Tools needed

Glass in your choice of colour, I picked Lime Green (Effetre) for this one
Stringers in white, black, clear and pink
Pokey tool
Razor tool or other tool to make indents
Marver
Lentil press or bead shaper

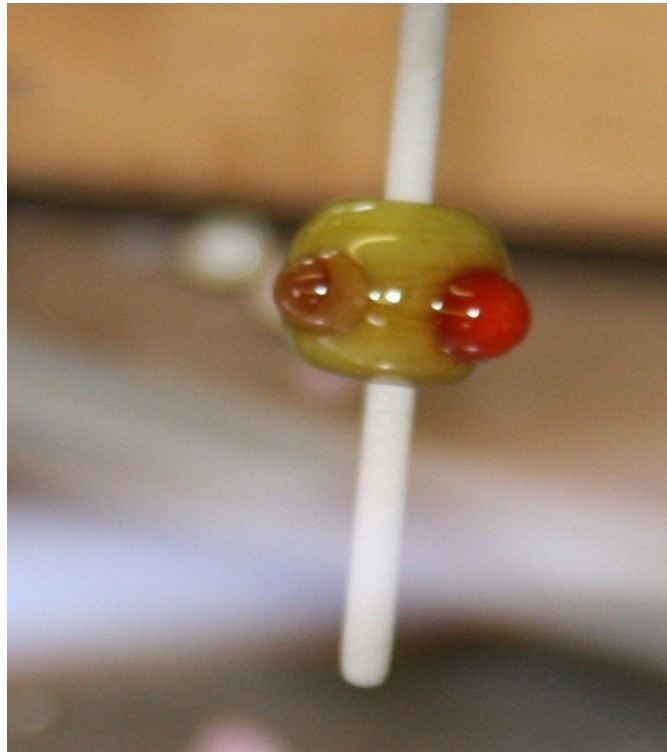
First wind on a nice amount of glass in your chosen Alien colour.



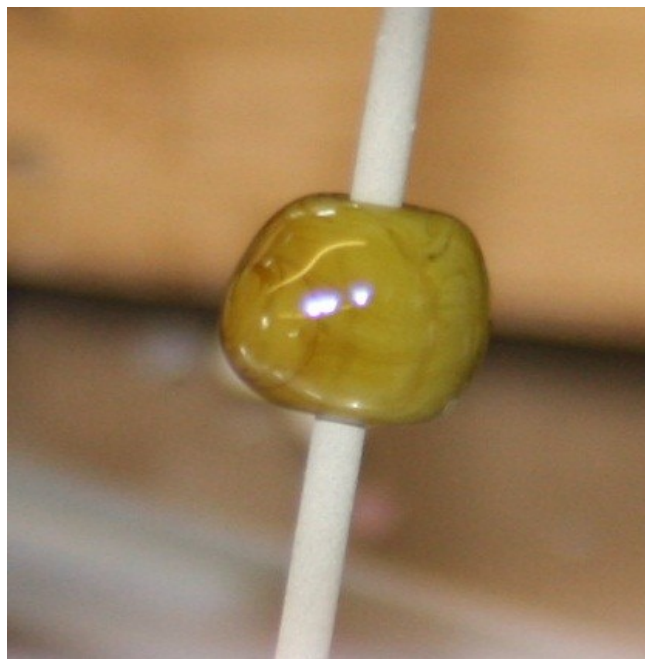
Using either the lentil press or bead shaper, marver the glass into a rounded shape. Its not necessary to make perfect round shapes, Aliens come in all shapes and sizes, but it is important to have nice puckered ends on your bead.

Add two pea sized blobs of glass to one side of the bead, these will form the cheeks of the Alien.

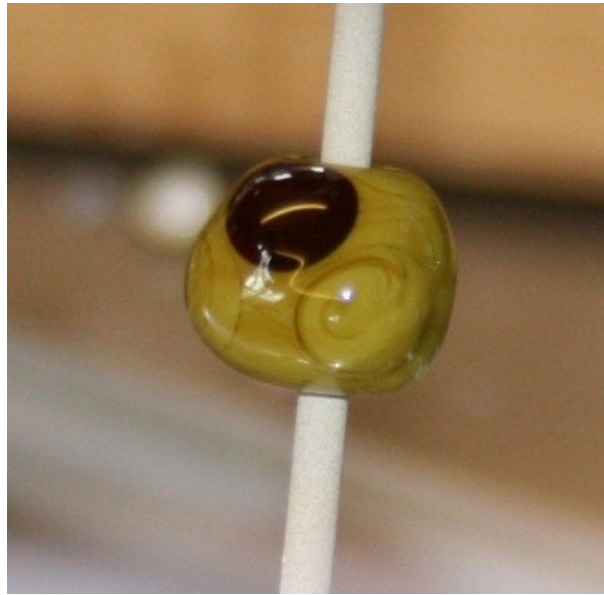




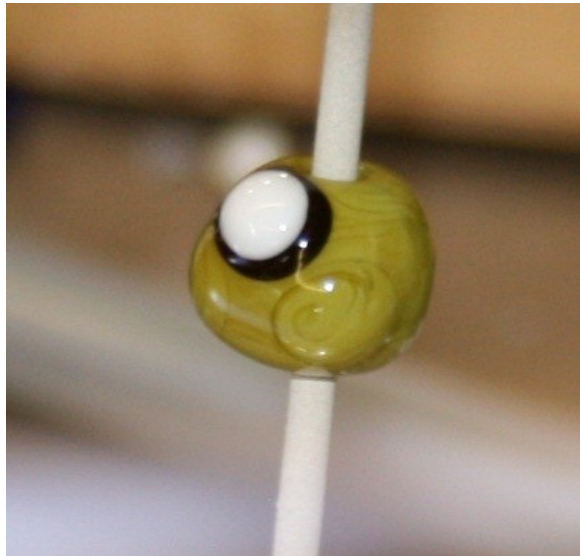
Melt in, but not flat. We want the 'cheeks' to be slightly raised.



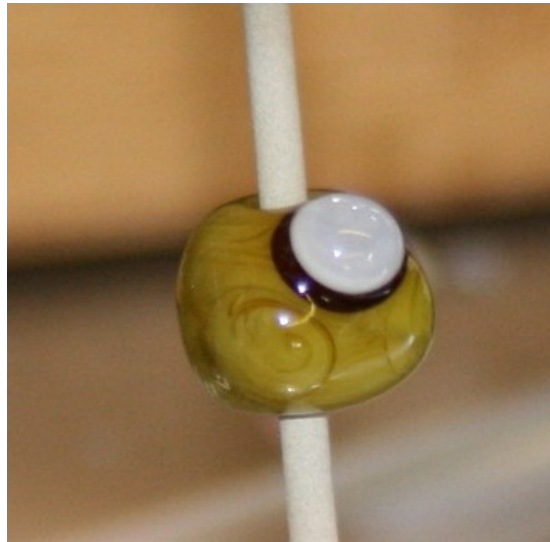
Add a good sized amount of black, using your fat stringer, in between the cheeks and melt flat. This will be the eye of the Alien.



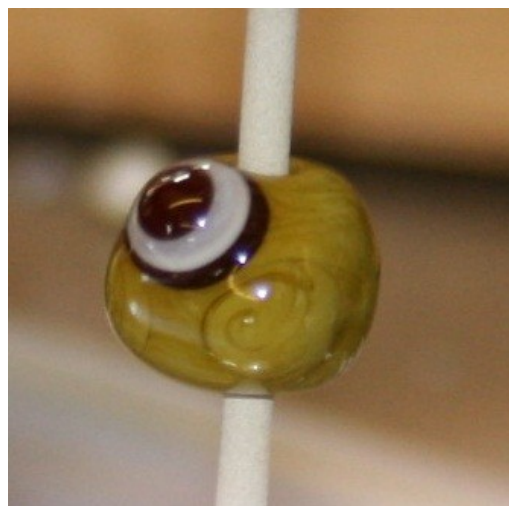
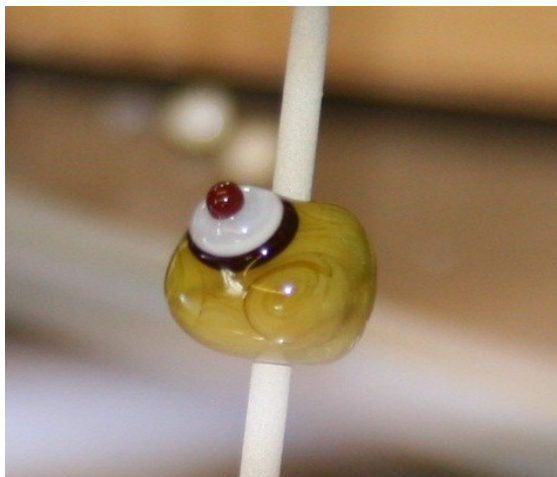
Add a blob of white in the centre of the black and melt flat.



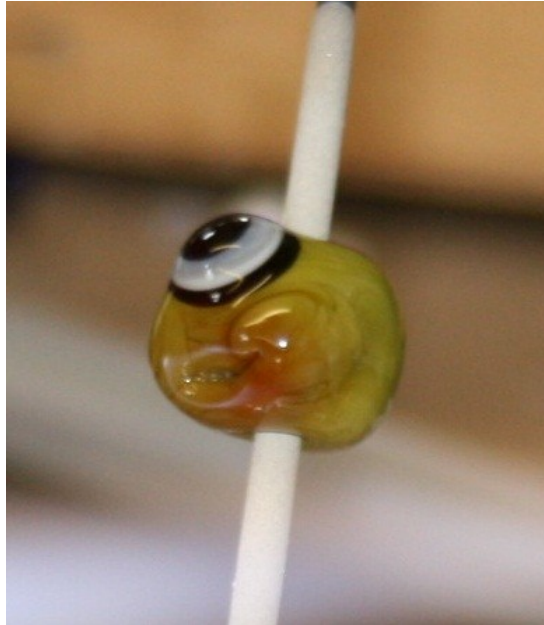
Add a blob of clear glass on top of the white and melt in, but not flat. We want the eye to be raised from the surface.



Add a small dot of black in the centre of the clear and melt flat. Our Alien can now see!



Spot heat the bottom left of the cheek and using the razor tool make an indent, gently curving upwards into the cheek. This is going to be the smile. Repeat for other side of the mouth. Spot heat the cheek on the right, and gently curve the tool upwards, meeting the two indents in the middle.

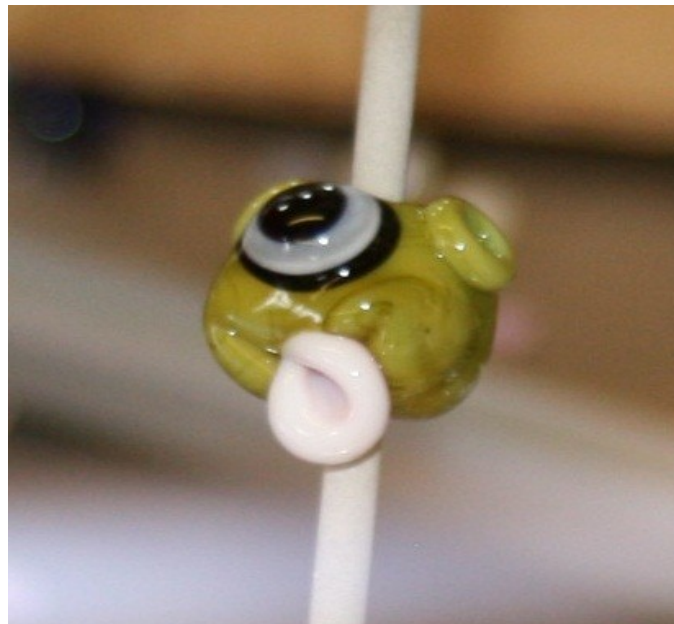


Your Alien should now be looking good!! Next add two pea sized amounts of your chosen colour glass (lime green here) either side of the eye. Melt the glass into nice rounded shapes, but don't melt in. These are the Alien ears.



Spot heat one ear, and using a pokey tool, create the 'ear hole' by pushing the tool into the centre of the blob.

You can leave your Alien as he or she is, or you can use the fat pink stringer and add a good sized blob of glass in between the 'lips' of your Alien and using the pokey tool create an indent and your Alien is now sticking out its tongue.



You can add a raised flower by the ear, or give your Alien two eyes instead of one and by changing the colour you can make them girls or boys, even multi coloured Aliens. Just remember to have nice puckered ends and give a good heat in the flame before popping into the kiln.

