

Teacher's Pet

WOOD PROJECTS:

Pioneer Log Cabin



What is a Pioneer?

- A pioneer is one of the first people to settle in a new area. The first thing pioneer families did was build a shelter, usually made of logs, grass, or both.



Sod Houses

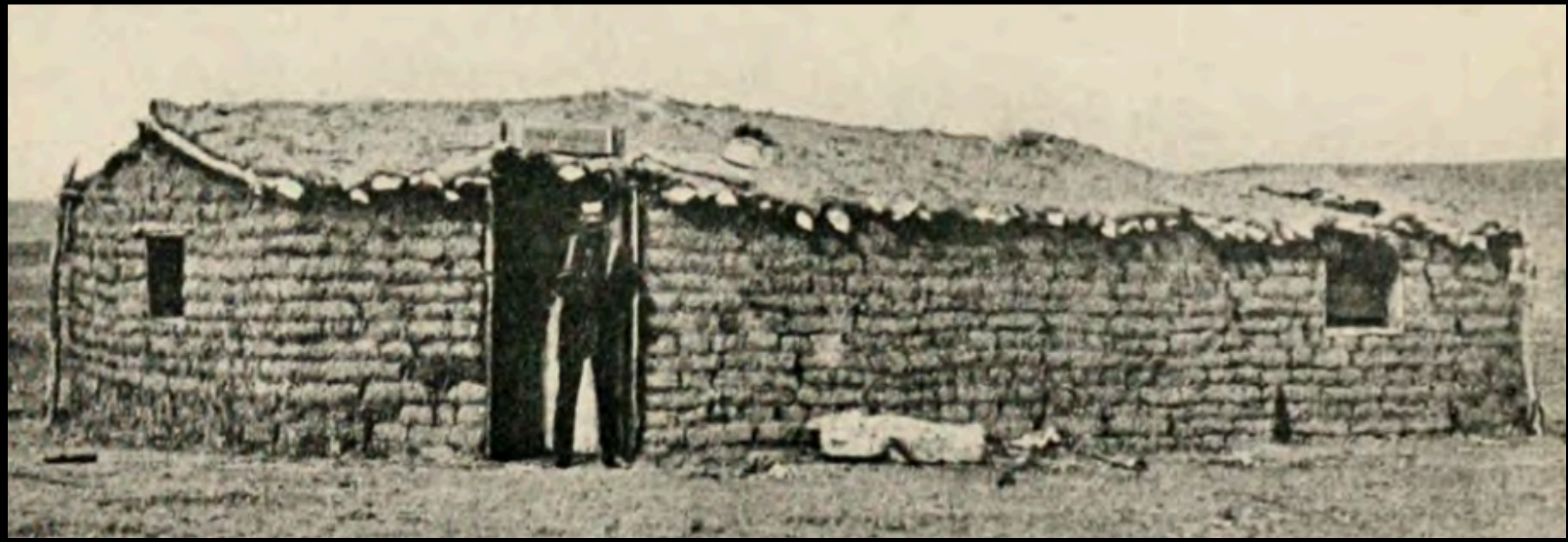


- Sod houses, or "soddies," were built before log cabins in Canada. There wasn't enough wood or stone on the prairies, but there was lots of strong grass with thick roots, which people used to make houses.

Sod Houses

- People cut patches of grass and stacked them into walls.
- These houses:
 - were cheap and well-insulated
 - had doors and windows
 - damp when it rains
- If it rained outside for two days, it would rain inside for one day!







The "Burdei" at the Ukrainian Heritage Village

Burdei

- a type of half-dugout shelter, somewhat between a sod house and a log cabin

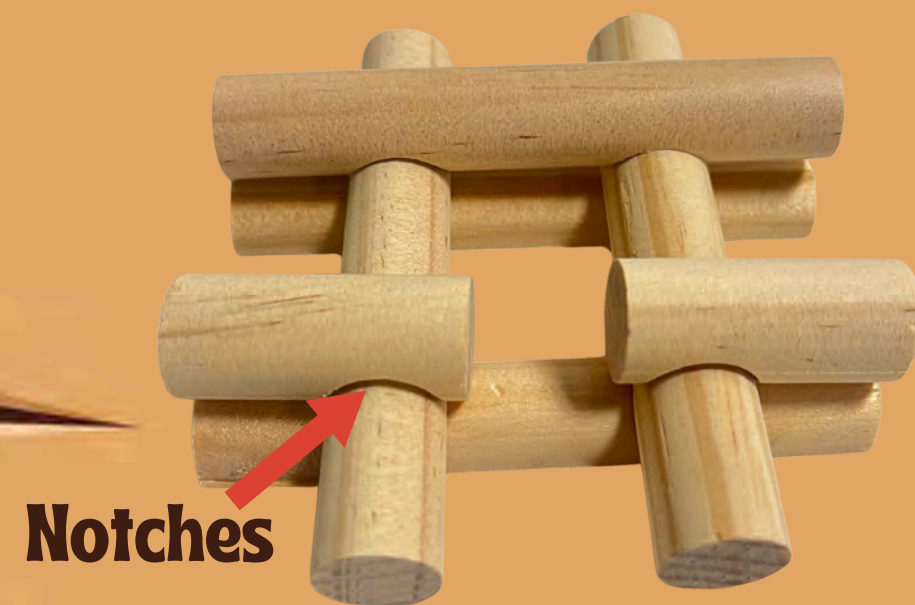




- Most soddies were built from late 1880's to early 1900's
- When rail lines were established in 1885, pioneers switched from sod to wood.

Log Cabins

- Log cabins built by the pioneers were generally a square box.



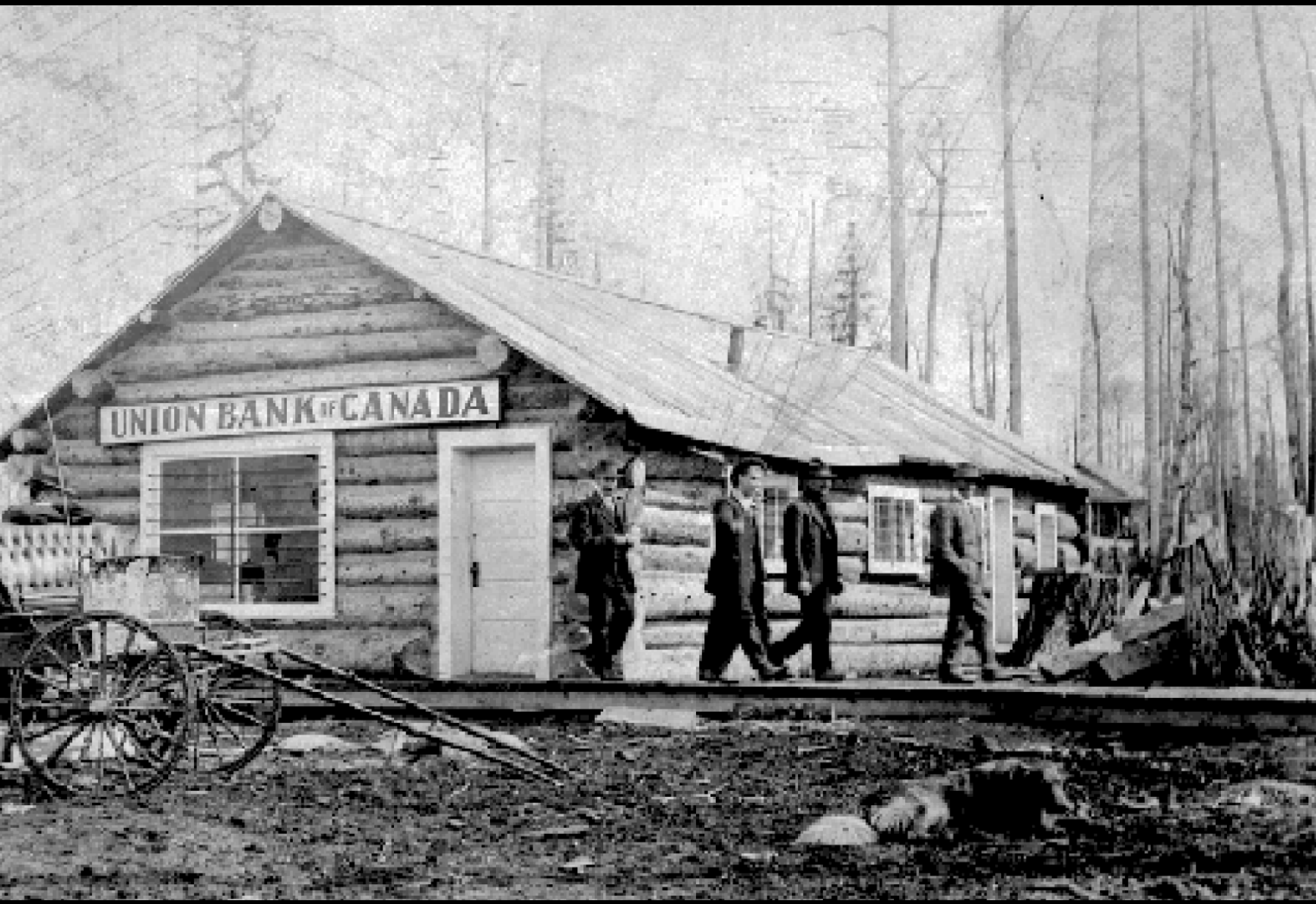
- It was usually one storey high with a sleeping or storage loft beneath the gabled roof. The main room could be either one large space, or divided between a kitchen/living area and small bedrooms.
- The construction was concentrated at the corners, where 'notches' would assemble the logs.

Log Cabins



Notches

- One-story house with a loft under the roof for sleeping or storage.
- Main room was one big space or had a kitchen and small bedrooms.
- A saddle notch, a notch cut near the end of the log to fit the next log, was commonly used.



- Assembling your cabin will mimic the techniques used by pioneers when building their homes.
- The log cabin is a true to life replica of historic log buildings.





Time to Build!

Planning

Let's plan by assembling our cabins WITHOUT glue first!



Materials

8 x 2-notched logs (long logs)



2 x Gables

4 x Roof pieces



8 x 1-notched logs (short logs)



2 x Windows



1 x Chimney



1 x Door



1 x Doorknob



2 x Half Logs



Pioneer



1 x Pioneer Cabin Sign



*Glue will be provided for use during program

Step 1

Place your two half logs horizontally, parallel to one another.

Print your name on the bottom of one half log.

Back Wall

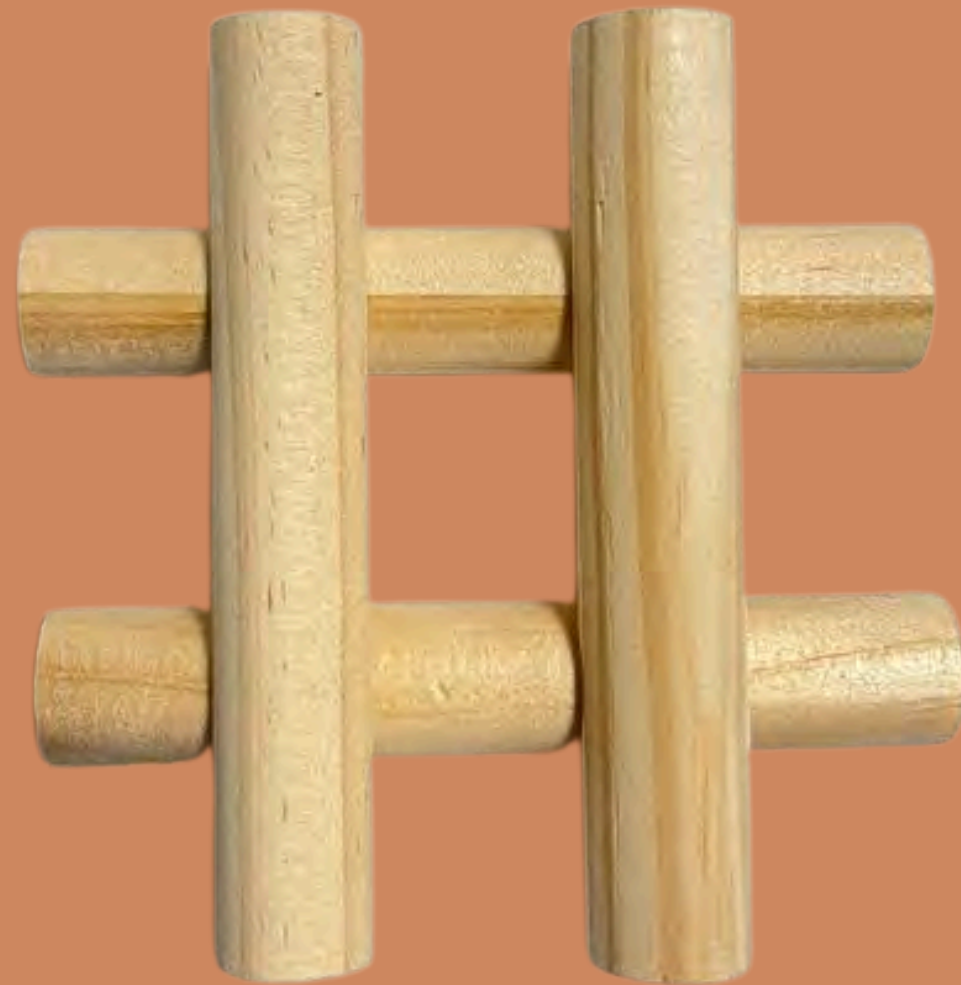


Front Wall



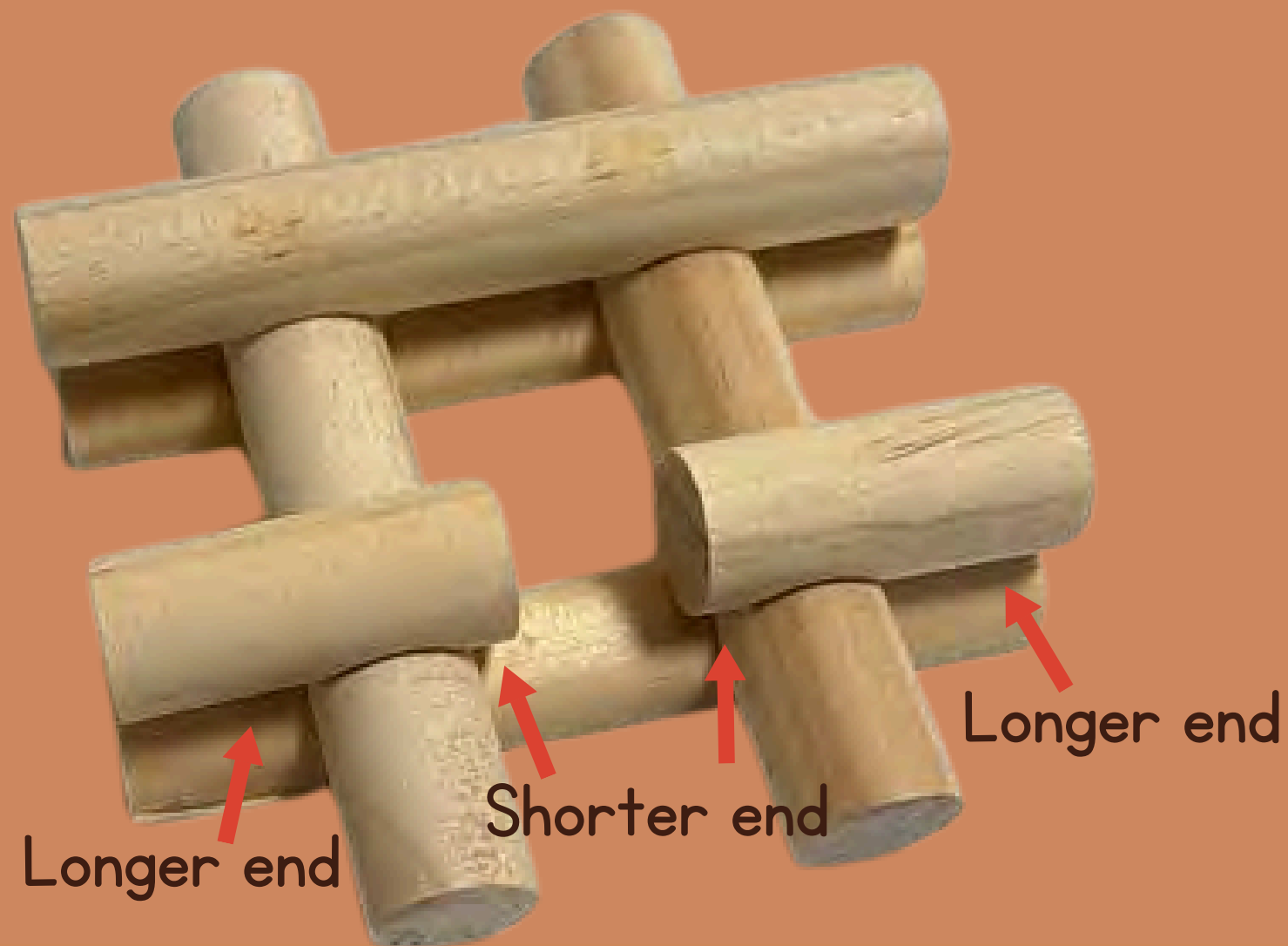
Step 2

Place two long logs near the ends of your two half logs.
The notches should latch on to the half logs.



Step 3

Using two short logs, build the front wall (**Note**: Shorter end faces in).
Place one long log in the back wall.



Step 4

Place 4 short logs on top. Again, shorter ends face in.

*As you build higher, make sure the logs line up on all sides.



*The windows will be added in this layer later.

Step 5

Place two short logs in front and one long log in the back.



*The door will be added in this layer later.

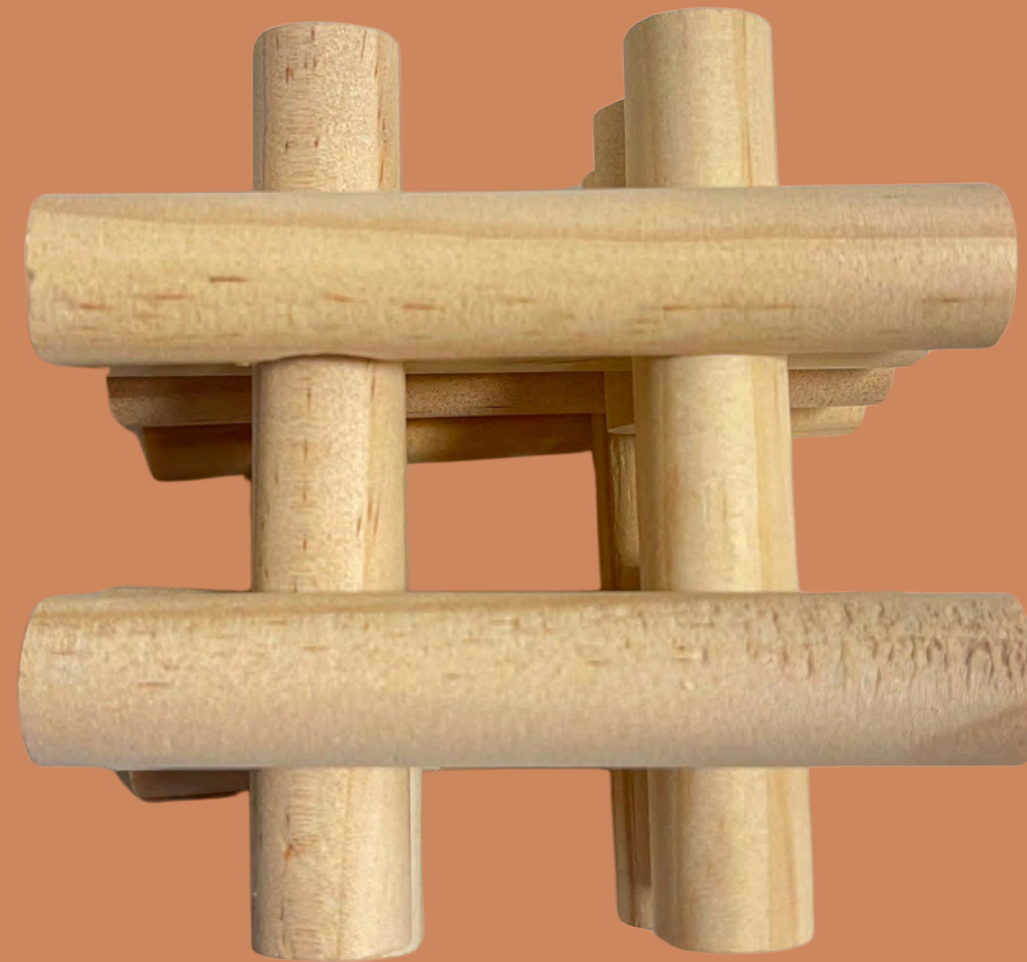
Step 6

Place two long logs on top to build up the side walls.



Step 7

Place two long logs horizontally.



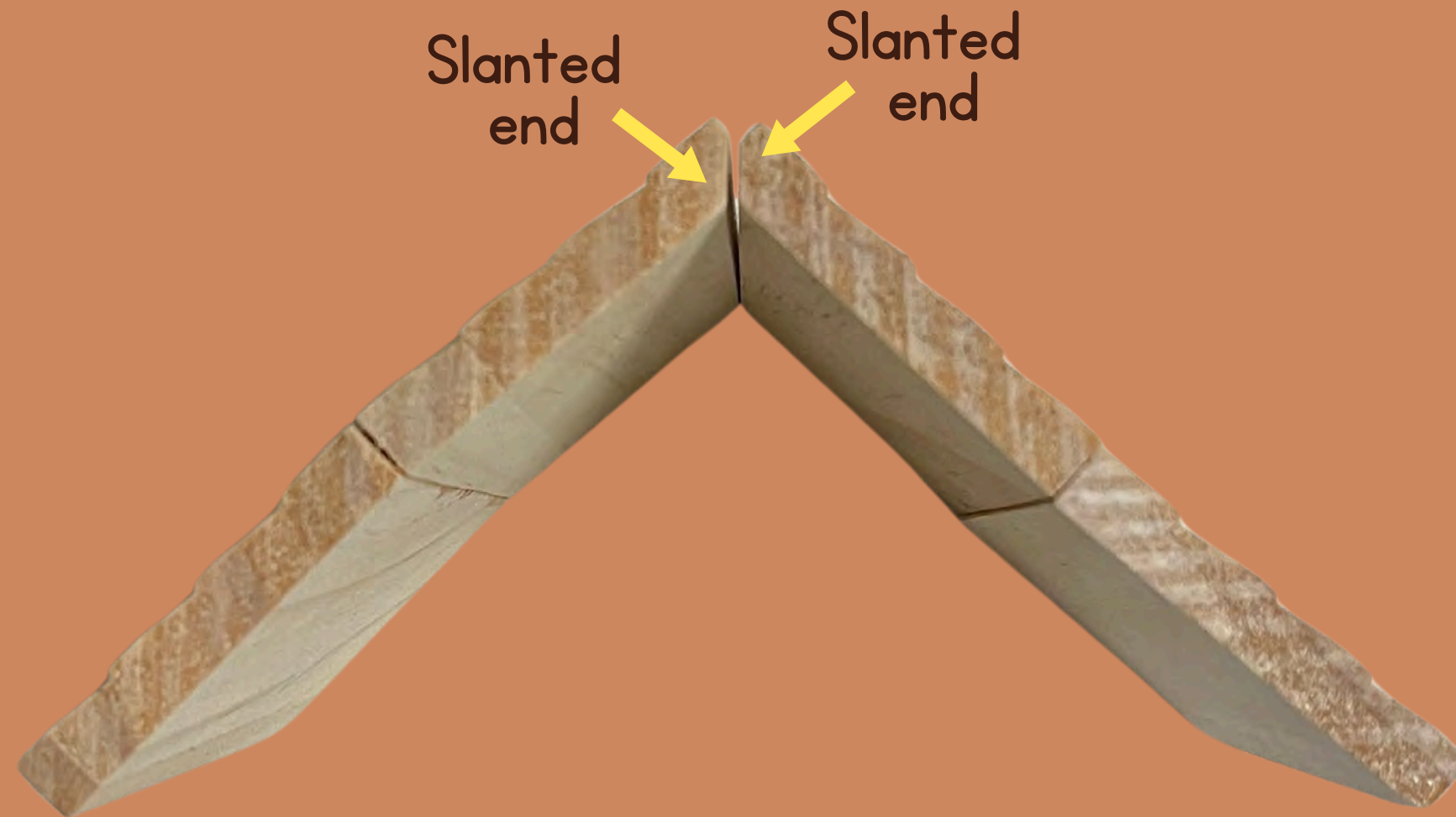
Step 8

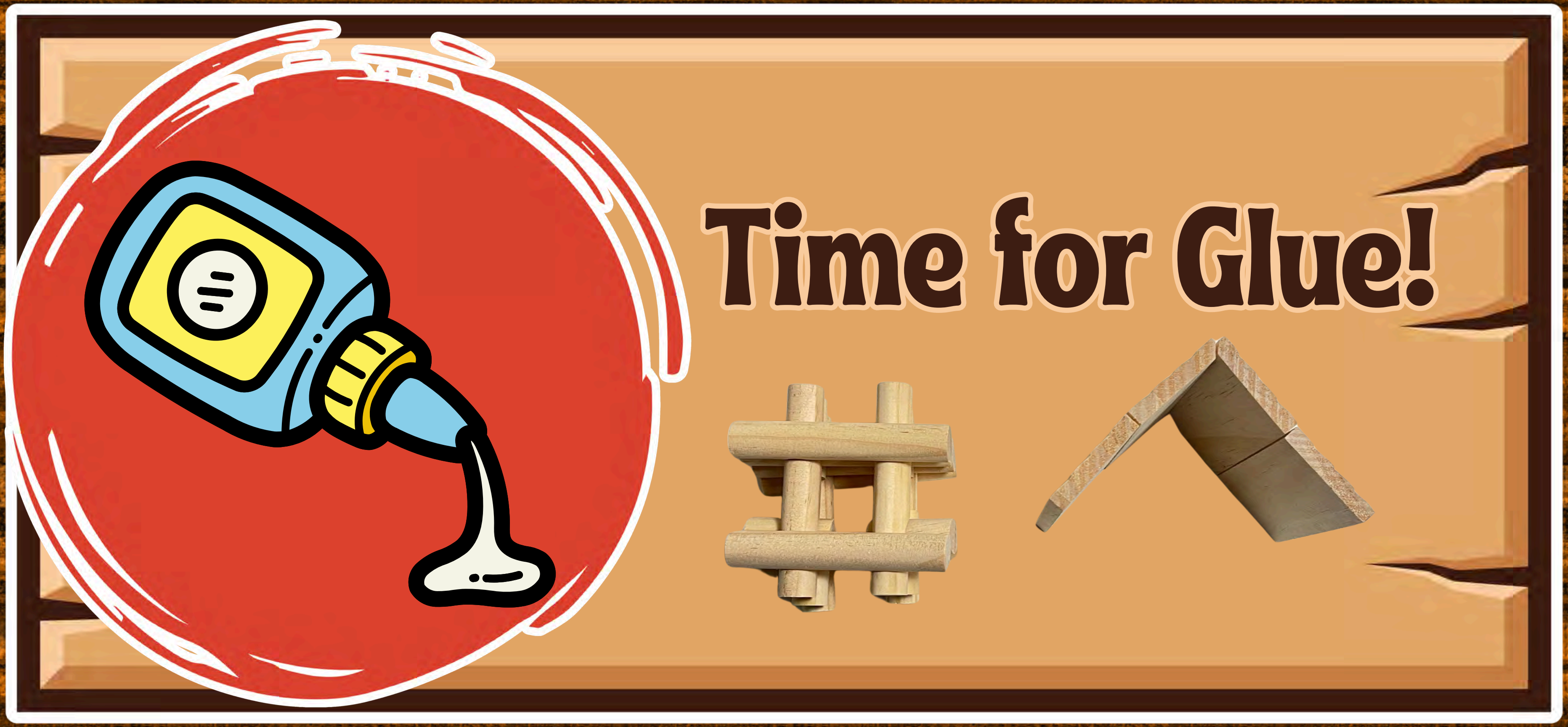
Find your two gables. Hold the gables (wavy side out) across the front and back walls, but don't let go of the pieces. This is where the gables will be glued later.



Step 9

Find the 2 roof panels that are slanted at one end. Line them up to form the apex (peak) of your roof. The other roof pieces are extensions of the roof.





Time for Glue!



Step 1

Apply a small amount of glue in the door hole. Twist the doorknob while inserting it halfway to spread the glue. Set the door on its side to dry.



Step 2

Apply a small amount of glue to one long edge of a roof piece. Press two pieces together and set aside to dry. Repeat with the other two pieces.



Slanted ends



Glue between panels



Glue between panels

Step 3

Apply a small amount of glue to the back of the Pioneer Cabin canoe sign. Attach to the wavy side of one of the gables. Set aside to dry.



Time for a Break!



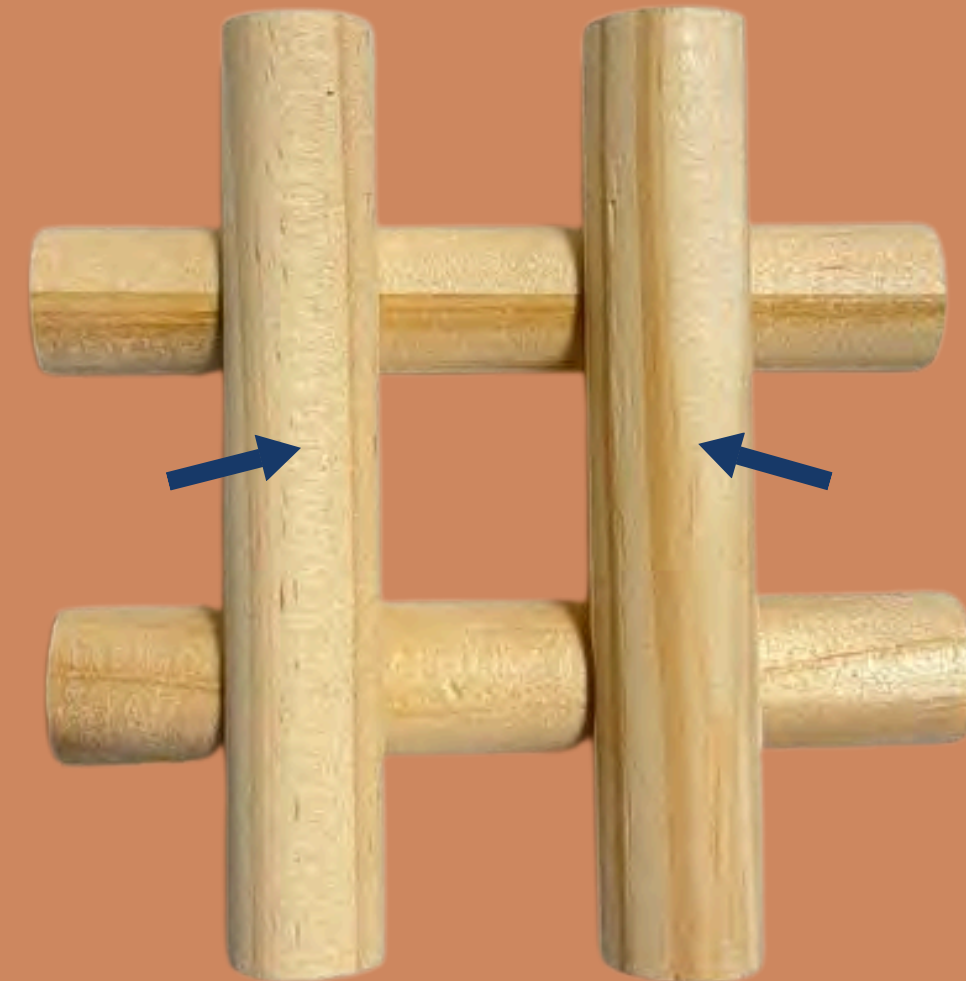
Step 4

Remove the top layers of your assembled log cabin and set them aside until you reach the two half logs and two long logs.



Step 5

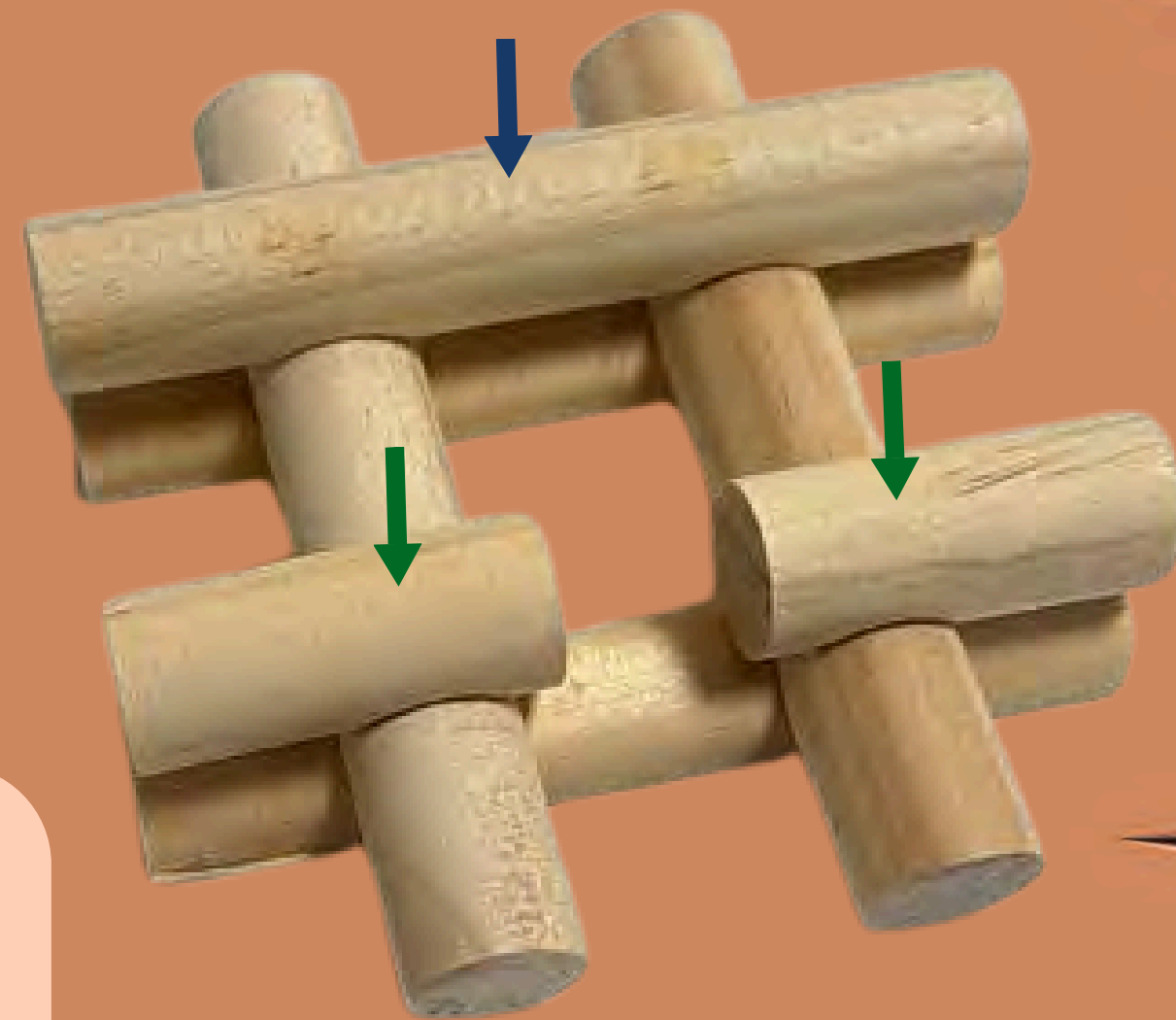
Remove one long log and add a dab of glue in each notch. Spread around with the tip of your glue bottle. Place back on the half logs. Repeat on the other side.



Step 6

Add glue to the notches in the long log and place it along the back wall. Then, glue the two short logs to the front wall.

Next up:



IMPORTANT NOTE:

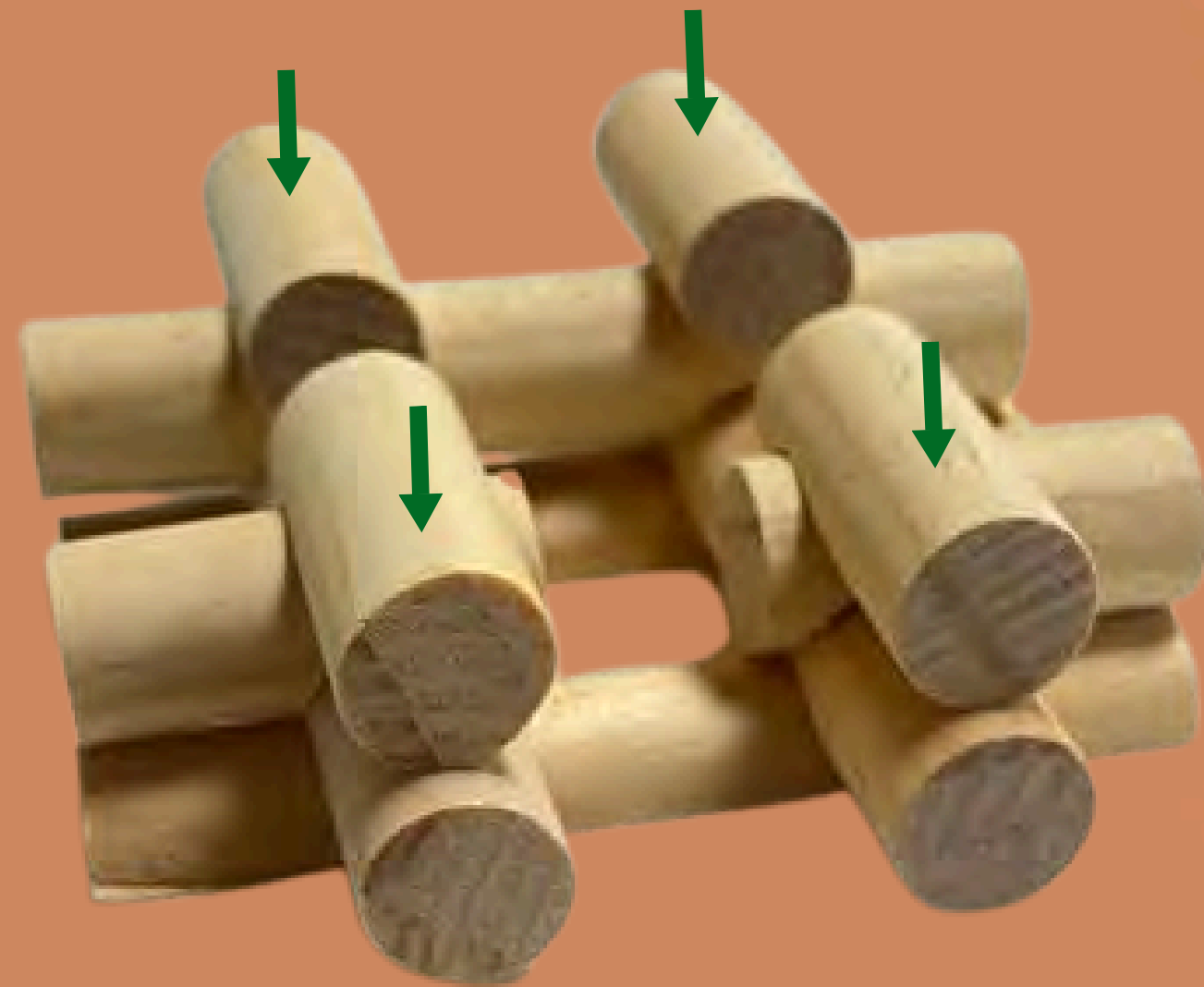
Look at your log cabin from all angles during the entire gluing process to make sure the logs are not crooked and are lined up.



Step 7

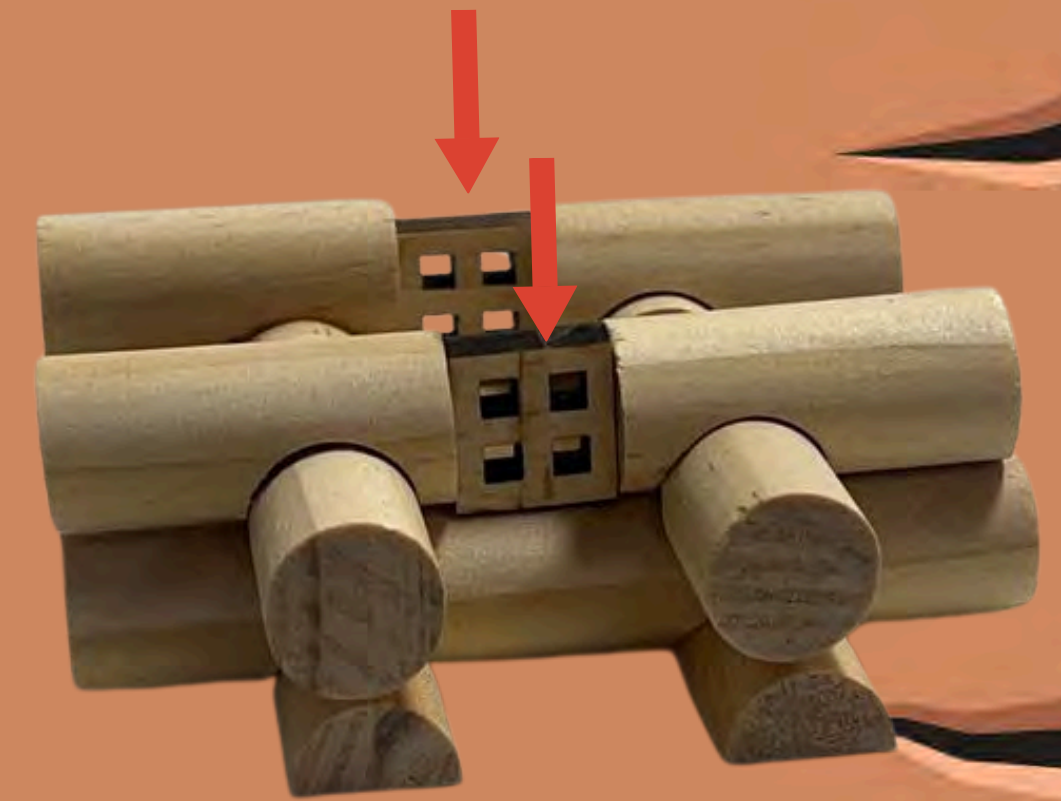
Glue the 4 short logs on the next layer.

Next up:



Step 8

Apply glue to the side edges and bottom edge of a window. Slot it between the short logs on one side wall. Push the short logs together to secure the window. Repeat on the other side.



Next up:



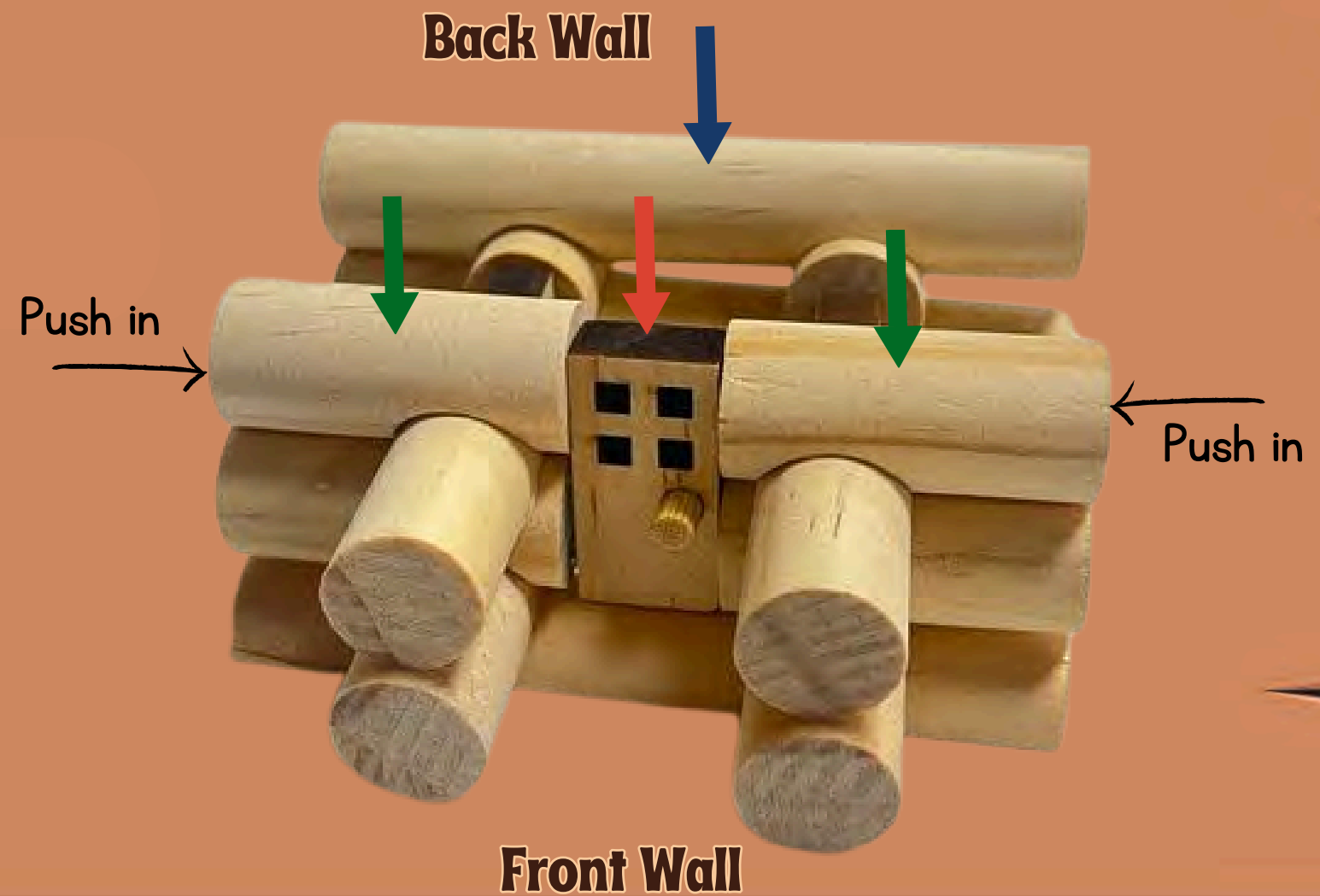
Side View



Step 9

Glue a long log to the back wall. Apply glue to the door's sides and bottom, insert it into the slot in the front wall, and glue the two short logs to the sides to secure it.

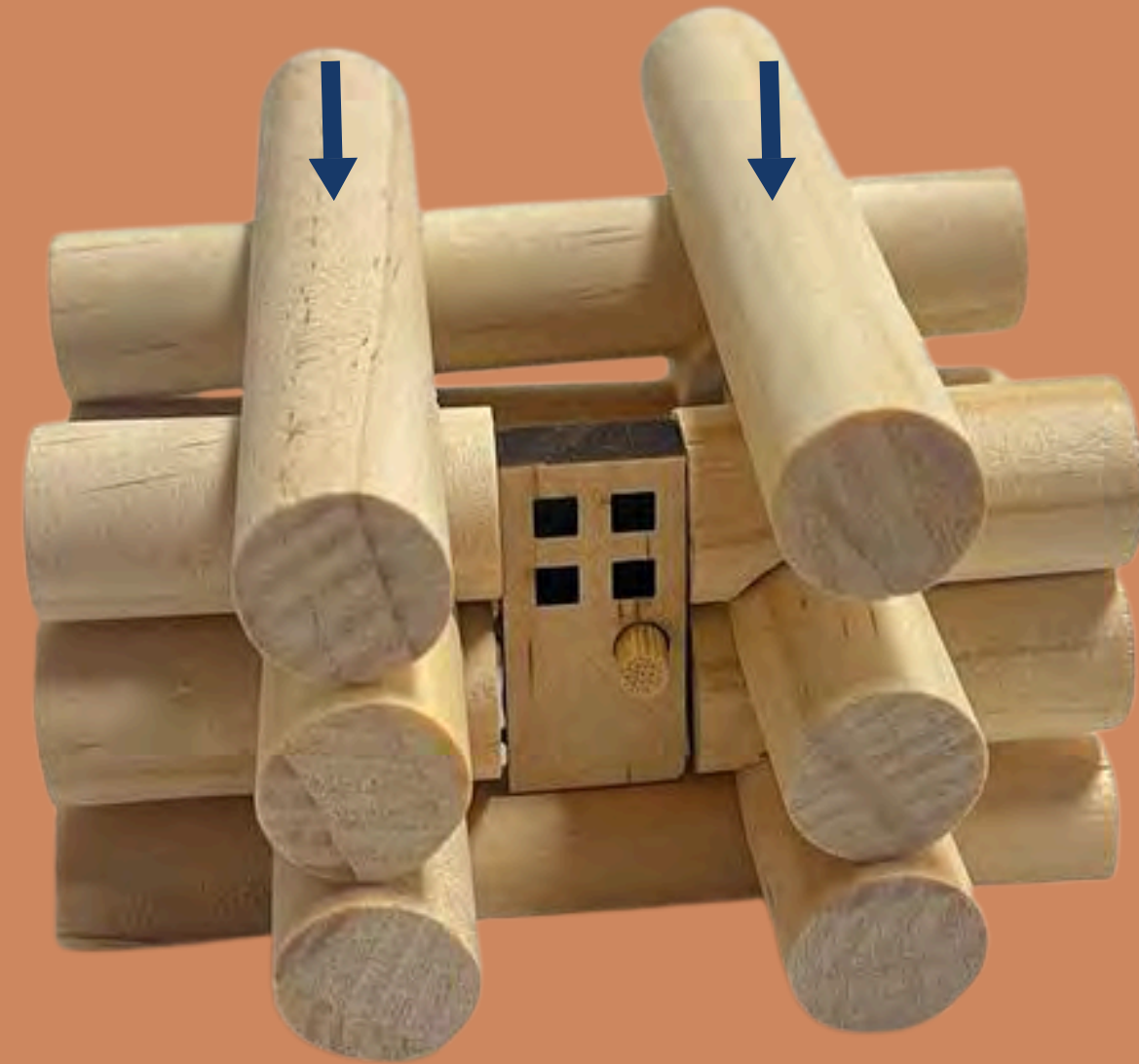
Next up:



Step 10

Glue the two long logs on top.

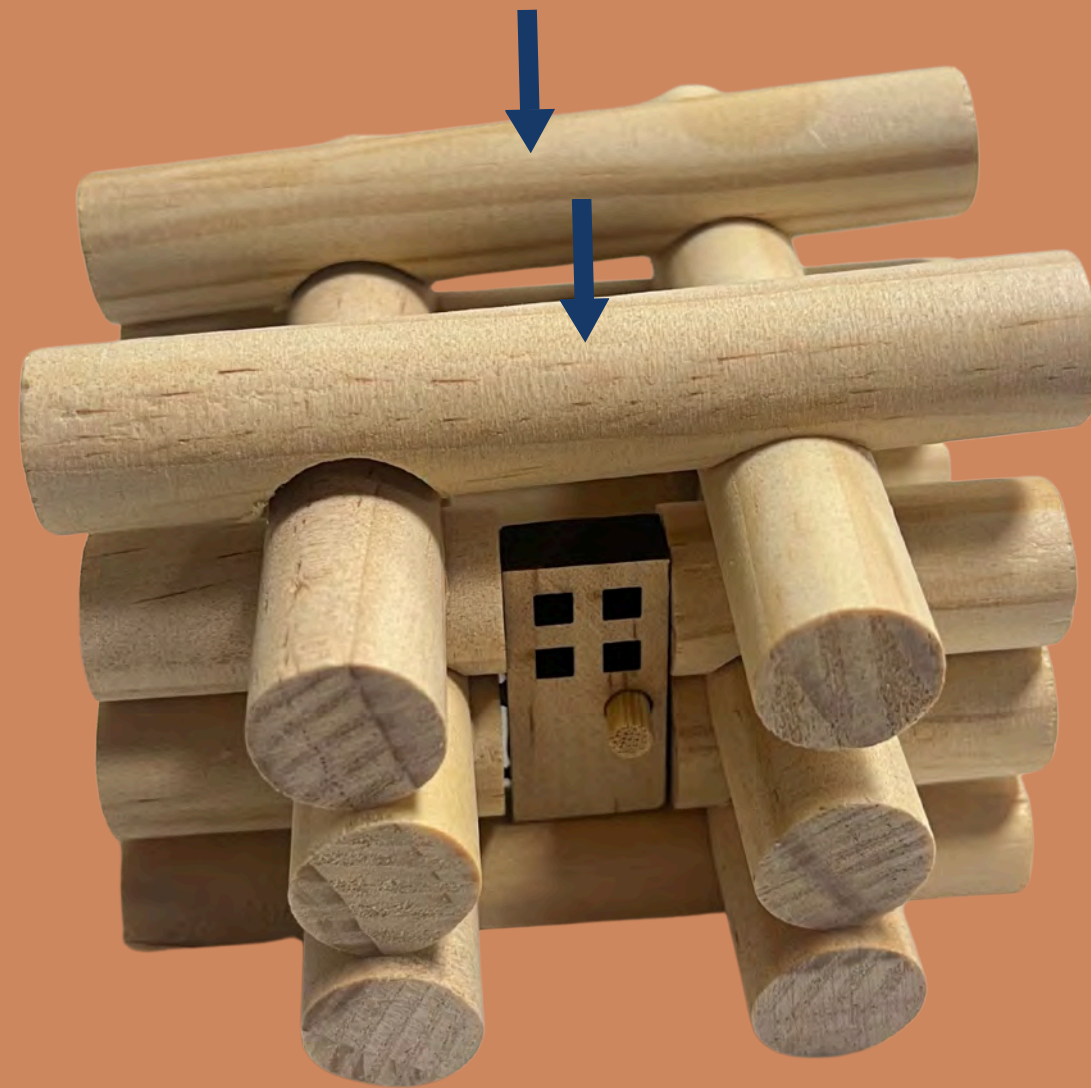
Next up:



Step 11

Glue the two long logs to the front and back wall.

Next up:



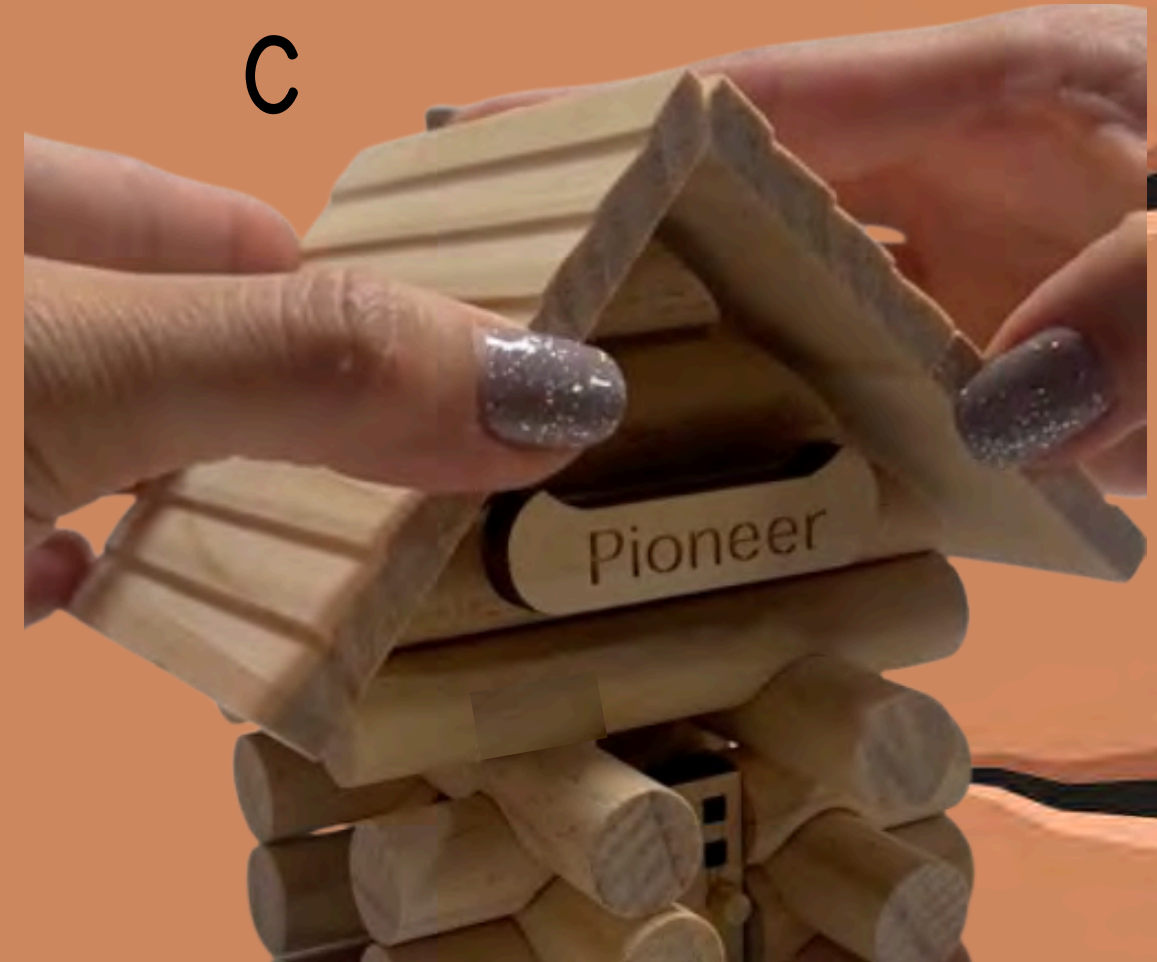
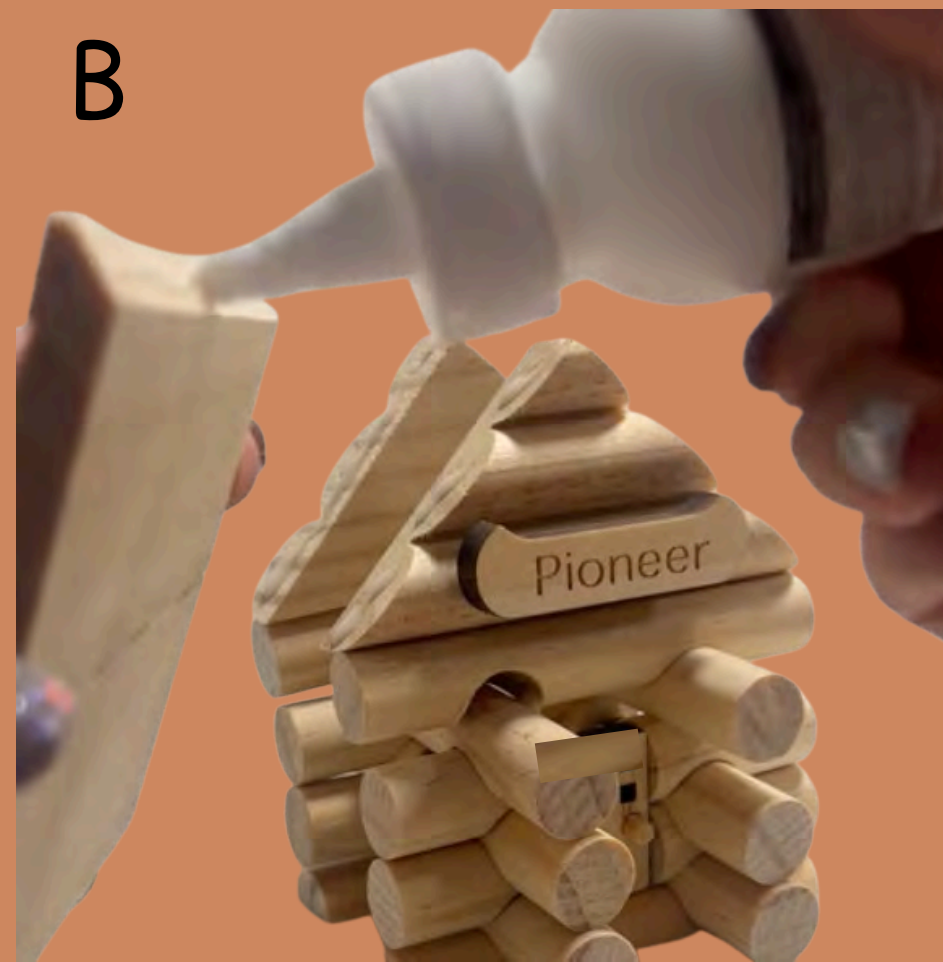
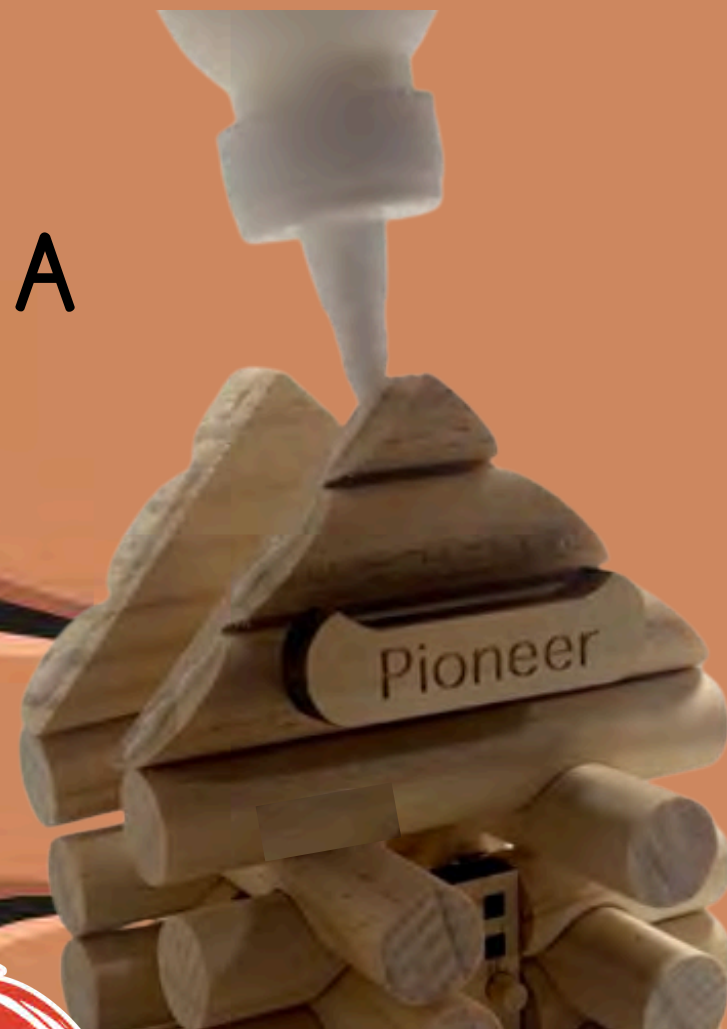
Step 12

Apply glue to the bottom edge of the gable with the Pioneer canoe sign. Attach it to the top of the front wall and hold for 2-3 minutes until it stays in place. Do the same for the other gable.



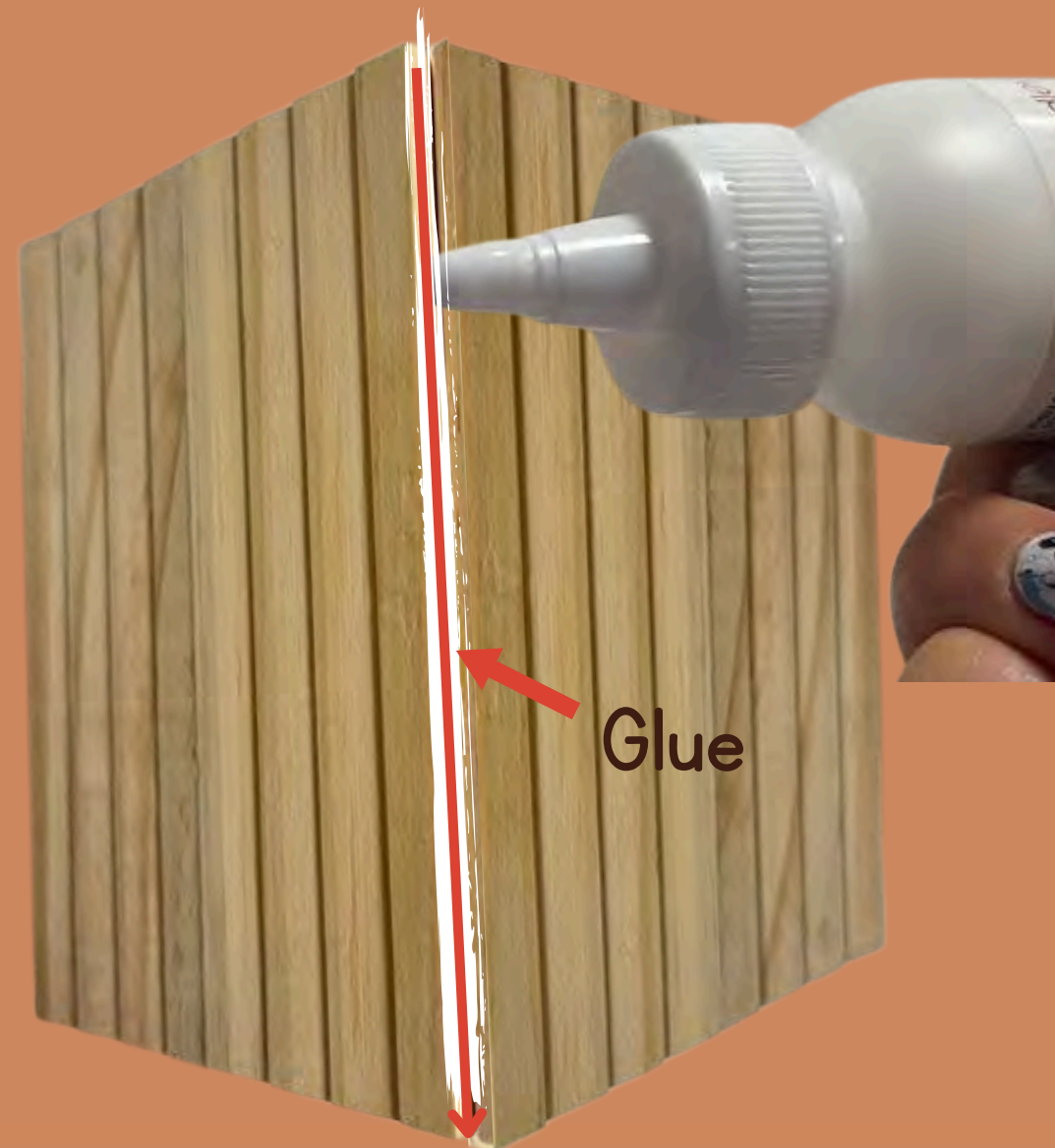
Step 13

Glue the slanted edges of the gables, then glue one edge of a roof panel. Carefully place the roof on top of the cabin, making sure it's centered. Hold it for 2-3 minutes until it's secure.



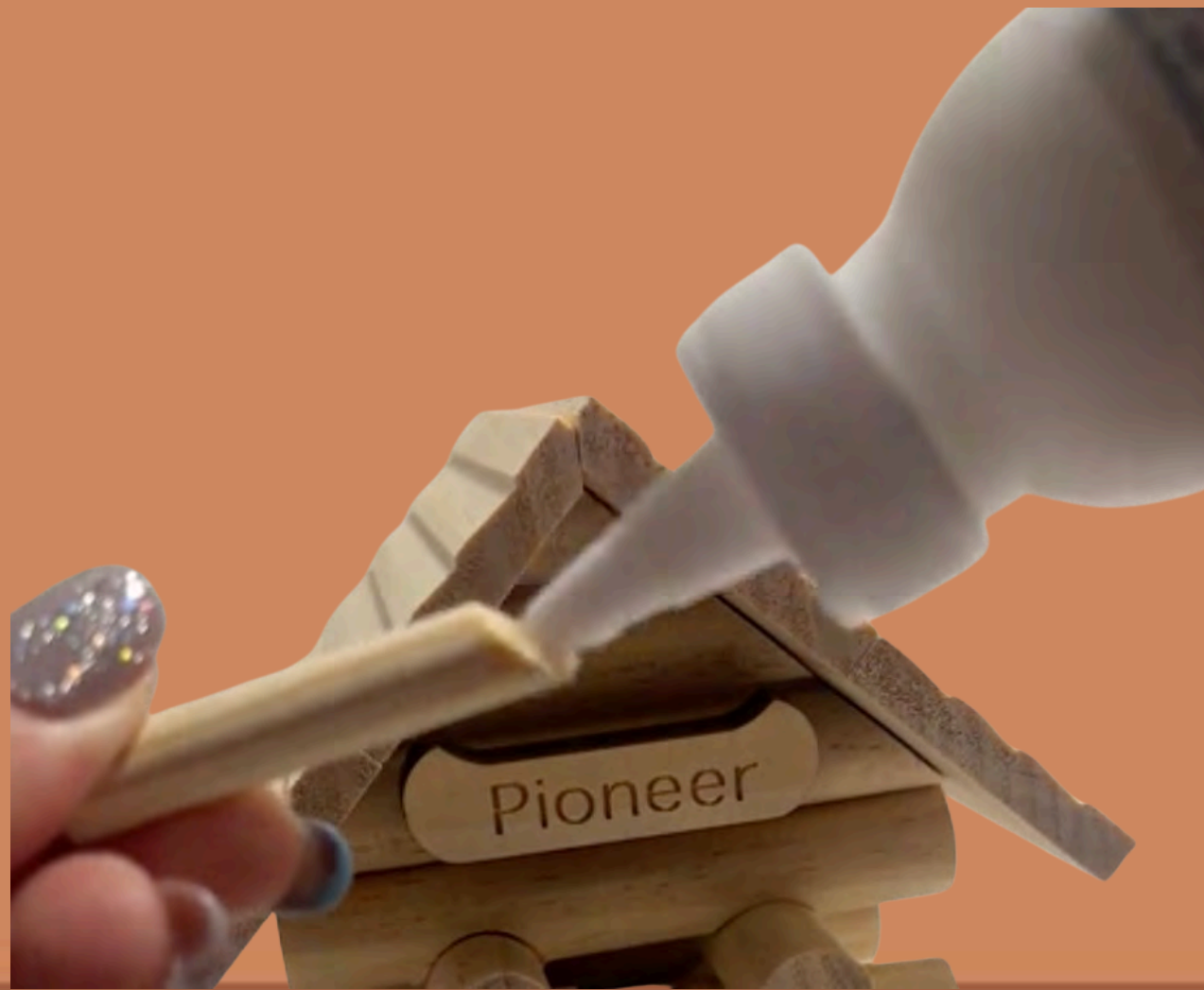
Step 13 Cont'd

If necessary, glue can be added to the top ridgeline for extra support.



Step 14

Place a dab of glue on the angled side of the chimney and gently place it on either side of the roof. Hold the chimney for 1-2 mins until it feels secure.



All Done!

Let your cabin dry fully before moving it.

