Basic Detail Report



Scissors case

Date
1982

Primary Maker
Martha Frost Benjamin

Medium
Felt, glass seed beads, tanned, smoked moosehide, thread

Description
Many Athapaskan Slavey mothers still follow the ancestral tradition of carrying older babies in baby belts. The baby sits swing-like on the belt and rests against the mother’s hip. Most baby belts are decorated with floral beadwork and some include the baby’s name and birth date. In the late 19th century the baby sat against the mother’s back with a blanket tucked between the belt and the child for additional security. These baby belts were made from moosehide and decorated with elaborate beadwork or thread embroidery as well as fur and yarn fringe.

Dimensions
Overall: 7 1/4 × 2 1/2 in. (18.4 × 6.4 cm)