The following activities include weaving projects for all ages. Some are woven on paper plates, sticks, cardboard -- or even old CD’s, DVD’s, and embroidery hoops!

Weaving may be done with string, yarn, or paper. You can even find supplies in nature for weaving, such as long grasses and leaves. Or cut strips from old T-shirts or fabric scraps. You just need something long and flexible that won’t easily break when woven.

Weaving can be done with just your fingers. If the yarn becomes rough and “shaggy,” try wrapping the tip of it with a small piece of tape to hold it together. When using thin, fine yarn or string, you may use a large, blunt needle to hold and weave the yarn.

Enjoy experimenting with weaving! People have been weaving for thousands of years, creating baskets, rugs, blankets, mats, dream catcher, bookmarks,...

Cardboard Loom Weaving Activity for Kids

Cardboard loom weaving is fun and easy, and kids will be amazed with the projects they can make using just a piece of cardboard and some yarn scraps. In this post, you’ll learn how to make a cardboard weaving loom, how to weave on it, and how to take your finished weaving project off the loom.

GREAT WEAVING ACTIVITY FOR BEGINNERS

The other day I taught the kids how to weave on a cardboard loom. They’ve shown a real interest in fibre crafts lately, so I’m introducing them to some of the classics that I loved when I was a kid.

Loom weaving is a relaxing activity that kids can do in their down-time or while watching t.v. or even to pass the time in the car. Most kids don’t get the opportunity to learn these classic, old-fashioned
hand-crafts anymore, so I’m thrilled that my hooligans are so keen to learn them.

**WHAT CAN YOU MAKE ON A CARDBOARD LOOM?**

You can make all kinds of weaving projects on a homemade loom. Some simple projects for kids are:

- scarves and bracelets
- wall hangings
- pot holders and placemats
- bookmarks
HOW TO MAKE A CARDBOARD WEAVING LOOM

SUPPLIES

- piece of sturdy cardboard
- scissors
- string
- colourful yarn
- plastic sewing needle

TO MAKE YOUR LOOM

1. Cut a piece of cardboard to the length and width that you want your loom to be.

2. Snip evenly spaced cuts across one end of the loom. You can make as many cuts as you like, but be sure to space them evenly.

3. Make identical cuts at the other end of your loom. You can use a pencil and ruler to line them up perfectly, but we just eyeballed ours.

WARP AND WEFT

1. Next, you’ll need to make your warp. The warp refers to the strings that run lengthwise on a weaving loom while the
weft refers to the yarn that you weave horizontally over and under these strings.

2. To create your warp, secure a long piece of yarn in the first slit on one of the ends of your loom. Tape the tail to the back of your loom.

3. Carry this piece of yarn down the front of the loom to the matching slit at the bottom, and bring it back up behind the loom the second slit. Pull it down the front of the loom again, and up the back to the 3rd slit. Continue until you reach the end of the loom.

4. Cut your yarn and tape that tail to the back of the loom.

Now you’re ready to weave!

HOW TO WEAVE ON A CARDBOARD LOOM

To begin weaving, thread a 1-2 foot length of yarn through your sewing needle. Keeping it under 2 feet will minimize tangles and frustration.

Starting at one end of the loom, weave your needle under and over the warp strings on your loom. Continue back and forth across the
loom until the yarn runs out. Finish at an edge and leave the tail hanging loosely at that edge.

Begin where you left off, with a new colour or with more of the same yarn. Leave a little tail when you begin with this new piece of yarn. You'll tie the tails together when you finish your project.

**DON'T PULL TOO TIGHT...**

Try not to pull your yarn too tight as you're weaving, or the shape of your project will become a little wonky. In the next photo, you'll see how the project is narrower in the middle than at the edges. That's totally understandable, considering it was this hooligan’s first weaving experience, but that's what I mean when I say “a little wonky”.

I LOVE her finished project though. We added beads to the ends, and turned it into a bookmark.
TO KEEP YOUR ROWS FREE OF GAPS:

As you work, gently use your fingers to push your rows together so they’re nice and snug. You may also use a fork to push yarn rows together.

Continue weaving until your project reaches a length that you’re happy with or until you reach the end of your loom. Cut the yarn, leaving a little tail.
HOW TO TAKE YOUR WEAVING OFF THE LOOM

Taking your weaving off the loom is easy, but you'll need to take care of the loose ends on the sides of your project first. If you’re striving for a polished look, you can weave the tails into the stitches that run down the end of your woven piece. If you’re not too fussy just knot them together and snip off the excess yarn.

To remove your project from the loom, through the warp strings on the back of your loom, and gently pry the strings out of the notches in the cardboard.

You’ll have 2 tails that need to be dealt with: the tail that you started your project with and the tail that you finished with. Tie these to the closest warp strings.

Finish by tying your warp strings together in two’s (see above photo).
Hey guys! This post is for those of you who want to try weaving on a circle loom, but you are not in the market for yet another loom. I get it, if I could I’d have 100 different looms, but that’s not happening anytime soon. So a more affordable option is to use an embroidery hoop! I’m so excited to share this with you. Here are the steps:
step 1| remove the outer ring and set to the side

step 2| tie your warp thread to the embroidery hoop with a **slip knot**

step 3| pull the warp thread straight across the hoop
step 4| bring the warp thread over the hoop and then down and around

step 5| now pull the warp thread back towards the center, but an inch to the right side of where your warp thread started with a slip knot

To pause for a moment and recount your steps, you have brought the warp thread from your slip knot, straight across your hoop. You then went from over your hoop and wrapped the warp thread around to the bottom. Next you pulled the warp thread from the bottom across the hoop, but to the right of the slip knot about an inch. So now your thread is passing over the top of the hoop again. You are making a figure 8, similar to when you warp a frame loom. The reason you make a figure 8 is so that the warp threads meet in the middle. Now for the next step:
step 6| with your thread an inch from the slip knot thread, pass the warp over and around the hoop so that it comes out the bottom.

step 7| continue to bring the warp thread across the loom to the position an inch to the right of the previous thread. You will always be passing the thread over an edge and then around to the bottom, then over the next spot.

step 8| continue with your figure 8’s about an inch apart until you reach the last open spot on the loom. Loop the warp thread over and around this last spot.
step 9| at this point you’ll see your middle is making a messy criss-cross of warp threads. Taking your warp string that you just looped around the last spot on the hoop, pull it to the middle and then down around between some of the warp threads, you’ll instantly see that your warp threads are evening out to nice triangles.

step 10| wrap your warp thread around the middle again at perpendicular angle to secure the middle more.

step 11| now you’ll notice that the only spot without two warp threads is where you started your slip knot. Bring your warp thread down over the opposite side of your beginning thread and tie it off. As you can see, there will now be two warp threads going around the hoop for each spot.
Step 12: You can now put your outer hoop around your warped hoop and tighten it so that your warp threads don’t slide around. You are ready to weave!

Cardboard Heart String Art

Last updated on April 27, 2020

This cardboard heart string art project introduces kids to making string art designs without the use of wood, nails or tacks. All you need is a piece of cardboard and some string or fine yarn.

Now that my older daycare kids have tried (and loved) many different weaving projects, I’ve been thinking about doing some string art with them. The only thing stopping me is all the prep with
wood, hammers and nails. I got to wondering if we could use cardboard and fine yarn to create the kind designs and patterns that string art produces, so I did some experimenting and it turns out you can!

Instead of wrapping string around a nail or a tack, I cut notches in a piece of cardboard that were wide enough and deep enough to hold several layers of string. This is because you'll need to pass the string over each notch multiple times to produce a distinct design.

**CARDBOARD HEART STRING ART HOW-TO:**

**SUPPLIES:**

- piece of paper
- pencil
- scissors
- paint brush and paint (optional)
- cardboard
- fine yarn or string
INSTRUCTIONS:

Time needed: 40 minutes.

1. Make a paper template.
   Fold a piece of paper in half and cut out a paper heart. Make evenly spaced marks around the edge of the heart, using your finger as a spacer. These will be your notches when you cut out your cardboard heart.

2. Transfer to cardboard.
   Trace your paper heart on a piece of cardboard. Use those notch lines as a guide to make marks all around the edge of the cardboard heart.

3. Cut out your cardboard heart.
   Cut out the cardboard heart, and cut v-shaped notches every where that you make a notch mark with your pencil.

4. Paint the heart.
If you’re painting your heart, do that now, and allow the paint to dry. **TIP:** We always use a hairdryer to speed up the drying process.

5. **String your heart.**

Leave a tail hanging behind your cardboard heart, and wrap your string or yarn around and around the heart, pulling the yarn deep into each notch as you pass over it.

6. **Finishing**

To finish, simply cut your yarn, leaving a tail, and tie this tail to the one you started with.

Making distinct patterns takes thought and planning while you work, so this activity is great for strengthening critical thinking and even problem solving skills (trust me, I had to rely on mine a few times to get my patterns just right).

For this black heart with pink yarn, you can see how I used a specific notch as an anchor, passing the string through it several times, while branching out to several different notches on the opposite side of the heart.
With the pink heart and white yarn, I worked back and forth across the heart, moving one notch over every time I came back across the front of the cardboard.

For the light pink heart with the grid pattern, I worked back and forth across the heart and then up and down, and then I went around the notches in the edge of the heart to make a border.

Have fun and experiment to see what kinds of designs you can come up with!

Watch for more string art designs here on my blog. I have a feeling our cardboard hearts are just the beginning. 😊
These woven CD dream catchers serve as a decorative piece of art in your child’s room and a tool to help manage bedtime worries and fears. Weaving on a CD is fun and easy and a great alternative to weaving on a cardboard loom. It’s also a creative way to put your old CDs and DVDs to good use.

Last month, I taught the older kids in my daycare how to weave, and ever since, they’ve been trying all kinds of different weaving methods. You can see all of their weaving projects here.

**CDS MAKE GREAT WEAVING LOOMS**

The other day, when I was thinning out our music collection, it occurred to me that a CD would probably make a great circular weaving loom. The hole in the middle would make it easy to string the warp threads, and the CD would provide a nice sturdy surface to weave on.
Then it occurred to me that instead of taking our finished projects off the loom, we could leave our weaving on the CD and add some beads and feathers and turn them into dream catchers.

**QUICK AND EASY**

I told the kids my plan, and they loved the idea and got right to work. In about an hour, they’d each made a gorgeous CD dream catcher.

![](image)

What a winning project! A fun weaving activity, a beautiful piece of art, and a tool to bring pleasant dreams and a peaceful sleep. And a great way to use those CDs I was getting rid of.

**Note:** Because of the fine-motor skills and co-ordination required, this craft is best-suited for ages 7 and up.

**AN ALTERNATIVE IDEA FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN:**

If you’re looking for a dream catcher for younger kids to make, check out our paper plate dream catcher. It’s perfect for toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarten students.
SUPPLIES:

- old cd or dvd
- yarn
- scissors
- plastic sewing needle
- beads
- craft feathers
- low heat glue gun (optional)

Time needed: 1 hour.

1. **String your CD loom**

To string your loom, you’ll need a piece of yarn approximately 7 feet long. Holding the tail of the yarn against the back of the CD, string the yarn up through the hole, out to the edge of the CD, and down the back to the center hole again. Wind your way around the CD, evenly spacing your warp threads, and finish with an ODD number of warp threads on the CD. Make sure your threads are nice and snug and then tie your
loose ends to each other or to a warp thread on the back of the CD.

2. **Weaving on your CD**

With your needle and a new piece of yarn, start weaving at the center of the CD, in an over, under fashion. You can secure the starting tail of the yarn by trapping it underneath your weaving as you go. To change colours, simply tie on a new piece of yarn. (more detailed instructions can be found in our circle weaving tutorial)

3. **Finishing your weaving:**

Weave as far out on the CD as you want, and to finish, cut your yarn to leave a bit of a tail and with your needle, run that tail under a few of the previous rounds to hide and secure it.
4. **Add beads and feathers**

Tie a few lengths of yarn to the bottom warp strings of your dream catcher, add a few buttons, and glue on some feathers. You can even glue some beads to your weaving like we did for our blue and green dream catcher.

5. **Attach a string for hanging.**

To hang your dream catcher, tie a length of yarn to a couple of the warp threads at the top of the CD.

Your CD Dream catcher is complete!
Easy Cardboard Circle Weaving for Kids

Cardboard circle weaving is a fun and easy activity for kids and adults. Using a homemade cardboard loom and some scraps of yarn, you can weave circular pot holders, trivets and wall art quickly and easily. In this post, your kids will learn how to make a circular weaving loom out of cardboard, how to weave a round project, and how to take your weaving off the loom.

WHAT IS CIRCLE WEAVING?

Circle weaving, also known as circular weaving or round weaving, is similar to regular weaving, but it’s done on a round loom instead of a rectangular loom. When you string the loom, your warp strings look like bicycle spokes, and you weave in and out of these spokes (or warp strings) in a circular direction.

The process produces a round piece of weaving which you can use as a trivet or coaster or a decorative piece of wall art.
Once your project is off the loom, you can even curve it into a bowl to keep small trinkets in. (You can also visit our paper plate woven bowl project if you’d like to make a bowl).

You can purchase circular weaving looms made of plastic or wood, but today, we’re going to show you how to make one out of cardboard for free. This way you can make several looms in different sizes and it won’t cost you a thing.

A QUICK, EASY AND IMPRESSIVE ACTIVITY FOR KIDS

Circle weaving is so easy that even young children can do it. My daycare kids grasped it quickly and produced some gorgeous pieces in about an hour.

It’s wonderful for kids to experience the joy of a tech-free hobby that they can work on in their down-time, or while watching t.v. or while in the car.
PRE-WEAVING ACTIVITIES

If your kids aren’t quite old enough to circle weave, homemade lacing cards are a great way to introduce them to the basics of weaving with a needle and yarn. And winding and wrapping activities will help prepare them for warping a loom.

CARDBOARD CIRCLE WEAVING – STEP-BY-STEP
SUPPLIES:

- piece of sturdy cardboard
- a round container or bowl to trace
- pencil
- scissors
- yarn
- plastic sewing needle

HOW TO MAKE A CIRCULAR WEAVING LOOM

First you'll need to start with a cardboard circle. Four to five inches across is a good size for kids to start with. When you have your circle cut out, this is what you'll do:

1. Draw an ODD NUMBER of evenly-spaced marks around the edge of the circle. You can eyeball the spacing, or use a finger for spacing, but you need an ODD number of marks, otherwise your warp threads (or spokes) will show through your weaving.

2. With your scissors, snip a 1/4 inch notch into each pencil mark.

3. Secure a piece of yarn into one of these notches, leaving a tail hanging behind the cardboard.
1. Carry the yarn across the loom to the notch directly opposite, and up the back of the loom to where you started.

2. Insert the yarn into the next notch over, and repeat what you did last time, taking the yarn down the front to the opposite notch and up the back again.

3. Continue winding around the loom this way until you get to the last notch. **NOTE:** to finish, you’ll take your yarn across the loom to a notch that’s already been used. It will look like you have two spokes going into this notch, but you’ll fasten them together in a minute, and treat them as one when you’re weaving.

4. Cut your yarn, leaving a tail, and tape the loose ends to the back of your loom.

Your loom is warped! It’s time to weave!
Tip: Weaving produces the most beautiful results when you use different colours and textures of yarn. Combine thick and thin yarn, fuzzy and lumpy yarn, and don’t be afraid to put crazy colours beside each other. Use your weaving project as an opportunity to use up those scraps of yarn you’ve been hanging onto.

CIRCLE WEAVING INSTRUCTIONS

1. To begin, thread a 1-2 foot length of yarn through your needle.

2. Slip the yarn underneath all of the warp threads and knot them together in the center of the loom. You’ll notice your double spoke comes together so you can treat it as one. Trim the tail of the knot, leaving enough to trap underneath the first few rounds of your weaving.

3. To begin weaving, slip your needle under one of the warp threads at the center of the loom, and then over the next. Continue weaving in a circle, over and under, around the loom, pulling your yarn gently to close in any gaps as you weave.

CHANGING YARN COLOURS

1. When you reach the end of your yarn, tie a new colour on with a double knot. You can either trap the tails of your know under the next couple of rounds or weave them in or trim them when you finish your project.

2. Continue weaving in circles until you get to the end of your warp strings.
3. Cut your yarn, leaving a tail.

HOW TO TAKE YOUR WEAVING OFF THE LOOM

1. To take your weaving off the loom, remove the tape from the back of the cardboard, and cut through the middle of the warp threads that criss-cross the cardboard.

2. Next, gently pry the warp threads out of the notches to release your weaving from the loom.

3. Lay your project on a flat surface, and tie all of the loose tails together in sets of two. Be sure to tie the tail of your coloured yarn to one of the warp threads so your weaving doesn’t unravel.

4. If you want your finished piece to lay flat, don’t pull too tightly when knotting, or the edges of your project will curl.

5. If you want to make a bowl, do pull your warp threads together a little more tightly so the edge of your weaving curls inwards.

6. Finish your project by weaving the leftover tails of the warp threads into the back of your piece of art.
And that, my friend, is how you weave a circle on a homemade cardboard loom.

MAKE IT: WEAVING IN THE ROUND

I recently saw a pin that made me very excited. It showed an embroidery hoop being used as a round loom! My little mind was blown (it doesn't take much these days) after some research I had a go and now I am hooked on weaving all over again.

Now that I have practised a little, I thought it would be something that you guys might like to try too. Once you have the basics down I bet you will be as addicted as me!
You will need: An embroidery hoop (the one I have used here is a 10") strong string or thread, a selection of yarns, a wool needle or bodkin and some small scissors.

Step 1. Take the outer ring off the hoop and put it to one side, take the thread and tie it around the edge of the inner hoop leaving a inch or so of thread to tie later.
Step 2. Pull the thread straight down over the bottom of the opposite edge of the hoop, take it over the edge and to the back.
Step 3. Bring the thread up and over the downward thread.
Step 4. Then bring the thread over the front of the hoop about 1 inch away from where you started.

Step 5. Continue taking the thread over the edge and over the other side in a figure of 8.
Step 6. Make sure to keep the centre crossing over, until you reach all the way around the hoop.
Step 7. Before threading the last strand take the thread around the centre a couple of times to keep it all together.
Step 8. Take the last strand up to meet the first thread and tie it to the end you left at the beginning.

Step 9. It should look something like this, you can choose to put your threads closer together but I would start with them at this width as it doesn't take too long to finish.

Step 10. Starting at the centre, take a length of yarn on a wool needle and start threading in and out through the strands.

Step 11. Keep threading in and out back and forth.

Step 12. Use your needle to keep the yarn tight to the centre and keep moving around the hoop.

Step 13. To finish off each colour simply thread the yarn back down in through the previous layers and snip away the excess.

Step 14. Keep going, changing colour when you want to. Mix it up with different colours and textures to keep it interesting.
These are some ideas for simple versions using regular and chunky yarns but they would also look great with some more textured yarns, ribbons or fabric scraps. You can of course take them out of the hoops and use them as place mats and coasters, but I love the look of them as art on my walls in the hoops. They would bring a quick splash of colour to any space for very little cost, always a winner in my book!

For more instructions on weaving and different kinds of techniques check out this cool blog, The Weaving Room, Kate has lots of really great tutorials and videos on lots of different kinds of weaving.

As always, if you have a go at this tutorial please #livelovemake on Instagram or Twitter, as we would love to see them.

From https://www.liveitloveitmakeit.com

How to make a God’s Eye Craft – Weaving for Kids

Last updated on April 28, 2020

Show your kids how to make a God’s Eye craft with a couple of sticks and several lengths of yarn. This classic “yarn and stick craft” is a fun way for kids to practice their weaving skills while creating an interesting and beautiful ornament.

WHAT IS A GOD’S EYE (OJO DE DIOS)

Do you remember making God’s Eyes when you were you were a kid? You may have known them by the name Ojo de Dios, which is Spanish for “Eye of God”. A God’s Eye craft is a classic childhood yarn craft, always popular at Sunday school, summer camp, Girl Guides and after-school craft clubs.

It’s a spiritual ornament (find the spiritual meaning further below) made by weaving several colours of yarn around a wooden cross. The cross is typically made from sticks found in the yard or with popsicle sticks (also known as craft sticks).
FOR OUR GOD’S EYE CRAFT, YOU’LL NEED:

- 2 sticks for each God’s Eye
- several balls of yarn

You have lots of options when it comes to your sticks. We used several different kinds of sticks. We had Starbucks’ coffee stirrers, ordinary craft sticks (also known as popsicle sticks), and we also had some round craft sticks. You can also use chop sticks, wooden skewers or real sticks from your yard.

For your yarn, any kind of yarn or wool will work. We used cotton wool for many of our God’s Eyes, and we used some acrylic yarn too. Some of our god’s eyes were made with solid colours, and some, we made with variegated, multicoloured balls of yarn.
As for your colours, anything goes! Bright, fun colours are great, but soft, muted colours look lovely too. And it’s fun to work with a colour theme if you’re crafting for a holiday. You could use pastels for Easter, red and green for Christmas, red, pink and white for Valentines Day.

**HOW TO MAKE A GOD’S EYE ORNAMENT:**

To make your God’s eye, begin by crossing two sticks to form an “X”.

To secure those sticks, and keep them in place, wrap a piece of yarn around the intersecting points of the stick. You can knot your yarn to start, or you can just trap the tail under the yarn as you start wrapping. Do a few wraps in one direction, and then rotate your sticks, and do a few wraps in the other direction to ensure your sticks are stable, and won’t shift.

Wrap your yarn around one stick, close to the center of the God’s eye, and take it over to the next stick. Wrap it around that stick, and take it to the next stick. Continue wrapping and winding in that fashion, rotating your God’s Eye craft as you work. Whether you wrap the yarn over the sticks or under doesn’t matter, as long as you are consistent.
It may take your child a few attempts to get the hang of the winding process. There’s quite a bit of co-ordination required.

They’ll have to concentrate to hold their sticks in one hand, and their yarn in the other. And it takes co-ordination to weave and turn their ornament as they go. There’s lots to focus on, but as your kids get into their “groove” and their movements become repetitive, they’ll find the activity relaxing and gratifying.

This activity is so good for increasing fine motor skills and co-ordination.

WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF A GOD’S EYE?

While you’re weaving your craft, you can chat about the origin of the God’s Eye:
Traditionally, a God’s Eye was a spiritual symbol, and the weaving process was reflective and meditative. The points of a God’s Eye represent the four elements of nature: earth, fire, air and water, and the center of the ornament represents the eye of God, and is believed to have the power to see and understand things that the human eye cannot. In some cultures, when a baby is born, the father of the household weaves the eye of the God’s eye, and each year, until the child’s 5th birthday, another ring of colour is added.

**TO SWITCH COLOURS WHEN MAKING YOUR GOD’S EYE:**

When you want to switch to a new colour, simply cut your yarn, and tie it to a new piece of yarn. Trim the ends, and continue weaving. Be sure to keep your knot and the tails of yarn to the back of the project as you begin weaving with your new colour.

Switch up your yarn as often as you’d like to make your God’s eye colourful and interesting.
When you've worked long enough that you're nearing the ends of your craft sticks, stop weaving, and wrap your yarn around a stick one last time. Cut your yarn, leaving a nice long tail for hanging your ornament. Slip that tail underneath the last wrap or two and tie it off.
You can watch the video tutorial I've made or if you prefer, you can follow the written instructions below the video.

**HOW-TO VIDEO:**

Much like any other weaving project, the weaving itself is simple. It’s just an in and out motion around the paper plate until the sides of your bowl are covered in yarn.

You can use a multi-coloured yarn and weave your bowl all with that one yarn and it will turn out multicoloured, or you can use several solid colours and just cut your yarn and tie on a new colour whenever you want. You can tuck the tails in to hide them when your project is finished.

This is such a wonderful way for kids to enjoy a relaxing weaving project, to strengthen their fine motor skills and to use up scrap yarn.

**HOW TO WEAVE A PAPER PLATE BOWL:**

**SUPPLIES:**
- paper plate
- pencil
- something round to trace
- yarn
- scissors
- glue and paintbrush (for inside base of bowl)

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Before you start weaving, you’ll need to prepare your paper plate.

1. **Mark your plate:**

   Trace a circle in the center of your paper plate. This will be the base of your bowl.

   Next, make an uneven number of marks, evenly spaced, around the edge of the paper plate.
Then draw a straight line to connect each mark to the circle that you drew.

2. **Cut**

Cut along each line, stopping at the circle that you drew.

Now, make cuts on either side of each cut to form a V.

3. **Fold**

Fold each section at the pencil circle line and bend the sections up to form shape of your bowl. If any of the sections overlap, trim to make the V wider so there’s no overlap when the bowl is formed (see video).

4. **Begin weaving**

Slip a piece of yarn between one of the cuts, leaving a tail, which you can hold down with your thumb while you get started. Weave in and out of the cuts, around and around the bowl. **NOTE:** Keep the sections of your bowl folded upwards as you weave. If you flatten them down, your weaving will not resemble a bowl.

Occasionally stop to assess your work and to push your yarn down if need be to ensure the paper plate isn’t visible through your weaving.
5. **To change colours**

To change to a new colour, snip your yarn, leaving a tail, and tie on a new piece of yarn, leaving another tail. You can trim these tails and tuck them in when you finish weaving.

6. **Finishing your weaving**

Stop weaving about 1/8 of an inch away from the top of the bowl. Cut your yarn and leave a tail which you will tuck in shortly.

7. **Fold the edges**

Fold the remaining top edge of each section down and crease firmly to create the bowl’s rim and to ensure your weaving doesn’t slip off the top of the bowl.

8. **Decorate the inside base**
Brush some glue over the inside base of the bowl, and use a long strand of yarn to create a spiral to cover the base of the bowl.

9. **Tuck in tails**

Using a pencil, tuck in any loose tails of yarn.

Your woven bowl is complete and now ready to store trinkets and treasures in!

**Paper Plate Yarn Weaving Activity for Kids**

Last updated on April 28, 2020
This PAPER PLATE YARN WEAVING ACTIVITY combines an easy Valentines Day craft with a beginner sewing project! It’s great for fine motor development, and the results are so pretty!

Because the words “weaving” and “sewing” are interchangeable with a project like this, I’ve use both throughout this post.

This simple weaving project offers a variety of skill-development. Both weaving and sewing help to increase fine-motor strength and hand-eye co-ordination. There’s the stitching itself of course, which in today’s high-tech world, most kids are not too familiar with.

It’s great! This craft will get kids thinking and doing things differently than they’re used to! New experiences = new connections and synapses being formed in the brain!

You’ll also love: Paper Plate Heart Lacing Activity

It’s a great early sewing activity! There’s lots of variety in the process: tracing, cutting, making marks, poking holes, weaving (or
sewing) and painting. And everyone enjoyed it; from the preschoolers to the tweens to my teenage helper.

FOR OUR PAPER PLATE YARN WEAVING ACTIVITY, YOU’LL NEED:

- **Plates**
- **Heart Stencil**
- pencil
- **Stylus** (or something like a pen to poke holes in the plate with)
- **child’s plastic sewing needle**
- **yarn**
- **scissors**
- paint (we used **acrylic craft paint** because we love the colours and how quickly it dries)
- **paintbrush**

We began by using a **stencil** and pencil to trace a heart onto the center of a paper plate.

![Heart tracing](image)

Then, with the pencil, the kids made dots all around the outline of the heart. My older hooligans were able to make fairly **evenly-**
spaced dots. A younger child may need assistance making his or her dots on the pencil line.

Then we used a craft stylus to poke holes through each dot. If you don’t have a stylus, you can use a sharp pencil or toothpick. This part is particularly fun. Place something soft underneath the plate so the stylus will poke through. A tea towel and a styrofoam produce tray worked well for us.

Next, your child can thread their sewing needle with a long length of yarn, and begin sewing or weaving in and out of the holes.

One thing the hooligans learned quickly was to not take their yarn across the upper-most holes (from the top of one arc to the other) or they would cover up the pointy indent in the top of the heart.

Back and forth they stitched.
When they had gone in and out of every hole in the outline, I showed them how to **back-stitch** around the outline of the heart to give it some definition. Back-stitching was definitely trickier and required some thinking but they got it, and finished up wonderfully!

**You may like:** [Basic Sewing Stitches for Kids](#) to Learn by Red Ted Art

Older kids can use this weaving process to make **specific designs** on their hearts, as we did with our yellow paper plate, and younger children can simply sew randomly, criss-crossing their yarn wherever.

To secure the yarn when you’re finished sewing, simply **knot** the loose ends behind the plate.
For the finishing touch, the hooligans chose a matching shade of **paint** to brush around the border of each plate.

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**Stick Weaving – Weaving on a Y-Shaped Stick**

Last updated on April 28, 2020

*For this easy stick weaving activity, all you need is a sturdy Y-shaped stick, colourful yarn and a sewing needle.*
With stick weaving, your loom is a Y-shaped stick, which you can find in your backyard or when you’re out for a nature walk. Don’t you love incorporating natural items in your crafts and activities?

The weaving process is the same as it is with any weaving project. You just go in and out of the warp threads, working your way up and down the “Y” to create your design.

The older girls (ages 8-12) in my daycare love a good yarn craft, so this kept them entertained for quite a while, and they produced some really cool pieces of art.

**TIPS:**

Stringing a stick loom is a little trickier than stringing a cardboard loom because there aren't any notches to secure your yarn in. (See Instructions Below)

I did try notching a stick with a sharp knife, but honestly, it was just extra work. If you wrap your yarn securely around the stick, it holds just as nicely, with much less effort.

The most important part is getting a stick that’s sturdy enough that doesn’t bend when you’re making your loom. If it has too much “give” to it, your strings will slip when you’re stringing it and when you’re weaving on it.

*If you’re really lucky, you’ll find a stick with 3 prongs like the one in the photo below. Then you’ll have 3 Y’s to fill in with your weaving!*
GO WILD WITH YOUR COLOURS!

We found, the more colours, the better. Don’t worry if the colours compliment each other. We put some really crazy colours together, and every combination turned out great.

MIX DIFFERENT TEXTURES!

Go for a mix of textures if you like too. Combining fuzzy, nubby and cotton yarns will give you some really interesting results.

Most of all, have fun!

STICK WEAVING HOW-TO:

SUPPLIES:

- Sturdy, Y-Shaped Stick
• Yarn
• Plastic Sewing Needle
• Scissors

Time needed: 1 hour.

1. **Find a Stick**

   Find a sturdy Y-shaped stick that won’t bend or break when you’re stringing it and weaving on it.

2. **Tie on your Yarn**

   Begin with an arm’s length piece of yarn. Tie one end of the yarn to a branch, close to the bottom of the Y.

3. **String your Loom**

   Take the yarn across to the opposite branch, and wrap it around the branch a couple of times (at least one FULL circle) before coming back across the loom.

   **Note:** You can either take your string straight across the front and then straight across the back, (see purple yarn in photo) or you can wrap figure-8 style, from the front on one side of the Y to the back on the opposite side (see green yarn in photo) Just make sure you go full circle around the stick each time you cross the loom. When you reach the top of the stick, tie off your
yarn and trim the tail. Leave enough to weave in when you’re finished if you wish.

4. **Weaving**

Starting close to a branch, at either the top or bottom of the loom, weave in and out of the threads running across the loom. As you work, nudge your weaving over with a finger to close up any gaps. **Note:** If your threads are in a figure 8 (back to front) pattern, you’ll weave over and under every string. If your threads run across the front and across the back, you can weave on the front strings to make one design, and when you’re finished, you can weave a second design on the back strings.

5. **Changing Colours**

To change to a new yarn colour, simply tie a new colour on with a double knot, and trim the tails leaving enough to weave into the back of your piece when you’re finished.
6. **Finising**

   To finish your project, cut your yarn, and weave it into the back of your design.

![Straw Weaving](image)

Aren’t they pretty?

**Straw Weaving (Weaving on Drinking Straws)**

Last updated on April 27, 2020

Here’s another cool weaving craft for your older kids to try. Straw Weaving! All you need is a few drinking straws, tape and yarn, and your kids can make bracelets, necklaces, headbands and bookmarks for themselves or to trade with friends.
Oh my goodness. It couldn’t be any easier, and the pieces make up really quickly, so your kids can make quite a few projects in no time.

I love that there’s no special equipment involved with straw weaving. You don’t need a sewing needle, and there’s no loom to prepare other than taping your straws together.

Let me show you how easy it is to do.

You can watch the instructional video that I’ve made or follow the written instructions below.

**HOW-TO VIDEO:**

**STRAW WEAVING INSTRUCTIONS:**
SUPPLIES:

- 3 or more drinking straws
- yarn (approx 7-8 meters)
- tape
- scissors
- beads (optional)

Time needed: 30 minutes.

How to Weave with Drinking Straws and Yarn

1. **Tape straws.**

   Tape 3 drinking straws together at one end, leaving a very small gap between the straws.

2. **Weave.**

   To weave on your straws, leave a long tail, and insert your yarn between two of the straws, close to the taped end. Weave over and under the straws until you get to the 3rd straw and then weave your way back to the first straw. Repeat this motion as you weave your way up the straws.
**Note:** From time to time, stop and slide your weaving down towards the taped end so your stitches are snug. Weave all the way to the top end of the straws.

3. **Prepare to take project off the straws.**

   When you get to the end of the straws, snip your yarn, leaving a tail. Cut 3 new pieces of yarn that are several inches longer than the straws and drop one piece through each straw.

4. **Tie the top tails.**

   At the top (untaped) end of the straw, tie the piece that you finished weaving with to one of the new pieces of yarn and secure with a knot. Next, knot the other two pieces of yarn
together. Then knot all 4 tails together in one knot.

5. **Slide project off straws.** Gently push and shimmy your weaving off the straws. Lay your project flat and gently smooth it out.

6. **Tie the bottom tails.**

   Much like you did with the top tails, knot the bottom tails together.

7. **Decorate with beads.**
If you're making a bookmark, add some pony beads to the tails of your woven project.

What a fun way for older kids to enjoy an afternoon of crafting.

Weaving Cute Baby Turtles Using God's Eye Weaving Pattern

Looking for some fun and unique summer crafts to do with the kiddos? Me too! School is almost over and I've got summer crafts on my mind! Today I'm sharing this fun twist on a God's Eye weaving craft. (Remember collecting sticks and making those in summer camp?) But, instead of making the traditional 2 stick version, we recently made a fun 3 stick version.... that also happens to look like a tiny baby turtle!
Let's Weave Some Baby Turtles!

First we painted 3 mini popsicle sticks with quick dry solid tempera paint.

Once our paint dried (ours dried in a couple of minutes) we drew on a face and some toes.

Then, we hot glued the turtle together.

Now we grabbed our colorful yarn and got weaving.

First I tied on a piece of long yarn. (I made sure to leave a bit of excess yarn so that I could tie my last piece of yarn with my first piece of yarn at the end.)

Then, we wrapped the yarn around our turtle (across the center), making sure to cover the middle portion. (I think I wrapped it around 2-3 times each time.)

Ok. Then, we began weaving just like you would with a normal two stick God's eye pattern. We placed our yarn over a popsicle stick, wrapped it around once, and then placed our yarn over the next popsicle stick, and wrapped it around... and kept repeating that over and around process.

And to change colors, we simply tied on another piece of yarn.
Once we finished, we tied our last piece of yarn to our first piece of yarn.

And that’s it! I really hope you try this activity with your kiddos too. It’s such a fun and easy craft that’s sure to please kids of all ages. (When my 4 year old saw me making these, he immediately wanted to make some too. I got the first steps started for him, but he quickly caught onto the “over and around” weaving pattern!)