

Weaving

Weaving is a fun and inexpensive activity for all age groups to enjoy. It helps children with:

- eye-hand coordination and concentration.
- fine motor skills
- problem-solving skills. Children need to consider and work through any problems they encounter as they weave.
- understanding of patterns and sequencing.
- creativity and relaxation. Weaving is a quiet, calming activity in which children can develop and express their creative ideas.

Weaving teaches children about recycling and reusing materials. It's also a fantastic wet weather activity that's super-easy to set up. It should take about 45mins to an hour to complete the project.

We are going to try paper plate weaving and also look at how we can use recycled material and turn them into chime or a tea coasters!

Materials you will need:

Paper Plate, scissors, Pen/pencil wool and lolly sticks, masking tape (optional), you will need bells if you are making a chime.

You can replace the wool with recycled materials such as fabric strips (you could recycle old clothes by cutting them into strips), ribbon, old laces or cut up plastic bags.



Note: Best to use bright contrasting colour strings.



Tips:

- Make sure your knots are tight and close to the previous weaving round as possible.
- Leaving the string on other end of the knot long enough to tuck under the weaving. You can cut them short in the end if you are making a coaster or chime.
- If you feel that going under-over has made some strings to raise too much then just go under or over two strings together one time (**just once**) and that will sort it out.
- The bold underline words are important, so pay attention on them.



The weaving process:

Step 1A



Use a Paper Plate

Step 2A



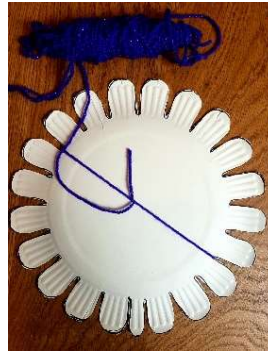
On the reverse side of the plate draw flower petals.

Step 3A



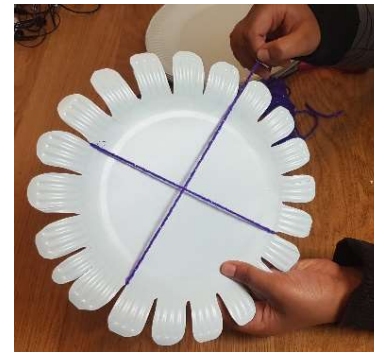
Cut out the petals as shown

Step 4A



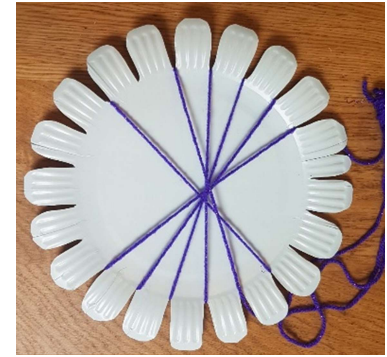
Thread the wool in between two petals roughly in the middle. Don't worry if its not exactly in the middle

Step 5A

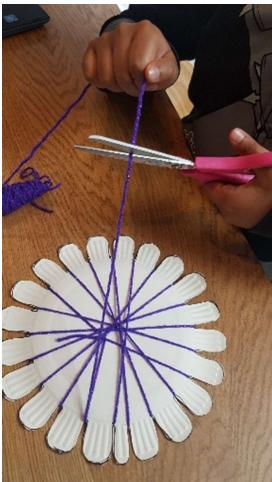


Thread criss-cross through all the petals as shown. If you have odd number of petals then don't worry. Just go through few of them twice.

Step 6A

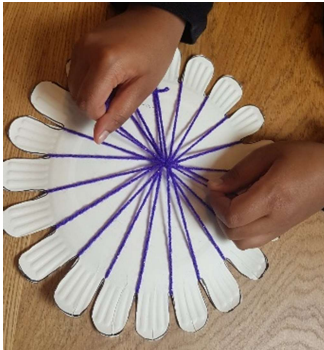


Step 7A



It might turn out like this if you had odd number of petals.

Step 8A



On the front and reverse side of the plate, knot all the stings in the **centre** using a small string of wool.

Step 9A



It should look like this. You can also put some masking tape on the reverse to avoid the movement of strings.

Step 10A



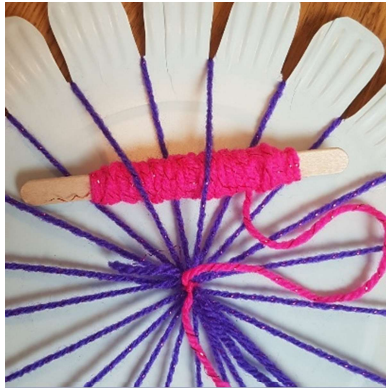
Wrap the wool colours you want around lolly sticks. This will help you with the weaving. Make sure you don't wrap too much wool or you will find it difficult to go under and over the strings.

Step 11A



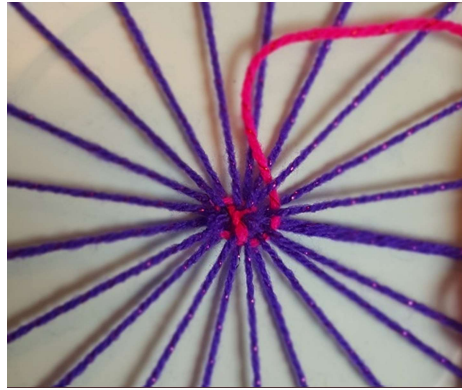
We will be using the front of the paper plate now. Start by knotting the wool colour you would like to start with. Make a knot as shown. Make sure you leave the other side of the string long enough to tuck under the weaving.

Step 12A



Now start weaving by going **over** and then **under** the strings. Pull the string gently.

Step 13A



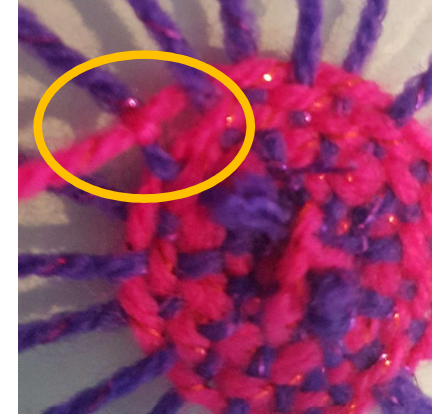
The first one or two rounds you may not see much, which is ok. It will start showing once you have done few rounds.

Step 14A



This is how it will look after few rounds.

Step 15A



Knot the string after 5-6 rounds as shown in the yellow circle.

Step 16A



Knot a new colour string as shown. It is always good to knot it one string before the one you finished your previous colour.

Step 17A



Start weaving **under** and **over** again with the new colour.

Step 18A



Add another colour after 5-6 rounds. It is always good to finish with the colour you started the strings with. This way you won't see the knots in the end.

Step 19A



Step 20A



The finished product

You can frame this and use it as a wall display or you can extend your activity to make a tea coaster or a chime!

Follow the next step if you would like to make a tea coaster using recycled materials.

The process to create chime or coaster:

Step 1B

I am going to replace the wool used for weaving to a mix of plastic bags & old t-shirt to do my weaving. I have used a thick party bag & a Sainsbury one to give a colour contrast.

Step 2B



Cut then into roughly inch and half strips.

Step 3B



Cut strips from an old t-shirt/shirt or any other fabric.

Step 4B



I have used thick wool to do the first step. You can do these using the recycled materials if you like.

Step 5B



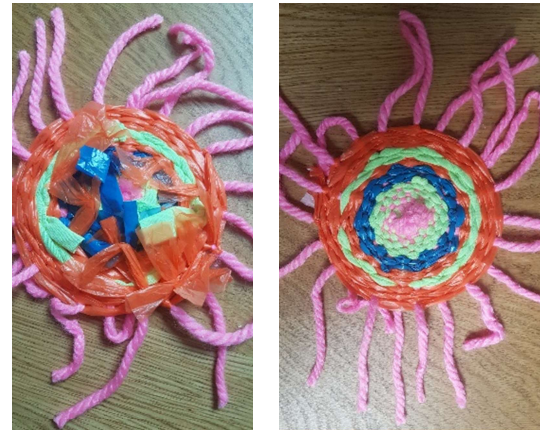
Follow Step 1A to 20A

Step 6B



Cut the strings on the reserve side of the plate.

Step 7B



Back

front

This is how it will look after you separate it from the plate.

Step 8B

You can add bells to the wool strings at this stage and turn it into a chime or extend it to make a tea coaster.

Step 9B



Double knot the strings to each other and then to one next to it and you will see this pattern on the edge.

Step 10B



Shape it slightly in a bowl shape and it's ready!

