

Stick Weaving

For all ages

Explore: Spring is a great time to explore the forest and look for branches that have broken from trees over the past several months. It is also a great time to get creative and add some color to our lives. For this craft children will need to find a branch that has a V shape. This V will be used as a frame for weaving.

Create: Once children have found their stick it is time to get started. To start, tie one end of string to the bottom of the V and wrap it back and forth between each side of the V shape, wrapping it twice around each side and making sure to leave space between each wrap so there is room to weave. Make sure to wrap it tightly. Once you get to the top of the V tie another knot and cut excess string. Now you are ready to weave! Choose the first color you want to weave with and cut a length and tie one end to the bottom of the V. Start weaving over and under, over and under, til you get to the top of the V and then weave back down, over and under, over and under. Continue until you run out of string. You can add a different color or material by tying it on to the end of your first string. Once you are finished, tie (double knot) the end of the string to the V.

Reflect and Share: What did you learn while you were working? If you were to do it again, would you pick a smaller or larger branch? Experiment with different techniques: Can you space the anchor string wraps closer or further apart? Can you add other materials like bark, grass, beads? Can you find a branch that has more than one V? How can you share your weaving with others?

Materials: a sturdy stick with a V, scissors, materials for weaving (yarn, string, ribbon, birch bark strips, grass...), plastic needle or similar is helpful for weaving

Why: self direction, creativity, motor planning, STEAM, problem solving, fine motor skills, fun

Inspired by:

Photos: (Below)

