

Experiential Learning Activity: Weave a Paper Plate Basket

You can learn how to weave a basket using the common household items listed below. Please note that basket weaving takes patience and this activity is no different. While it can be tedious, basket weaving is very rewarding, and we encourage you to take your time to learn this incredible skill! Kindergarten students will need support throughout this activity. When working with a group of students, it may be preferable for students to begin at step 5 with an adult completing steps 1-4 prior to the activity.

Activity Materials

paper plate

scissors

round object for tracing

yarn

paintbrush

glue

pen or pencil



Step 1: Use the round object to trace a circle in the center of the paper plate to be the base of your basket.



Step 2: Mark the edge of the paper plate as shown in the picture. Make sure that each mark connects with the inner circle. You should have an odd number of marks that are evenly spaced.

Step 3: Use your scissors to cut along each line, stopping at the circle. Then cut to create a V shape between each flap of paper.



Step 4: Fold each flap of paper inward to form the shape of your basket. Make sure that no flaps are overlapping by trimming larger Vs if necessary.



Step 5: Slide a piece of yarn between two flaps of paper. Be sure to leave a tail of yarn that you can hold down while you begin to weave. As you weave, keep the flaps of paper folded upward.



Step 6: If you want to change colors, cut your yarn and tie on a new piece of yarn. Be sure to leave a long tail, as you can trim it later.

Step 7: Stop weaving once you are about 1/4 of an inch from the tips of your flaps of paper.



Step 8: Next, fold the tips of the flaps outward and down, firmly creasing them to create the rim of your basket. This will hold your yarn in place.



Step 9: Use the paintbrush to lightly coat the interior base of your basket with glue. Then cover the base with a long strand of yarn by spiraling it. Then use the pointed end of your brush to hide any yarn tails.