

Weaving Activity Directions

- Create a small handmade loom by cutting a piece of cardboard into a small rectangle (about 5 inches wide by 7 inches long is a good size for starters).
- Using a ruler, draw six to eight $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long lines along the top and bottom of the loom. The lines should be around $\frac{1}{4}$ inch apart and should line up with one another from top to bottom.
- Use a pair of scissors to cut along the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long lines on both the top and bottom of the loom (See Image 1).
- Cut a long section of white string (about 16 times the length of your loom). Tape the string down on the left side of the loom. This will be the back side of the loom. Using Image 1 as a guide, pull the string up through slot one, down through slot two, up and over slot 3, down through slot 4, etc. Follow this pattern until the string has crossed through all slots. Tape the end of the string to the back of the loom.
- Draw a pattern on a piece of graph paper that is the same size as the loom. Use three to five colored pencils to represent the colors of yarn that will be used in the weave. The pattern will serve as a guide for weaving.
- Choose a color of yarn to begin with. Moving from left to right, place the yarn over one string and under the next string. Repeat this over/under pattern until you cross all strings. Then wrap the yarn around the last string and move back in the opposite direction (right to left) using the same over/under pattern. Repeat for as many lines as you would like with that color of yarn.
- When changing the color of the yarn, finish an entire row and then switch to a different color. Do not tie a knot at the end of the yarn to start a new color. Each piece can be simply left hanging off to the side.
- Complete the weave by following the pattern drawn out on the graph paper. Weave until the loom is completely full.
- Either cut the weave off the loom to make a wall hanging or frame the weave on the loom by making a cardboard frame.

Image 1

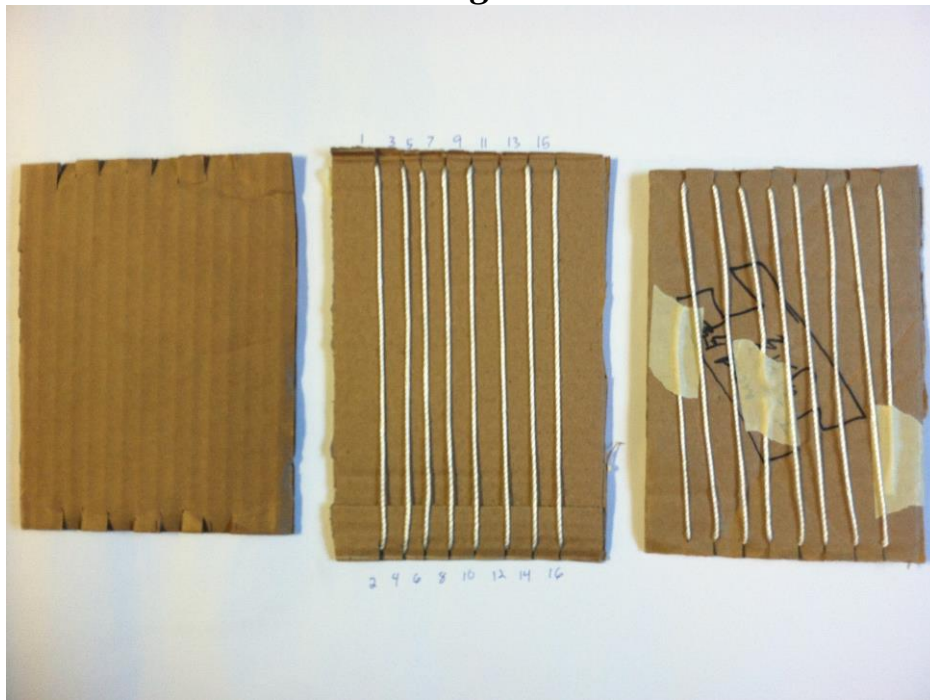


Image 2

