

Picture Frame Weavings

Grade 3

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Materials: 8x10 posterboard with a 4x6 window cut out and 7 holes punched at each end of the window (see diagram 1), weaving needles, pre-cut yarn in the length needed to warp a loom (one piece per student), scissors, yarn, pencils, masking tape

Procedure

1. Review weaving concepts with the class, showing examples of woven materials and simple looms.
2. Explain that they are going to “warp” their own looms, which means putting the strings (we’ll use colored yarn) on the loom that they’ll be weaving across.
3. Have each student write his/her name on the back of the loom and then tape one end of their yarn near one of the corner holes (see diagram 2) on the same side as their name.
4. Thread the other end of the yarn through the weaving needle. Put the needle through the hole closest to the tape and pull the yarn all the way through to the other side of the cardboard.
5. Come up again through the hole at the opposite end of the “window.” Pull all the yarn through.
6. Go down in the “neighbor” hole to where the yarn is now, pull yarn through to back. Then come up in the hole in the opposite end of the window. They’ll be alternating “long trips” (opposite end of window) and “neighbor’s” (next door hole). (See Diagram 3)
7. When they get to the end they should make sure the yarn is somewhat snug, then tape the other end of the yarn to the back of the loom. Cut off the excess.
8. Cut piece of yarn (student’s choice of color) to begin weaving. It should be at least as long as their arm. Thread one end through the needle. Keep one end of the yarn short and the other long.

9. Weave the first row by going “under, over, under, over...” until they get to the end. Pull the extra yarn through until there’s only a little sticking out.
10. Weave the second row by going back the opposite direction **but** make sure that you go under and over the opposite strings as the row before.
11. Push the weaving down to the end of the window, but not too tight.
12. Make sure they don’t pull too tight on the yarn in each row.
13. Continue to weave, changing colors as desired, until the window is full of a weaving.
14. Use markers to decorate the frame in matching colors. Gel markers work really well.



