

TORN PAPER WEAVING

This torn paper technique teaches weaving without using a complicated loom. Engage your students by allowing them to color freely when decorating their paper; if they fret over a mistake remind them that they will be tearing it soon - and, to quote Bob Ross, "We don't make mistakes, just happy little accidents". While creating remember the phrase "over, under, over under" and you'll be weaving in no time!

MATERIALS

- Watercolor paper, cardstock, or construction paper
- Watercolors, crayons, or oil pastels
- Ruler
- Glue



DIRECTIONS

1. Completely fill two pieces of paper with designs and color. If using watercolors, fill the entire page with paint and use various colors. If using construction paper, draw different patterns and designs all over the paper. The weaving will stand out more if contrasting colors are used.
2. Using the ruler as a firm edge, rip both pieces of paper into strips. For younger students, rip one piece of paper into strips. The second piece of paper can be ripped close to the edge, leaving about an inch, which will make the weaving easier to complete.
3. Arrange half of your strips horizontally on the table leaving a sliver of space between each strip.
4. Lay a different color strip vertically on top of the horizontal strips. To weave them together, start on the bottom row with the vertical strip over the horizontal strip. Then, tuck the vertical strip under the next strip. Then over. Then under. Then repeat until you reach the top.
5. Lay out a second strip vertically, next to the first one, this time starting under the horizontal strip.
6. Repeat with all of the strips.
7. Once all is woven together, add a drop of glue under the edges of the strips that can easily be lifted. Be careful not to undo all of your hard work!