



# Straw Weaving

## OVERVIEW

Students will learn about weaving and then use a weaving technique to create a chain inspired by the work of Sara Bowen. Students will use yarn and drinking straws to complete the project. Students will be able to use their finished activity as a bookmark or other accessories.

## STANDARDS

### ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What is straw weaving?

### STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students Will:

- Use art vocabulary while creating art.
- Explore different media while creating art.
- Compare one's interpretation of others.

### ALABAMA STATE STANDARDS

#### ART EDUCATION

##### Kindergarten

- 3) Build skills by following a sequence of steps to create art that expresses feeling and ideas.
- 4) Identify safe and non-toxic art materials, tools, and equipment while sharing.

##### 1st grade

- 2) Explore and experiment with a range of art materials.  
Use art vocabulary while creating art.
- 6b) Apply line, shape, texture in a work of art.

Line: Horizontal, vertical, diagonal, straight, curved, dotted, broken, or thick/thin.

Shape: Geometric and organic.

Texture: Smooth or rough.

##### 2nd grade

- 6) Integrate art vocabulary while planning and creating art.
- 15) Compare and contrast cultural uses of artwork from different times and places.

##### 3rd grade

- 3) Describe and use steps of the art-making process while creating works of art/design.

##### Forth grade

- 15) Through observation, infer information about time, place, and culture in which a work of art was created.

##### 5th grade

- 11) Identify and analyze cultural associations suggested by visual imagery.

##### 6th grade

- 13) Develop and apply relevant criteria to assess works of art.

## ART DISCUSSION

### DISCUSSION PROMPTS

- How do you think fabric is made for some clothes?
- What is weaving?

### ABOUT THE ARTIST

Sara Bowen is a potter from South Alabama, creating functional pots inspired by her natural surroundings, favorite flora, and the feminine form. Her ceramic installation and gallery work focuses on creating other-worldly spaces, often featuring light, fiber, and poetry. Bowen's recent installation, "The Witch Doctor's Chapel," debuted along with her first book of poetry, "The Witch Doctor's Hymnal," both of which focus on healing and reconciling uncomfortable truths and childhood trauma.

## CURRICULUM CONTENT

### LEARN ABOUT THE WITCH DOCTOR'S CHAPEL

The Witch Doctor's Chapel was created by artist Sara Bowen to reconcile and honor complicated feelings about her late mother and the traumas of her Southern childhood. It's a space for healing, holding conflicting truths in one space, and ultimately celebrating resilience and broken parts. She began this installation with the goal of creating a magical space in the vein of the medieval chapels she studied as an art history student. As she mixed materials like silk and porcelain with light, the feeling persisted that she needed something more to create the magic she was seeking. Meanwhile, Bowen was writing poems to process her childhood, grief, and difficult relationship with her mother, and along the way the poems and installation merged.



# Straw Weaving

## ART INSTRUCTION

### MATERIALS

3 drinking straws, small balls of yar, scissors, tape, pipecleaner

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. The instructor should discuss the basics and history of weaving
2. grab 3 staws and begin threading yarn through each straw using a pipecleaner. Leave a long tail of yarn on one side.
3. To hold yarn in place, tape yarn to the end of straws individually and knot the tail ends together on the opposite end.
4. To start weaving, take another ball of yarn and tie it onto the end of the straw cloe to the knotted ends
5. Begin to weave under and over until you reach the last straw. Then weave back towards the first straw. Repeating this motion( over and under) until the students have reached the end of the straw.
6. to remove weaving from straws, gently pull straws from open ended side.
7. Lastly, knot the yarn ends under the woven yarn. Students can use their finished project as a headband, bracelet, bookmark, keychain, or necklace.



## TERMS

**WEAVING** - joining at two threads to form a cloth

**WARP** - The set of vertical threads.

**WEFT**- the set of horizontal threads

**LOOM** - is a frame usually made of wood that gives support and tension while working the loom

## EXPAND

LINK TO VIDEO GUIDES

