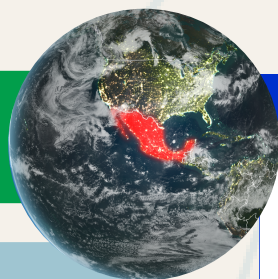
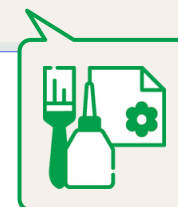


God's Eye, 'Ojo de Dios' Craft



Global Links



A craft object that is made by wrapping or weaving wool or yarn in patterns around a wooden cross. The four points of the sticks represent four elements; earth, air, fire and water. They were believed to protect new babies and growing children under 'God's Eye' and bring health, wealth and long life. Traditionally a father would create the artefact on the birth of a new baby and then weave a new section each year of the child's life.

First made in Mexico in the 15th century by the Huichol Indians, these were used in prayer and protection. Amulets (worn for protection) and Talismans (hung for protection) are found in many different cultures globally across the centuries. Amulets and Talismans are linked to the idea of 'good and bad luck'.

Many cultures still believe in the idea of lucky and unlucky colours, numbers and items. For example, in Ireland a four leaf clover is believed to be lucky and in China red is believed to be a lucky colour, while the number four is believed to be unlucky.



Vocabulary

Weave (v)



Tejer

Wool (n)



Lana

To protect (v)




Protejer


Curriculum Links

Art , Design and Technologies

Art and crafts

God's Eye, 'Ojo de Dios' Craft

 Different coloured wool or yarn

 Two popsicle sticks (tree sticks also ok)

 Scissors

 Glue or string

Explore!

Try making the craft with different materials and see how it affects the feel and look of the product e.g. twine, string, plastic, or material cut up into strips, etc.

God's Eye Craft
video



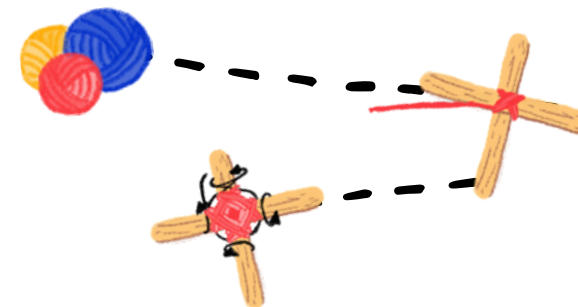
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A. Method The Base

- 1 Choose 3 or more colours for your craft
- 2 Paste the two popsicle sticks together at the centre making a cross shape. With round shaped sticks, use string to secure them together in a cross shape
- 3 Take the cross and hold in a diagonal X direction. Hold the end of the first colour down in the middle of the sticks, wrapping it five times around the middle, up and over. Then turn the cross so you wrap it five times across the middle in the other direction. The base of the cross is now secure.



B. Method The Decoration

- 4 Hold the cross so the sticks are horizontal and vertical. Hold the wood behind the vertical stick and bring it around over the top of the stick, staying close to the middle point of the two sticks joining, then wrap it across diagonally upwards and around the back of the stick facing upwards. Turn the whole cross now clockwise so the stick is in a new vertical and horizontal shape and the wool is behind the wooden stick sticking out to the right.
- 5 Repeat - down, up, across, multiple times creating a diagonal and vertical pattern, building further and further outwards.
- 6 To change colours, cut the wool off and tie the next colour to it, tying it behind the stick. You can also just wrap the first colour under the second colour, wrapping the second colour around the stick twice to secure the first colour, however, this is not as secure.
- 7 Continue to use the same wrapping pattern with the second colour - down, up, across.
- 8 Continue to make the craft, changing colours as many times as you want, creating a symmetrical pattern that grows outwards.
- 9 When you've finished, cut the wool leaving a long piece (approx 20cm) out. Place your finger at the back of the top stick, wrap the wool around it once, then back at the back thread it through the loop where your finger is. Remove your finger and tighten the 'knot' you've created. Repeat a few times to secure the wool.
- 10 Use the remaining wool to hang the 'God's Eye' on display!

