

NATURE ACTIVITIES

NATURE DREAMCATCHER

Go out in nature and make your own dreamcatcher inspired art object!

Resources/materials needed: Bendable stick, yarn, twine, scissors, natural objects (feathers, stones, pinecones, leaves, sticks, etc), pruners, garden gloves

Skills: Cognitive, Motor Skills, Environmental Appreciation, Hand-Eye Coordination, Technical Skills, Creative Problem Solving



Photo Credit: Emma Owl

DIRECTIONS:

Step 1: Go out in nature and explore! Bring your pruners and some gardening gloves. Look for a stick/stem that is soft enough to bend. Use your pruners to cut. Just avoid poison ivy and thorns. Make sure these sticks are long enough to make the circle size you want.



Photo Credit: We Know Stuff

Step 2: While your outside gather natural objects that you will like to include in your dreamcatcher. These can be leaves, sticks, twigs, acorns, pine cones, feathers, moss, etc. What have you observed out on your adventure? See any animals?

Step 3: When you are home, get your sticks to make the circles out with some twine or string of some sort. Curve the stems/branches/sticks into a circle and have at least 2.5" overlap. Tie a string tightly around this overlap. If you are doing this with your kids, it's a great time to work together by having someone hold it while someone does the tying. Wrap this part with quite a bit of string just to secure it.



Photo Credit: Goodieshill

Step 4: Measure a piece of yarn or twine about 3 ft long. Tie this string around where you tied the twigs together as a starting place. From the outside in, make a loop and space it 2 or 3 inches from the next loop around the circle. Like the photo beside. It is how a spider web would be made.



Photo Credit: Natural Kid Steam

Step 5: Once you have the loops evenly spaced around the ring, it is time to keep the web going by looping in the middle of the string that goes from loop points. It is a rotating pattern.



Photo Credit :We Know Stuff

Step 6 : You can feel free to string beads between doing this on the string. If you run out of string, you can also tie more and feel free to experiment with tying together different colors of yarn.



Photo Credit : Natural Kid Steam

Step 7: When you get to the middle, tie it with a double knot and cut down to keep it neat. But you can also use that excess string that is attached to dangle a feather or object to. Tie a string to make a loops so this dreamcatcher can hang. Now, cut strings to put along the bottom at the desired length where you can attach your nature objects.



Photo Credit : We Know Stuff

LEAF PAINTING

Resources/materials needed: Paint, brushes, water, cardboard, paint area, paper towels.

Step 1: If you gathered leaves and sticks as well as other natural objects that you would like to have a little bit of paint on, feel free to paint in all the color you would like!

Step 2: Lay out cardboard before painting and paint one side, wait until it dries and then you can do the other. Let the paint completely dry before attaching to the dreamcatcher.

Step 3: Take your natural objects painted or not and incorporate them into the dreamcatcher. The leaves can be tied /taped to the dangling string. You can weave grasses, flowers, moss and leaves into the circular part of the dream catcher as well. Get creative! You can also string beads on the dangling string.

Step 4: Once everything is placed how you would like it, Decide where you would like to hang it. Whether it is decorative or protecting your child's dreams in the traditional sense.

Reflection: Talk about your experience. What was your experience searching for these materials? Do you like this process? What would you do differently next time?

Resources:

www.weknowstuff.us.com
www.createandbarrel.com/kids-blog/diy-leaf-dream-catcher/
www.naturalkidsteam.com
www.emmaowl.com
<https://mghorththerapy.wordpress.com/2018/09/07/dream-weaver-dream-catchers-with-natural-materials/>

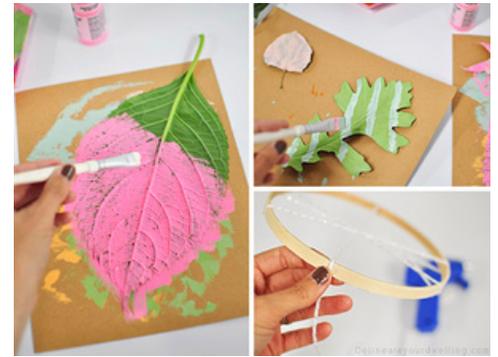


Photo Credit :Crate and Barrel



Photo Credit :Crate and Barrel



Photo Credit:Unschool ME



Photo Credit: Fireflies and Mudpies