



BERKSHIRE BOTANICAL GARDEN

NATURE LOOM CRAFT

This simple, small homemade loom is inspired by the large one found in our children's garden. Use natural materials to create a little art piece that changes with the season. These step-by-step photos will show you how to make your own! For younger ones, consider using simple cotton cord or string instead of thread.



1

For this craft, you will need: scissors; a piece of cardboard cut into a square; string, yarn or thread; tape and some materials from outside.



2

Cut small slits down two opposite sides of the cardboard. Make them as uniform as you can.



3

Decide which sides will be the front and back. Tape your string to the back side of your cardboard square.



4

Wrap the string across and around the cardboard square using the slits you cut to hold it in place.



5

Tape the string in place on the back side once you've wrapped it all the way around.



6

Weave in the natural materials you collected from the yard. Use an over-under weaving pattern to create the effect of something woven and so that they stay in place.



7

Admire your work! You can add new pieces to your nature loom as you find them. Here, we have: last year's goat's beard, sea oats, a blue jay feather and the first forsythia of the spring. If you like, tie a loop of thread to the top thread on the back of your loom to create a hanging loop or apply a square of mounting tape to the back. Then you can hang your loom on the wall to brighten a room with the beauty of spring.