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DIY GUIDE:

Weave On Your Own Cardboard Loom

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Weaving is a method of textile production in which two sets of yarns are interlaced at right angles to form a fabric. To weave a fabric one requires a loom, which are found in a variety of shapes and styles across the world!

A woven cloth is normally much longer in one direction than the other. The lengthwise threads are called **warp**, and the other threads, which lie widthwise, are called **weft**. Here is an illustration to explain these terms better.

Pick a piece of woven fabric in your house and observe it closely – you might be able to spot the warp and weft in the fabric yourself!

Inspired to try some weaving now? Read on to know how!

Don't forget to take photographs of your creations and DM it to us on Instagram @mapbangalore. You can also email them to us at education@map-india.org

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Make your own mini loom!

For this project, you will need:

- A piece of cardboard (the size of this cardboard will depend on the size of the fabric you want to weave)
- Yarn (Pick at least two colours and keep enough yarn of each colour with you, so you do not run out mid-weaving!)
- A needle
- A pair of scissors
- Some tape

Step 1

First pick up your cardboard and cut evenly spaced slits on two longer sides of it. Make sure that the size of each slit is the same and the space between each slit is also consistent.

Step 2

Next, take your yarn, place one end of it close to the first slit and tape it there. Now, thread the yarn down around the other side and back of the loom. Keep in mind that when the yarn goes back, you have to thread it through the next slit, before bringing it to the front. Repeat this process until all the slits are used up.

Step 3:

When you are done, cut and tape the end of the yarn at the back of the cardboard. This is your warp!

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Step 4:

Next, thread the yarn of the other colour through a needle and start weaving it through your warp. Start with the first warp on the left, go under the first warp and over the second. Keep doing the 'over and under' motion for the entire length of the first warp.

Step 5:

When you have done one line, pull the yarn all the way through and leave a small tail on the left edge. Now, loop the needle under the last warp on the right and go over the next one. Repeat the same process of 'over and under' for warp line number two, but in the opposite direction.

Step 6:

Push the second line tightly over the first and continue to weave like this. If you have yarns of more colours, leave a tail of the one you are using on the left. Replace the yarn in your needle and continue the same process with your next colour. You can add as many colours as you like.

Step 7:

Once you are done, thread all the open tails to the left edge of your loom so they remain in place. Now you can snip off the yarn from your needle.

Step 8:

Turn your cardboard and remove the tape. Cut the warp in the middle and pull out all the warp ends from the slits. You can knot them in pairs to make your weaving tighter. Remove it from the loom and your first ever weave is done! We used our woven piece as a tiny coaster!
What will you do with yours?

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