

# Weaving Project, Week 4

So for this  
final week we  
are going to  
abandon the  
faithful  
cardboard in  
favour of  
sticks!



The earliest looms date back to Neolithic times. These would have hung from a branch, with the warp threads hanging down and weighted with rocks or clay discs.



Looms like these were being used in Ancient Greece, with images of them found on pottery, like this one above. Looms like this were used throughout the time of the Anglo-Saxons in Britain too.



We're going to look at three types of outdoor weaving this week: hanging looms, twig frames or forked twig weaves☺.

**Hanging looms** – first choose a solid twig or branch (it can still be attached to the tree!), and attach an even amount of threads using a lark's head knot. Then attach a weight to each double thread to make it hang down.





Tie on your first yarn, if you're using it, otherwise the thread will drop off!

Start weaving as normal, using yarn or a range of natural materials.



It's a good idea to use a mix of yarn and natural materials, as the yarn, once knotted on, will help to keep the grasses or twigs in place.



**Twig frames** – here you're going to make your loom out of twigs from the garden or collected on a walk. You can make these looms as large or small as you like – you could even make one with branches as a feature for the whole summer 😊.



When you have four twigs, you need to lash them together. Tie your twine or string onto the first twig, place the next twig at right angles to it, then start to lash it on. Lashing involves going over and under, over and under until it's secure.







# Lashing possibilities...



Once you have mastered how to lash two sticks together, there are endless possibilities. Stars and triangles make great weaving frames too. Set up the warp threads on triangles like the twig weave on the next page.

This frame above is a spider web catcher! Make one, leave it out and see what happens...





**Twig weaves** – so the joy of a twig weave is that you are just using a ready made loom you've foraged outside! You'll need yarn or twine for the warp thread, but then the weft can be yarn, twine, grasses, leaves, super thin twigs and so on.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9lUuNK2Hyl> –

This super short clip shows how to set up the twig loom itself.





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvsSFEmVU6A> - This short video shows doing the weaving itself, but you could substitute the yarn for garden twine, grasses, narrow twigs, leaves and so on. It shows one twig set up with two looms, which looks fun to try!



So hopefully after these four weeks, you have an idea of how versatile weaving is, how you can use things you have at home and that you can make wonderful things! And we haven't even talked about paper weaving, weaving with three straws, using hula-hoops, making a teepee... What ever you end up weaving, have fun and save some of your masterpieces to share with us when we are back together😊.

