



Festive star decoration

Subject: Art and Design



Learning through Landscapes

Overview

- This festive art activity can be adapted in many ways to link to the curriculum, whilst also encouraging teamwork and learning a new skill of knot tying.

Learning Outcomes

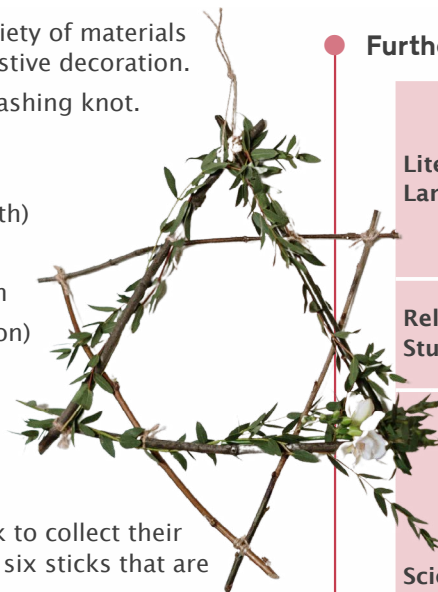
- To use design skills and a variety of materials to create a six pointed star festive decoration.
- To learn how to tie a square lashing knot.

Equipment

- Sticks (roughly the same length) or lolly sticks
- String, wool, thread, or ribbon
- Glue (glue gun with supervision)
- Scissors

Activity

1. Take the pupils out on a walk to collect their sticks. They will need to find six sticks that are similar in length.
2. Watch a video tutorial that demonstrates how to tie a square lashing. There are lots of examples, but we like [this one on YouTube](#).
3. Working in pairs, one pupil crosses two sticks to make two sides of a triangle.
4. Using string, the other pupil should cross lash the sticks together.
5. Add the third stick to make a triangle, lashing both ends together.
6. The pairs can swap roles and repeat this to make another triangle.



7. To make a star, place one triangle on top of the other and glue or lash them in place (a hot glue gun is handy for this stage).
8. Encourage pupils to decorate their star using string, wool, fabric shapes or sparkly decorations.
9. Ribbon or string can be used to attach a loop to hang the stars up.

Further activities

Literacy and Language	Instructional writing	Ask pupils to write their own instructions about how to make a star or their own design decoration.
Religious Studies	Festivals and celebrations	Discuss what stars symbolise in different religions.
Science	Biodiversity	Talk about seasonal changes whilst collecting the sticks. Use the same technique to make or design nests or homes for creatures around the school grounds.
Mathematics	Shape	Use the same technique to create different shapes and discuss how many sides they have.

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