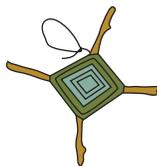


# Star Stick

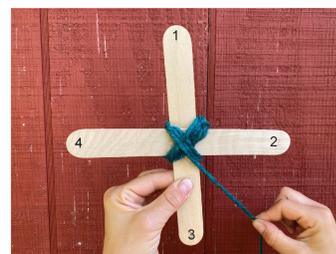
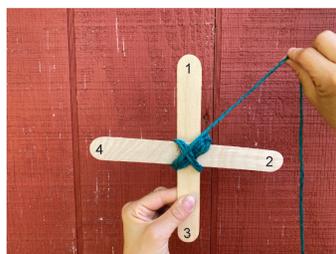
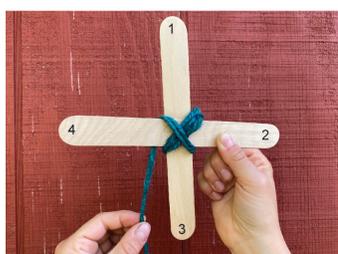
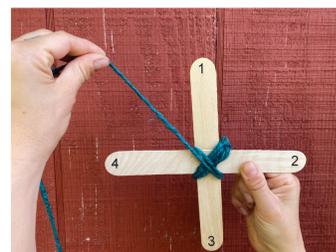
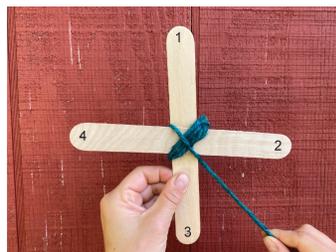
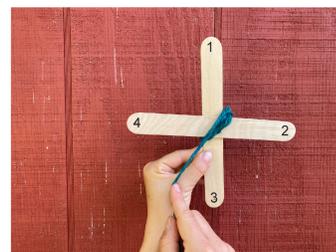
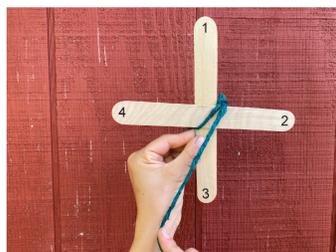
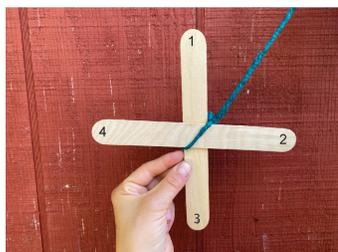


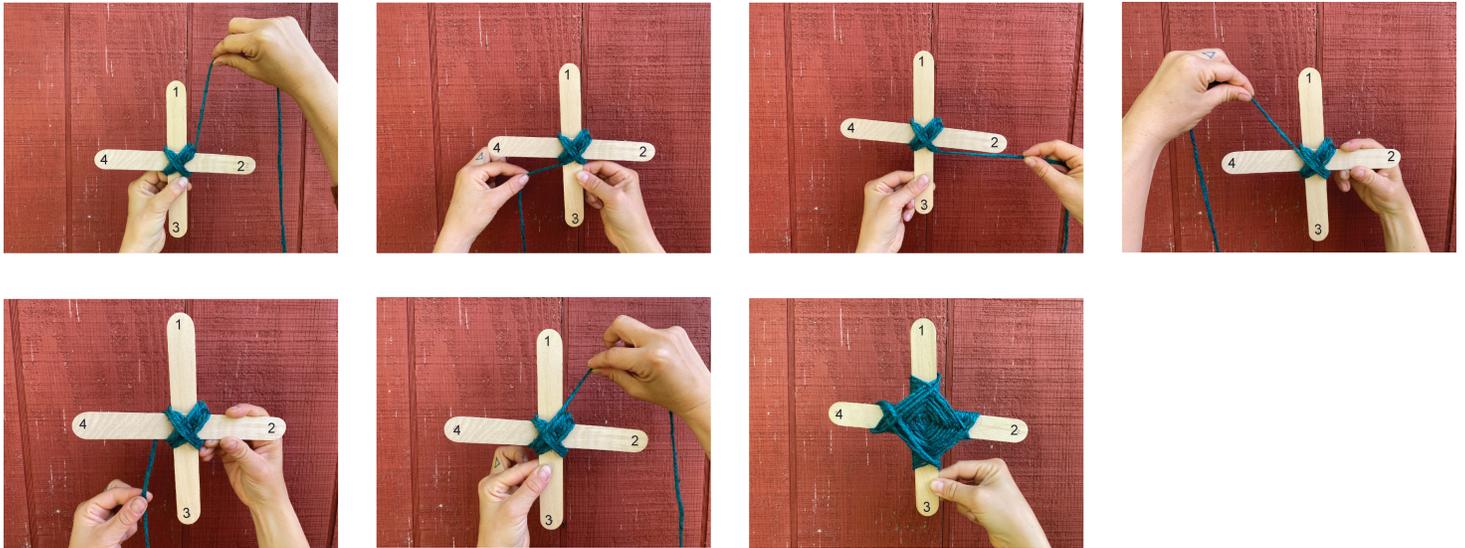
As best we understand, these diamond weaving patterns originate with the Huichol people of Mexico and the Aymara people of the Andes mountains in Bolivia. They were named “Ojos de Dios” or “God’s Eyes”, likely by colonists who saw a glimmer of their deep and nuanced cultural significance and tried to express it in Spanish. The same pattern is found throughout European basketry traditions as a lashing technique for rib baskets and handles. It has since traveled around the world as a beloved children’s craft, as it’s so beautiful yet accessible to create. At Wild Earth we call this craft star stick, as we aren’t directly connected with its original meanings and stories, and we do not share it as part of a religious or spiritual tradition. We offer this craft because string has so much to teach us about patience, focus, geometry, and how even tension creates beauty and strength. Star sticks provide an inspiring yet accessible place for the young fiber artist to begin.

## Materials:

- Scissors
- Two small sticks, pencils, popsicle sticks or dowels
- Yarn, strips of cloth, or other fiber

## Instructions:





Visit [wildearth.org/blog/star-stick](http://wildearth.org/blog/star-stick) or find us on YouTube for a video tutorial.

**Variations:**

- Try adding fabric, rope, twine, or other fibers into your design as an experiment. How do these other fibers handle differently?
- Looking for a challenge? Add a third or fourth stick to make a different design. This will work most easily with popsicle sticks because they're flat.

**Discussion:**

- How did you feel while learning this craft? If you felt impatient or frustrated, what helped you work through it? If you felt calm, happy, or soothed, why was that?
- Some cultural traditions teach that you can put thoughts into a weaving or craft by focusing while you work, like a meditation. For example, you could imagine someone you love being healthy and happy. Are there any thoughts you'd like to focus on while you make your next star stick?
- A star stick can make a wonderful gift for a loved one! Is there anyone you'd like to make a star stick for, and any thoughts you'd like to send to them?

