

Make-it & Take-it Activity – Yarn & Wood Ornaments

Background

Ojos de Dios (oh-ho-day-DEE-ohs), “god's eyes,” are ritual objects made by the Huichol (wet-chol) indigenous people of Mexico.

The Huichol symbolism of the god's eyes is primarily associated with the prayers for their children – prayers for a good long life, protection and to insure abundant crops.

Materials

- 2 sticks – real sticks or craft sticks
- yarn

Directions

Watch the video to see the process: <https://amesburycarriagemuseum.org/makeitactivities>

1. Begin by crossing two sticks to form an “X”. To secure those sticks, and keep them in place, wrap a piece of yarn around the intersecting points of the stick by wrapping in one direction, and then rotate your sticks, and do a few wraps in the other direction.
2. Next, wrap your yarn around one stick, close to the center of the God’s eye, and take it over to the next stick, wrapping in the other direction. Continue wrapping and winding – over, under, over, under, etc.
3. When you want to switch to a new color, simply cut your yarn, and tie it to a new piece of yarn. Trim the ends, and continue weaving. Be sure to keep your knot and the tails of yarn to the back of the project as you begin weaving with your new color.
4. When you are ready to finish, stop weaving, and wrap your yarn around a stick one last time. Cut your yarn, leaving a nice long tail for hanging your ornament. Slip that tail underneath the last wrap or two and tie it off.