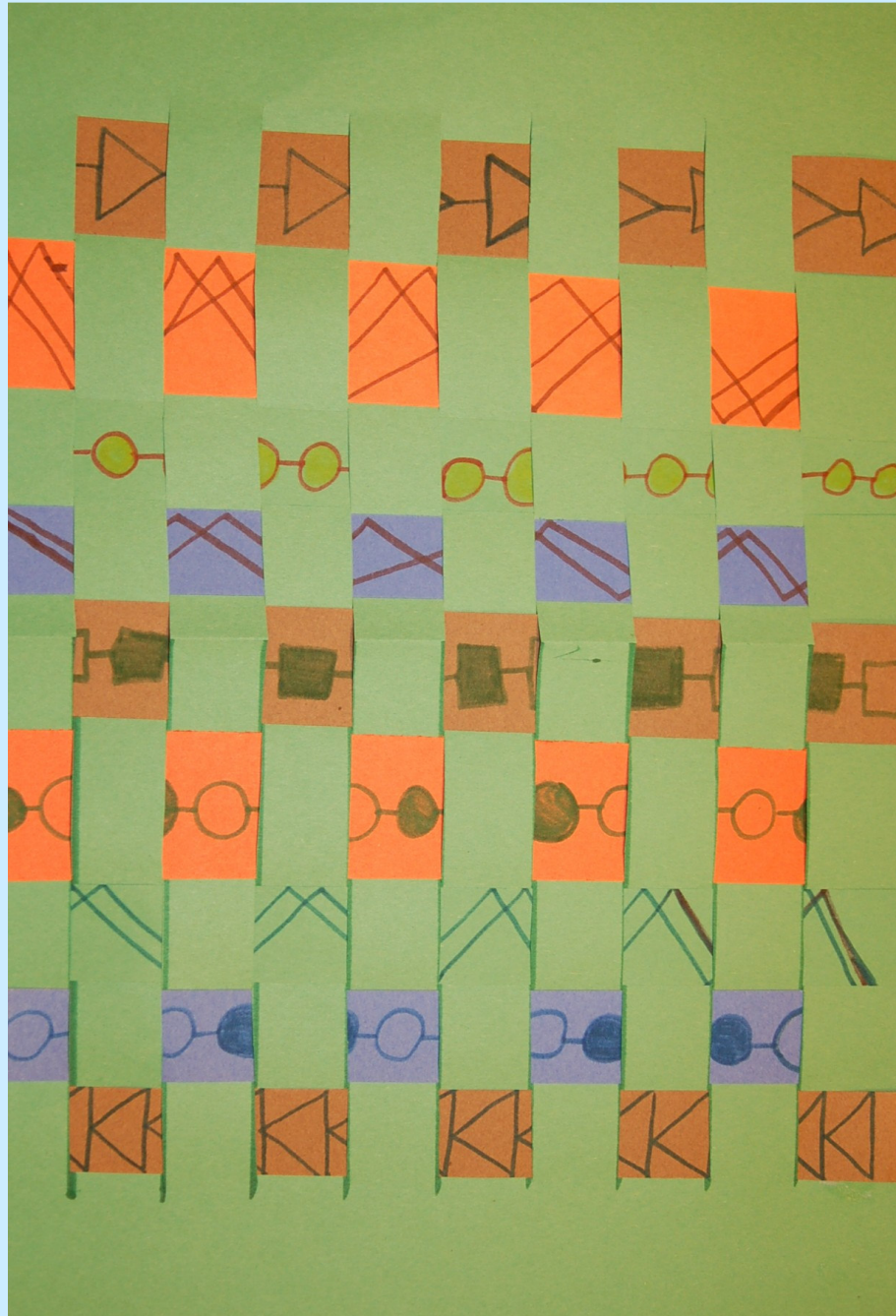


AFRICAN PAPER WEAVING



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ABOUT

African weavings are known for their symbolic and intricate patterns of color, line & shape. Many of the weavings are used in ceremonies, and the most extravagant pieces are reserved for important leaders in the communities. Think about the symbols that represent you!

MATERIALS

- 1 sheet of 12 x 18 inch construction paper
- 2 sheets of 9 x 12 inch construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Markers/Crayons

VOCABULARY

Mountain Fold: When the paper is folded with the two shortest ends touching, forming a "mountain".

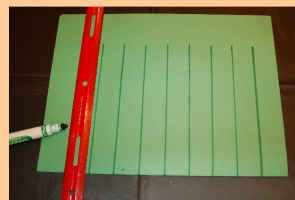
Vertical: When the object is standing its "tallest".

Warp: A weaving term to describe the first threads that are put on the loom.

Weft: A weaving term to describe the threads that are threaded over and under the **warp**.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fold the 12 x 18 sheet of construction paper in half, in a **mountain fold**.
2. With the paper folded, and with your ruler, start 1 inch from one side of the page, and draw a 7 inch line starting from the folded edge (the end of your line should be about two inches away from the edge of the paper).
3. Repeat this all the way across the paper, leaving 1 inch between each line.
4. Now you are ready to cut along your lines. You have just made your **warp**.



5. With the smaller sheets of construction paper, turn the paper so that it is **vertical**. Move 1 inch from the left edge of the paper and draw a **vertical** line from the bottom up to the top. Repeat this, spacing each line 1 inch apart.



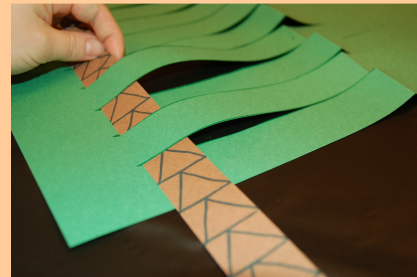
6. Cut along the lines to make 12 inch long strips. You have just made your **wef**.



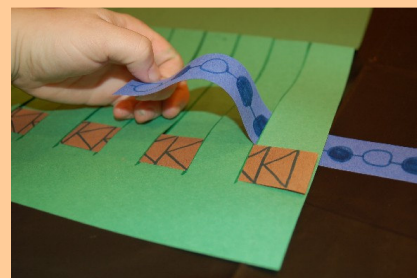
7. Using your markers or crayons, decorate the strips with shapes, lines, colors, to make up your patterns.



8. Now it's time to weave! Pick up one strip and start at the bottom of your **warp** page you made earlier. Use the strip like a needle, and go under one strip, over the next, and repeat this until you've woven your first "thread".



9. For the next thread, you will go over the first strip, and under the next. You will alternate every time you start a new piece. Continue until finished!



10. For added security, you can glue down the edges with small dabs of glue.