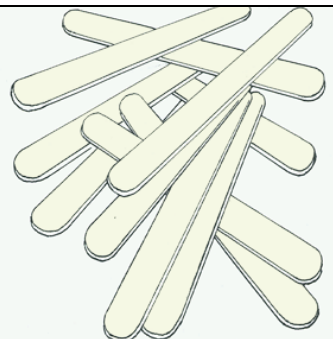
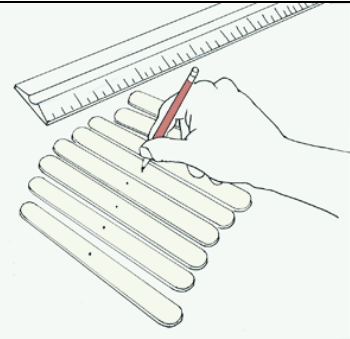

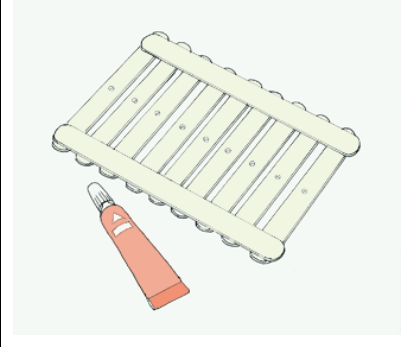
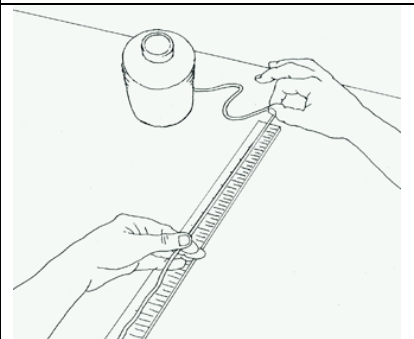
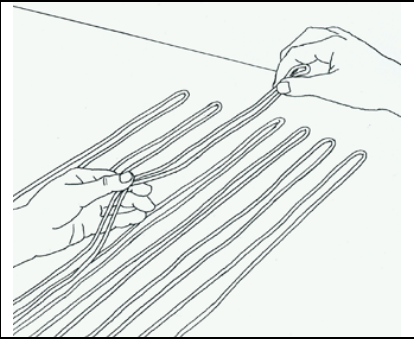


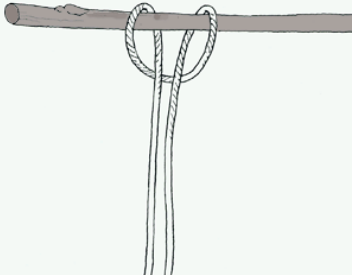
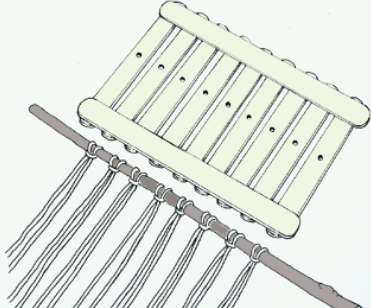
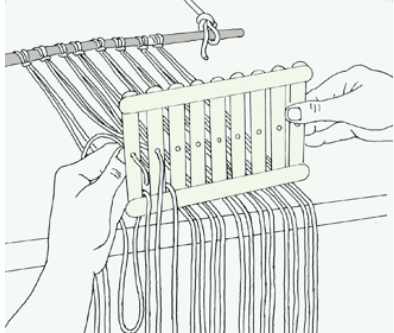
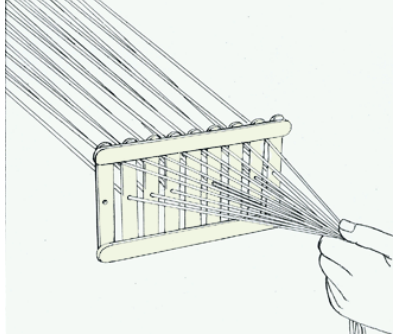


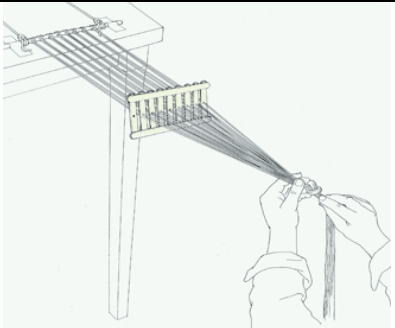
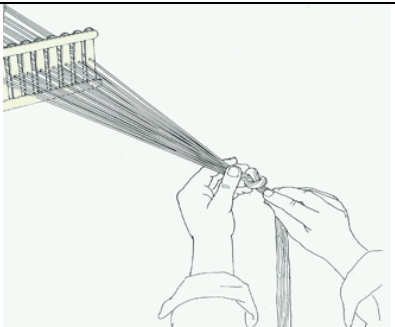
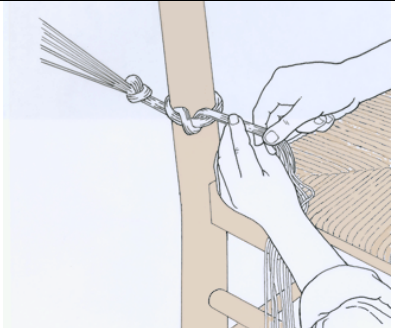
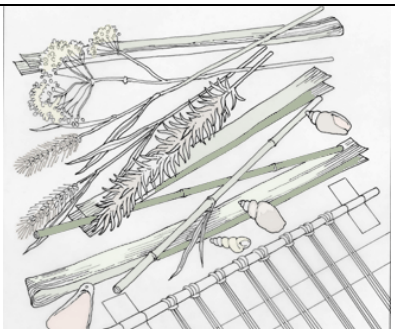
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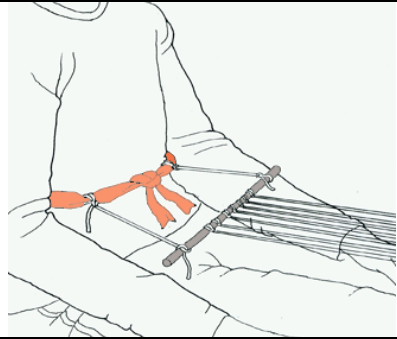
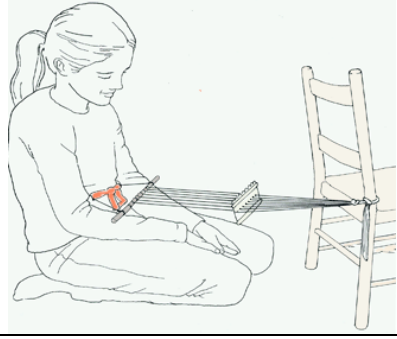
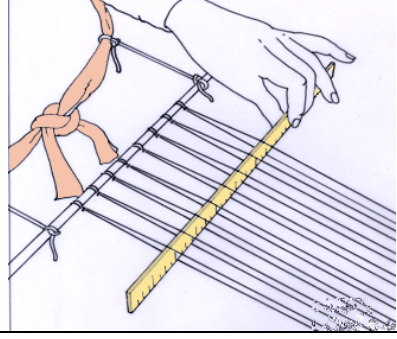
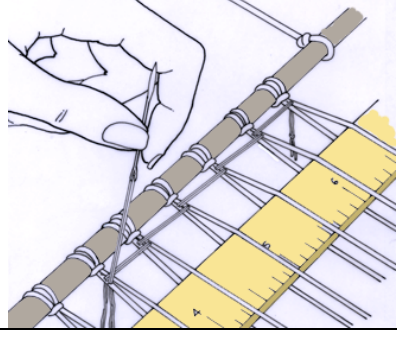
Making a Natural Weaving		
Keywords:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loom - a frame (or machine) upon which weaving is done. • Warp - vertical threads that form the base of a weaving. To "warp" means to string thread onto a loom. • Weft - the horizontal threads that are woven across the warp. Branches or grasses woven horizontally are also weft. • Heddle - structure used to guide warp threads in a loom. • Selvedge (selvage) - the edge on either side of a woven fabric so finished as to prevent unraveling. • Beat in - to push the new row of weft against the previously woven row. • Beater (shed stick) - stick, fork or comb used to tightly pack the weft threads. • Shed - a space created between the warp threads and those lifted by the shed stick. In these spaces, we can weave grasses, branches or string. 	
List of Materials:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two branches which will make up the top and bottom of weaving, roughly 6 inches long • Warp - 32 yards of strong, thin thread in neutral color • Weft - a variety of materials gathered from nature: twigs, grasses, pine straw, pods or seed heads with stems attached, feathers, Spanish moss, shells, small pine cones, beads, yarn or thread • A ruler to be used as a shed stick • Belt or ribbon to fasten warp to waist • C-clamp or fixed object to tie end of warp 	

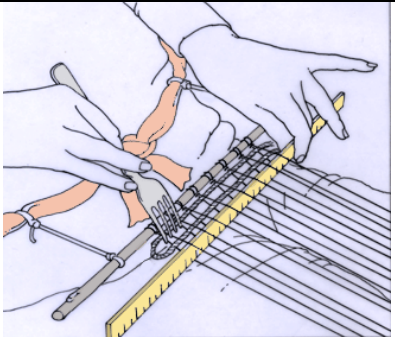
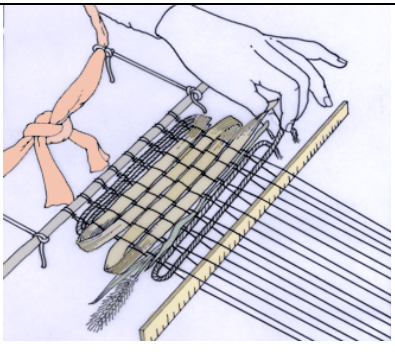
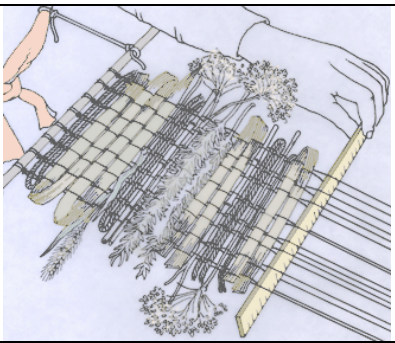
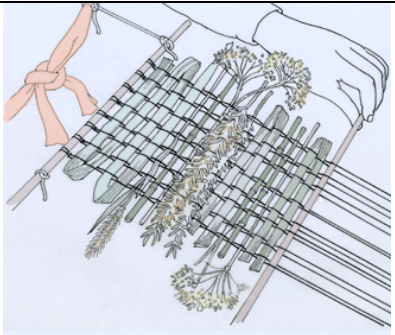
	<p>to a countertop, table leg or chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scissors • Masking tape • Table leg, chair or other sturdy, fixed object • 11 craft sticks (you may substitute popsicle sticks or tongue depressors, or have any variation of these- as long as they have equal length) • Small drill • Wood glue or strong white glue 	
	Directions	
	To Construct a Heddle:	
1)	Gather your 11 tongue depressors, craft sticks, or popsicle sticks.	
2)	Using a ruler for exact measurement, make a dot in the center of each craft stick. It is important that the dots line up on all the craft sticks.	

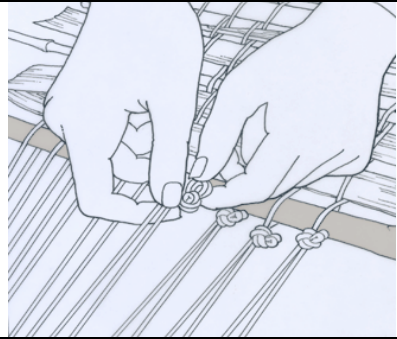
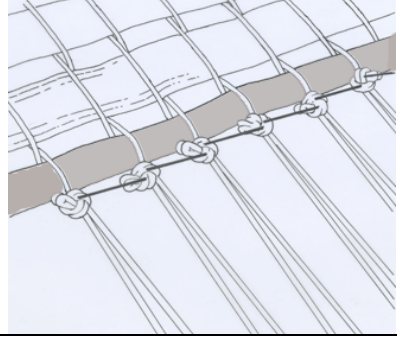
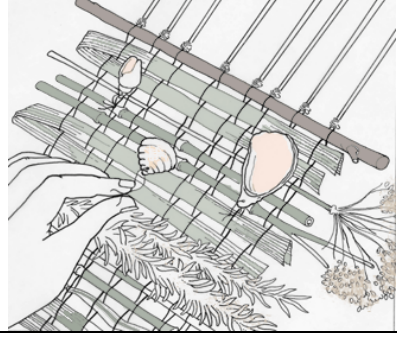
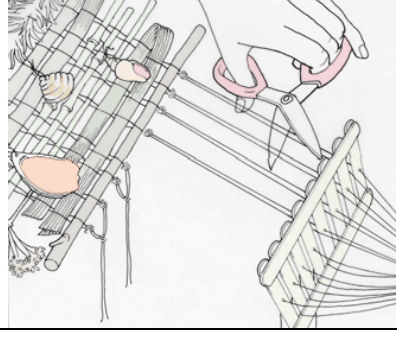
3)	Get an adult to help you drill a 1/8" hole in each craft stick on the center dot.	
4)	Lay two of the craft sticks horizontally parallel to each other at a distance equal to the length of the craft sticks. Lay the remaining craft sticks vertically across the two horizontal craft sticks so that they are spaced at equal distances. Remember that each should have its drilled center line up between the two horizontal supports. Glue these in place with wood glue or other strong white glue.	
Beginning a Back Strap Loom Wall Hanging:		
1)	After the glue on the heddle has completely dried, measure 8 four-yard lengths of vertical or warp thread.	
2)	Fold each thread in half.	

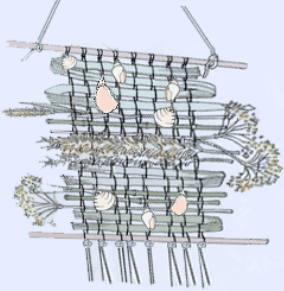
3)	<p>Attach each thread to the 6-inch branch with a lark's head knot so that the thread is perpendicular to the branch.</p>	
4)	<p>Space out the knots so that they are even with the spaces in the heddle holes of the loom.</p>	
5)	<p>Thread the heddle with the vertical thread ends. Work from the opposite end from the branch.</p> <p>Lace the first vertical thread end through a heddle hole, the next through a space sequentially.</p>	
6)	<p>Alternate the vertical thread ends through a space or a heddle hole until all thread ends have been inserted. Half of these vertical threads are passed through the holes and the other half are passed through the slots, or spaces, between craft sticks.</p>	

7)	Using masking tape, tape the branch onto the table or counter top. Straighten the heddle. When the vertical threads are straight, tie a knot in the end opposite the branch, so that the heddle hangs by the vertical threads in the middle.	
8)	You should now have at one end of the heddle a branch holding equally spaced threads, secured by lark's head knots. On the opposite end of the heddle, you should have the untangled threads tied in a knot.	
9)	Tie knotted end to a C-clamp, or around a tree, pole or chair.	
10)	Arrange the other materials that you are using for weft nearby.	

11)	Tie the end containing the branch to a belt or ribbon around your waist. You are now part of your loom.	
12)	Sit on the floor with your back straight, keeping the threads of the loom tight and straight.	
13)	Insert your shed stick to help hoist the warp strings.	
14)	Insert a thread into your needle and insert a backstitch at the beginning of the warp thread. This stitch will secure the weaving so that it won't unravel.	

15)	<p>Leave a bubble of loosened thread at the end of the row so that the selvedge, or edge of the weaving, does not pull too tightly. After you have your first row in place, take the beater and press your horizontal row close to the branch.</p>	
16)	<p>Put in an additional horizontal row of thread and tap it into place. Now you can start weaving grasses and bits of cotton or other natural materials into the natural weave, as well as adding additional rows of string or yarn. Remember that the natural materials (pine straw, grasses, plant stalks) will shrink somewhat as they dry, so pack them together closely.</p>	
17)	<p>Adding rows of string or yarn will help hold the natural items in place in the weaving.</p>	
18)	<p>When weaving the stalks with attached seed heads, place the seed head or pod at the outer edge of the weaving and then just weave the stalk portion into your wall hanging. When you are happy with the length of the weaving, on the last row, weave in another branch.</p>	

19)	Knot the ends of the vertically woven thread close to the last row of weft, which will be the ending branch.	
20)	Before cutting the threads from the branch, go back and add an extra row of backstitching to secure the knots.	
21)	For further decoration, after backstitching, attach beads, small pinecones or shells using extra string.	
22)	Untie the far end of the yarn from the C-clamp. Then cut or untie the knot at the end and slide the heddle off the warp.	

23)	You have just made a wall hanging. Protect your natural wall hanging from fading, don't hang it in sunlight.	
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