

## Extension Activities

### Paper Weaving



#### **Why Weaving?**

When the Loyalists moved North to the provinces we call Québec and Ontario, many were from a variety of backgrounds. Most of the women could spin and some could weave. Weaving was a craft used to create household linens for warmth. Weaving material consisted of flax (to provide fibre for linen), and wool from sheep. Household linens and blankets and warm lengths for clothing were made in many homes, but among the settlers there were several trained professional hand weavers. These craftsmen wove fancy linens and ornamental bed coverings.

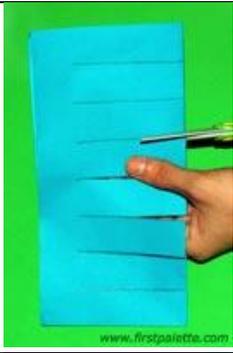
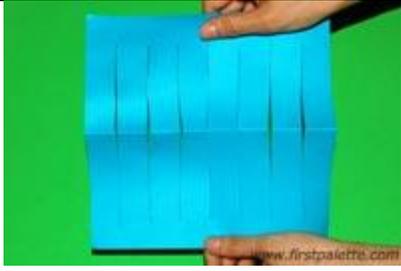
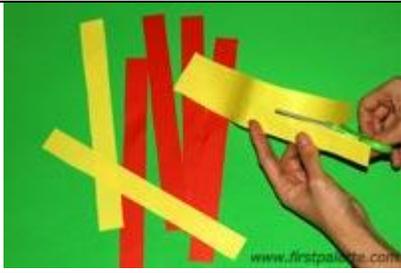
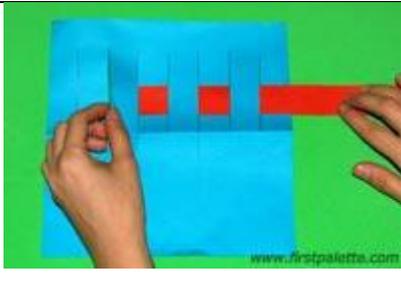
#### **You Will Need:**

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Decorative materials (stickers, beads, paint, etc... this is optional!)

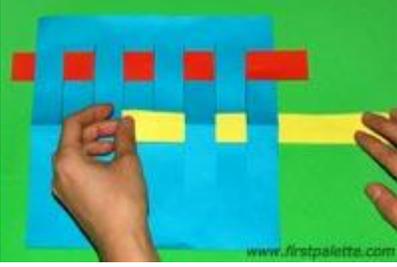
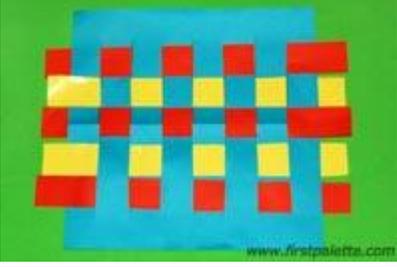
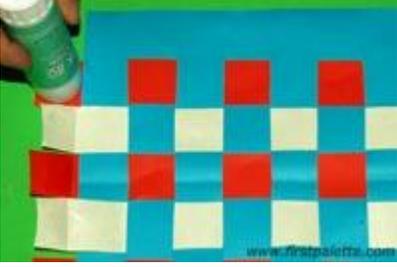
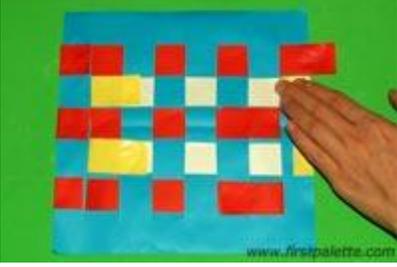
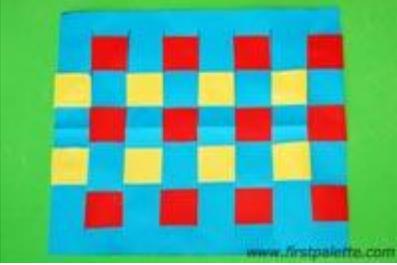
#### **Steps:**

<p>1. </p>	<p>Cut a piece of construction paper or any colored paper into a square.</p>
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2.		Fold the square in half.
3.		Cut evenly spaced slits starting from the folded edge and continuing up to about a half inch from the opposite edge. It may be helpful to draw vertical lines to use as guides while you cut.
4.		Open the paper.
5.		Cut coloured paper strips.
6.		Take one paper strip and weave it horizontally across the slits, going over and under the slits.

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7.		<p>Push the woven strip to the top and start with another one. The second strip should be woven in an opposite pattern as the first. If your first paper strip goes over and under across the slits, the second strip should go under and over the slits.</p>
8.		<p>Weave more paper strips in an alternating pattern until your paper weave is full.</p>
9.		<p>Flip the whole square weave. Apply glue at the ends of each paper strip.</p>
10.		<p>Fold the excess length of each strip inwards and press to glue them in place.</p>
11.		<p>Flip the square weave again so that the folded ends are concealed at the bottom.</p>

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12.		<p>Cut a larger piece of construction paper or craft foam to frame your paper weave. You can use a pair of craft scissors to create a more interesting border.</p>
13.		<p>Glue your paper weave on top of the frame. (Optional: Decorate the frame with any or a combination of these materials: glitter glue, paint, sequins, beads, small craft foam shapes, stickers, buttons or other decorative materials.)</p>