

Sunshine on a Stick

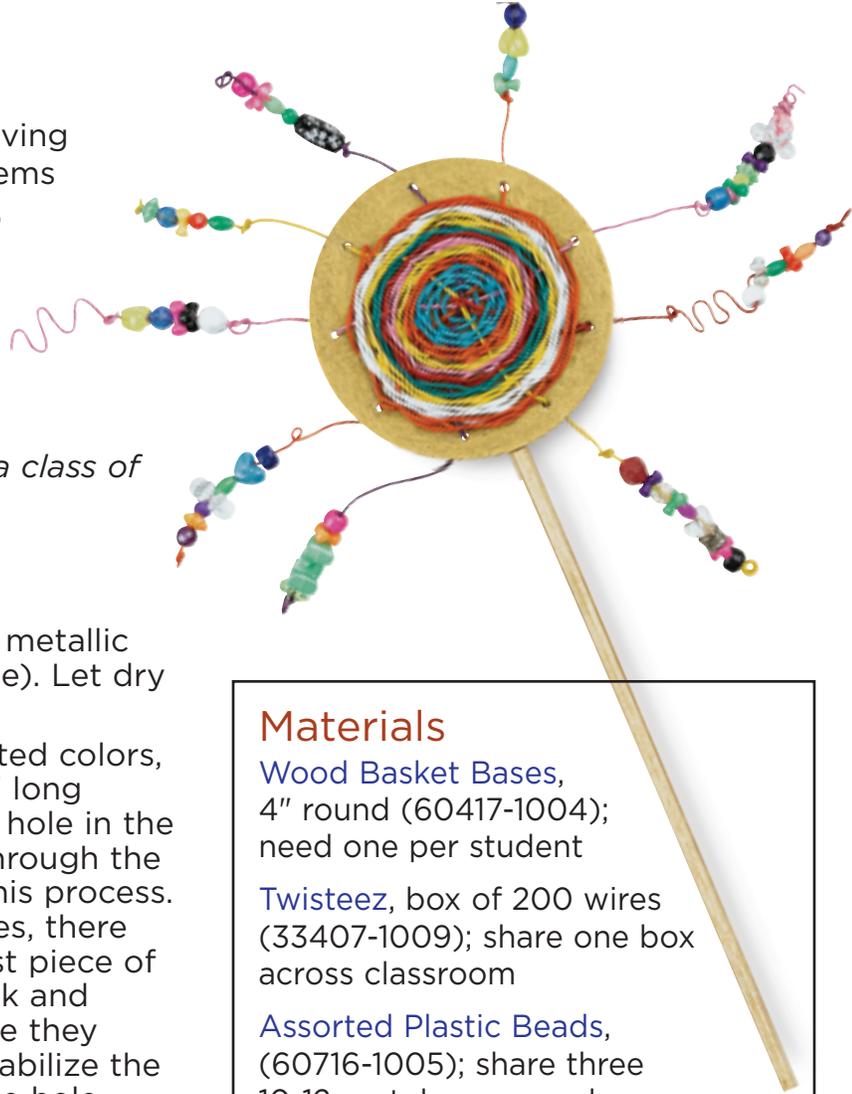
Sunshine on a Stick teaches free-form weaving in the round. To begin, discuss everyday items that are woven — things like socks, fabrics, lawn chair backs and fencing. The sticks are extremely bright and pretty when finished and look great in a vase or potted plant.

Grade Levels 2-6

Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Process

1. Paint the dowel rods and the base with metallic paint (do not fill in the holes on the base). Let dry for 15–20 minutes.
2. Select three pieces of Twisteez in assorted colors, and cut each one in half to make six 15" long pieces. Thread the first piece through a hole in the back, then across the base and down through the hole directly opposite from it. Repeat this process. Since there is an uneven number of holes, there will be one hole left over. Thread the last piece of wire through this last hole from the back and weave it over and under the wires where they cross in the center, forming a knot to stabilize the "loom." Then feed this wire back into the hole from which it originated, top to bottom. It will be used later to attach the dowel.
3. Using a piece of Twisteez, begin weaving your pattern, starting from the center. Make a little hook in the end of the wire, then hook it to the center knot and weave over and under the wires in a circular pattern. Continue weaving with random scraps of different lengths, always beginning and ending by pushing the wire ends under the woven area to secure them.
4. Tie knots about half-way down the length of the wires that are sticking out, then thread pony beads onto the wires to create a colorful sunbeam effect. Tie a knot at the tip of each wire to secure the beads. Get creative!
5. Turn the base over. Twist the loose wire around the dowel rod, two inches from the top, then knot it and put a dot of glue on the knot. Apply two pieces of tape until the glue dries.



Materials

Wood Basket Bases, 4" round (60417-1004); need one per student

Twisteez, box of 200 wires (33407-1009); share one box across classroom

Assorted Plastic Beads, (60716-1005); share three 10-12-oz tubs across classroom

Pony Beads, multicolor assortment, (60772-1020); share one 1000-piece bag across classroom

Snippy Scissors, pointed (57040-2009), package of 12; need one pair per student

Elmer's® Glue-All, 16-oz bottle (23810-1006); share two bottles across classroom

Wooden Dowel Rods, 12" x 1/4" Dia, (60448-1412), package of 12; need one per student

Sargent Art® Metallic Acrylic, Gold, 8-oz (00730-9015); share one bottle across classroom

Crayola® So Big® Brush (05137-0000); need one per student

National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

K-4 Students use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories

5-8 Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques, and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas