

Dear Friend,

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The San Diego Public Library



Ojo de Dios (God's Eyes) Craft

The creation of the Ojo de Dios (God's Eyes) originally came from the Huichol or Wixárika people of Central Northwest Mexico. They were protective and spiritual symbols that helped the people connect more deeply to the natural world and the spiritual world. To protect themselves from uncertainties of the future, they would make decorative, ceremonial shields out of different colored yarns and sticks. A specific type of Ojo de Dios was called Tsikuri, which means "the power to see and understand things unknown." Traditionally, when a child is born, the central eye is woven by the father, then one color is added for every year of the child's life until the child reaches the age of five. The resulting design in the shape of a cross symbolizes the four elements of earth, air, fire and water. Today, el Ojo de Dios is a well-known symbol.

Ojo de Dios (God's Eye) Craft

This kit includes:

- Yarn
- [2] Popsicle sticks

* You will need scissors. Scissors are not included.

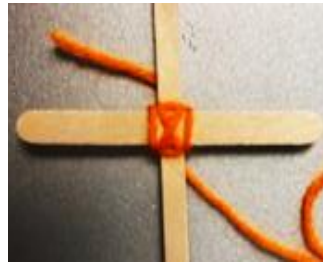
Instructions:



1) Start with the pre-assembled sticks. Take a strand of yarn of any color and criss-cross it over the center of the cross.



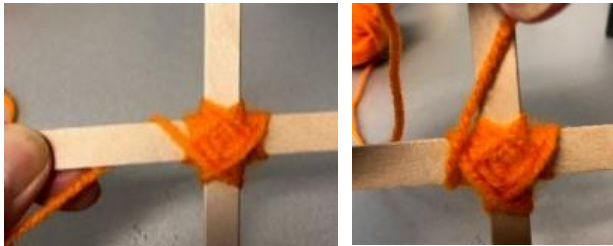
2) Take your yarn and wrap it individually around each bar one time.



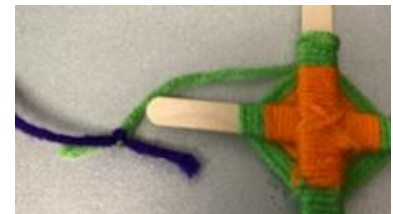
3) Wrap your yarn around one stick bar over, then under.



4) Go to the next bar, wrapping over, then under. Repeat wrapping exactly the same way, rotating your God's Eye craft as you work. If you decide instead to wrap under, then over, that's ok—as long as you stay on course, repeating your pattern: under, then over.



*To change colors, snip the strand that you are working with, leaving at least an inch. Tie together with the next color, cutting off the loose ends. Then continue to wrap in the pattern direction that you were doing.



5) When you're nearing the ends of your craft sticks, 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.

