

CREATE WEEK

NATURE'S LOOM LANTERN WITH LIZZIE CHAPMAN

Create a beautiful, nature-inspired lantern using foraged materials and a simple woven structure.

MATERIAL LIST

You will need

- 6 long sticks (approx. 20–30 cm)
- String, twine, wool or wire
- Leaves, vines, flowers, grasses (fresh or dried)
- Battery-operated fairy lights or a tea light in a glass holder
- Scissors or snips
- Optional: small base (like a plant pot or wooden disc)



DAY 5
Visual arts



STEP 1

Gather your materials

Head outside and collect sticks of similar length and thickness and soft natural items like leaves, flowers, vines or herbs. Lay everything out so it's easy to work with.

TIP

Look for a mix of textures and colours - soft leaves, twisty vines, fluffy seed heads or dried petals all work beautifully.

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STEP 2

Build the tipi triangle base

Select 3 sticks for the triangle base of the tipi structure. Tie the overlapping points of the triangle with string or twine leaving 10cms excess string on each.



STEP 3

Build your tipi frame

Attach 3 more sticks vertically to each corner of the triangle base. Gather the tops and tie them securely to form a tipi shape.



STEP 4

Create the Loom Pattern

Using twine or string, begin weaving horizontally around the tipi structure. Wrap the string around one stick, pull it across to the next, wrap again, and repeat. Space the lines evenly up and down the frame - like weaving a spider web or dreamcatcher. Leave one side open if desired.



TIP

Tightly wrap the ball of string / yarn around itself and pass it through the sticks to avoid tangles!

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STEP 5

Weave in Natural Materials

Carefully tuck and weave your collected foliage into the string "loom." Add vines diagonally, wrap leaves, poke flower stems through gaps, and play with texture and colour. The goal is to create a soft, woven, earthy surface while leaving some open space for light to shine through.

TIP

Try to have a variety of materials going throughout the "loom" so that it feels balanced!

STEP 6

Add the light

Place battery-powered fairy lights inside or wrap them around the sticks. Or use a tea light in a secure glass holder (avoid flames if your materials are dry!)



STEP 7

Finishing touches

Decorate with extras like feathers or seed pods. Hang your lantern using a loop at the top or place it on a flat base to display indoors or outdoors.

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 **DON'T FORGET TO TAG YOUR CREATION ONLINE USING #CREATEWEEK SO WE CAN SEE WHAT YOU MADE!**

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Lizzie is a socially engaged artist, creative facilitator, and community arts practitioner based in Manchester, working across the North West. Inspired by nature, her vibrant practice includes painting, printmaking, murals, and sculpture in community and school settings. With over seven years of experience, she has delivered art workshops in education, mental health, and community spaces, supporting people of all ages. Passionate about creative wellbeing, Lizzie creates inclusive opportunities for self-expression and connection. She is currently training as an art therapist at the University of Chester, combining her skills to empower others through meaningful, accessible, and therapeutic art experiences.

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