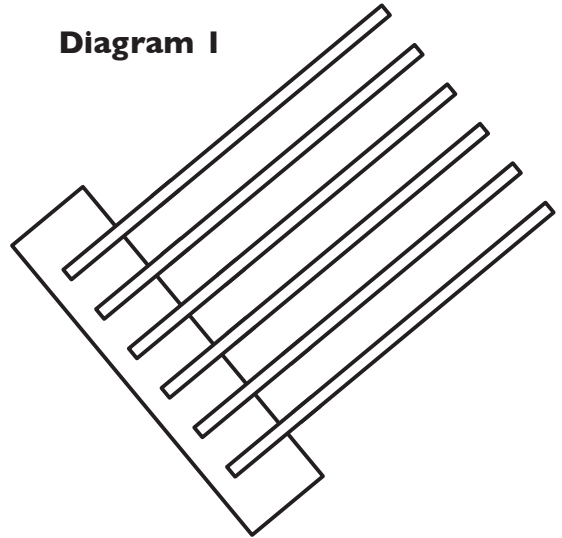


Basket weaving

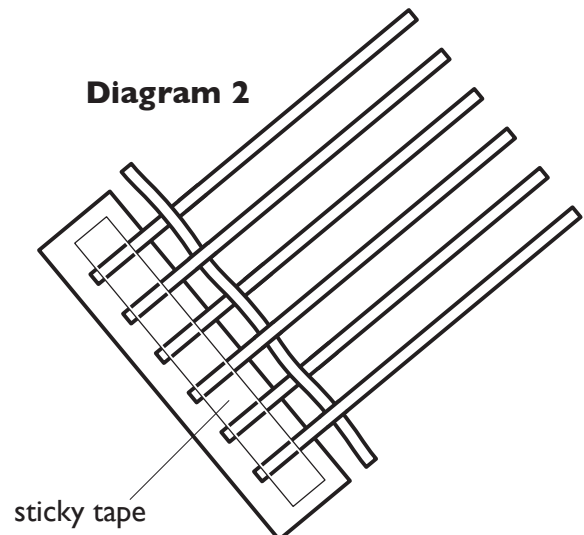
1. Line up the straws about one and a half centimetres apart as diagram 1 shows.

Diagram 1



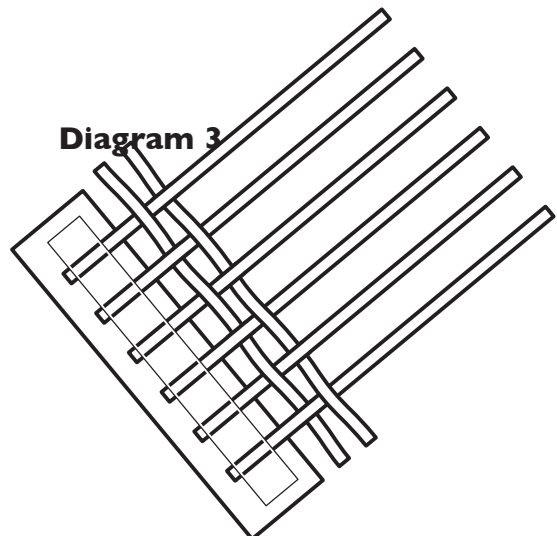
2. Use a strip of sticky tape to attach all the ends of the straws to the strip of cardboard.
3. Thread one of the strips of paper through the straws as diagram 2 shows.

Diagram 2



4. Thread another one of the strips of paper through the straws as diagram 3 shows.

Diagram 3



5. Repeat steps 3 and 4.
6. Repeat step 5.

Basket weaving

Objectives

- To learn how simple basket work can be made.

Cross-curricular links

Design and technology

2d Combine components and materials accurately.

Resources

You will need twenty tennis balls that you have placed around the classroom as pretend fruit in a wood, some reed stems or cane or other basket making material from an art shop, a basket (keep hidden until step 2 in the lesson).

Each child or group will need a copy of worksheet 6 (page 42), six or more strips of paper about 1cm wide and 18cm long, six art straws 18cm long, a piece of card 4cm wide and 10cm long, sticky tape, scissors.

Starter

Tell the children that you have placed some tennis balls around the classroom to represent fruit in a wood. Ask one of the children to start collecting them. As the child collects them tell them that this could have been their job if they had lived in the Stone Age. It should not be long before the child collecting the 'fruit' cannot hold them all and starts to drop them. Ask the class how the child could continue collecting the fruit. Look for an answer about a container and ask them for ideas. They should conclude that a stone container would be impractical and encourage them to think about other materials that they may have. Look for answers about animal skins (they did not have cloth) or a tray made of bark.

Main activities

- Show the children the reed stems and say that Stone Age people used them for holding fruit. Ask the children how they used this material. Be prepared for an answer about skewering the fruit and ask the children to think how they could use material to make a container.
- Show the children a basket and pass it round so they can see how the reed or cane has been woven.

- Issue worksheet 6 and read through it with the children then let them collect their materials and try the exercise. They can add more paper strips if they wish.

Plenary

Let the children display their work. Tell the children that although they are studying a period of time called the Stone Age because that was a major material used for making axes, arrowheads and knives, other materials were used and quite intricate processes like weaving reeds were used in addition to banging stones to shape them.

Outcomes

The children can:

- Weave materials to make a model piece of basket.
- Learn that materials other than stone were used in the Stone Age.