

Ideas for using Weaving Frames

Weaving is an ancient craft that has been practised for thousands of years and is an accessible way to engage minds and hands, encouraging creativity, coordination and hands-on exploration.

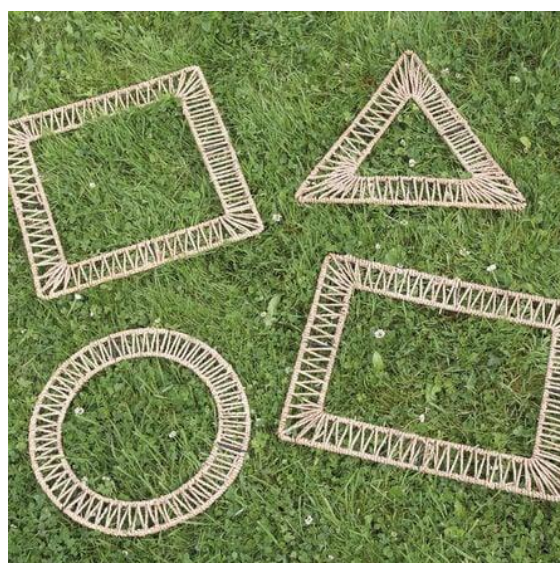
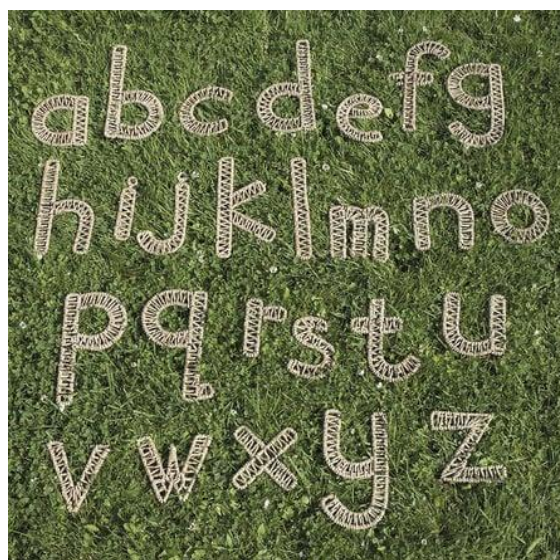
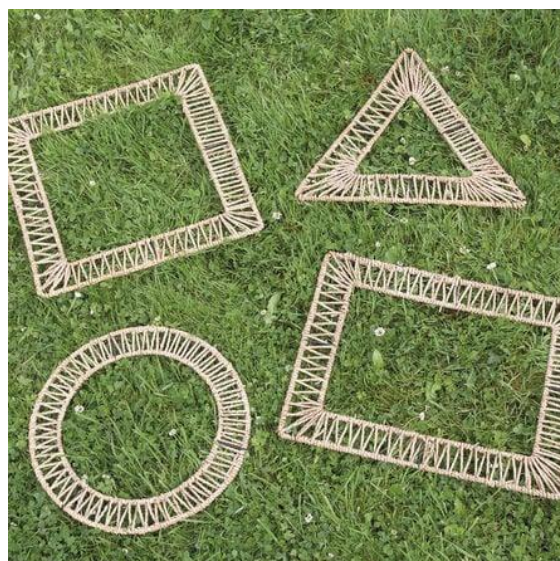
The precise hand movements help to develop fine motor skills, and the rhythmic motions can support mental health and well-being.

These tactile frames are great for:

- Indoor and outdoor activities
- Collaborative learning
- Encouraging problem-solving
- Boosting engagement and promoting focus
- Assisting hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills

Threading and pattern making can be enjoyed by all with many weaving projects suitable for different skill levels, from simple weaving to more complex weaving crafts. The frames can be used on flat surfaces or hung to use vertically so individuals can work in different ways.

You can try weaving different types of string, twine, wool, fabric to create an array of colours and textures. Recycling materials such as strips of plastic bags or bubble wrap will give you long ribbon lengths to weave in and out. Florist's ribbon can also be shredded into thinner strips, plaited and used to lace beads etc. You could also attach natural materials such as fallen leaves or blades of grass. Using recycled and natural treasures can start conversations about the world, nature and sustainability.



There are many sensory aspects to weaving. Here are a few ideas:

Weave Away Worries

There are many therapeutic benefits to weaving. The repetitive gentle movements of weaving can help the body to relax and reduce anxiety. The soothing rhythm helping to calm the mind and working with yarn, fabric textiles and natural materials helps one to connect with nature.

Tactile Stimulation

All the textures help to stimulate sensory receptors. The rhythm of over under patterns can support self-regulation and help to keep hands busy, gripping and feeling the tension of the yarn.

Visual Satisfaction

You can experiment with a variety of materials. Picking colours, thickness, textures to create different shapes and patterns. Can you choose colours to match a particular season?

Sound Sensation

Try using materials that can add some sound, such as weaving with crinkly fabrics, or adding small jingle bells to the creations.

Incorporate sensory details into learning shapes, numbers, letters, etc. Here are some ideas:

Shapes

Weave the shapes using different materials. You could try to make the patterns symmetrical. Name the shapes and find the shapes in the environment. Go on a shape hunt.

Letters

Weave the letters and use them to play games such as I Spy. Put the letters into alphabetical order or make CVC words with them. Go on a letter hunt and match the letter frames to things beginning with that letter.

Numbers

Weave the numbers and talk about numbers all around us. You could hang the numbers in order along a washing line and create own games. For example, mixing the numbers up and ordering them, finding the missing number by unpegging one and guessing which number is missing. When weaving you could attach a number of items to match the number of the frame or collect items and group them to match the number.

You can weave with different colours and textures to match the seasons or themes. Have fun with weaving. If you have any brilliant ideas for using the weaving frames and would like to share them with us, we'd love to hear from you.

Other weaving frames you might like:

