

Crafts week 15

DESIGN
9-11years

A spring ornament

Plan and realise an Easter-themed design ornament that would be perfect for your own home. You can make the ornament stands on the table, or a mobile to be hung from the ceiling. There are examples of two different kinds of ornaments: one built from willow branches and the other, a mobile made with a straw-combining technique. Choose a technique which is suitable for you, or adapt the instructions so that you can realise your idea. The decoration can be Spring-themed, or Easter-themed if you celebrate Easter at home.

INSTRUCTION 1

Willow ornament:

Ask your parents which willow branches you can collect. Go outside and collect a suitable amount. Cut the branches off the tree neatly with (garden) scissors or with a knife under the supervision of an adult. Cut from here and there on the bush, so that it remains beautiful and lively. Don't cut branches off other bushes/trees.

1. Cut 8-15 branches, so that you have at least 3 long ones and three short ones.
2. Out of the short branches, make a triangle by attaching the ends together (with string / rubber bands / wire)
3. Bind the longer branches one at the time to the base of the triangle you've made in order to attach them.
4. Connect the long branches' ends to each other.
5. Once the frame is ready, you can cut the rest of the branches into different lengths and make layers by criss-crossing them inside the frame (see picture for example)
6. Add your own decorations to the willow frame (e.g. homemade Spring crafts made from paper, painted Easter eggs, the family's own ornaments)

INSTRUCTION 2

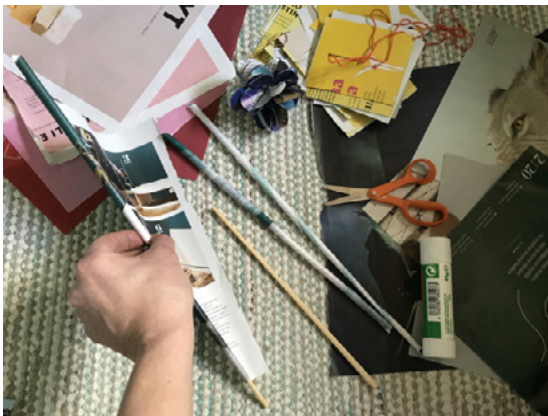
Pajaki mobile:

The Pajaki is a mobile made with a special straw combining technique. This instruction is adapted from the Design Museum's instructions (link below). The materials used are magazines, newspapers, and advertisements that have ended up in the paper recycling. You can roll and glue straws out of the paper, or cut out flowers or other decorations you like. Use a long and thin wooden object, such as a pencil, chopstick or paintbrush handle to help you roll the paper. Think about what colours would suit your home's decor. Consider what colours you will use for your paper straws, and what colours for your ornaments. For example, in the picture, you see green straws and red, yellow and blue-toned flowers. Watch the instructions for the straw combining technique from the link below. You can also look for other straw mobile instructions on the internet, for making other kinds of forms.

Instructions on the pages of the Design Museum: [LINK](#)



Pictures: Arja Rantala



How to roll a paper straw

What you need

Instruction 1: Willow ornament

Straight, long willow branches, 8-15 pieces

Scissors (garden scissors)

For binding: rope, string, rubber bands, hair ties or wire

For decorating: silk ribbons, gift ribbon, home-made decorations, Easter eggs or your family's own decorations

Instruction 2: Mobile

Scissors

10 paper straws (note: it is possible to make the straws yourself using newspaper or magazines)

Paper glue

Newspapers or magazines

A wooden stick for rolling, e.g., a pen, chopstick or a paintbrush handle.

For decorations:

Pen

Ruler

String

Needle

Paper: for example, newspaper or magazines, silk paper, serviettes, paper towels or toilet paper

Goal

The goal is to comprehend three-dimensional building, interior design and compositions.

Background information

What is a 'Pajaki'-mobile? A Pajaki is a kind of Polish decoration, which has been made for over 200 years, since the 1800s. Traditionally, women in the countryside prepared Pajaki-mobiles using twigs or paper. Pajaki-mobiles were made as decorations for festive occasions such as Easter, Christmas, weddings and christenings. They were believed to have brought luck. A Pajaki is quite reminiscent of a Finnish twig mobile, which is stylistically simpler in comparison to colourful Pajakis.

About collecting willow: [LINK](#)

Freedom to roam: [LINK](#)

