



LESSON 21 LEVEL A WEAVING

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

beginning concepts of weaving;
basic weaving vocabulary

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

construction paper, 30.5 x 45.5 cm.
(12" x 18"), red, blue, white (or
any 3 colors); glue or stapler

A NOTE TO PARENTS: Prepare the paper "loom" in advance, while your child looks on. Mark a "stop" line 5 cm.(two") from the end of a red sheet of construction paper. Measure 5 cm. (2") wide strips and cut them apart lengthwise to the stop line, to make a 40.5 cm. (12" x 16") warp (see diagram). Staple or glue the uncut 5 cm. (2 inches) strip to the white support paper. Cut strips of blue paper 5 x 30 cm. (2"x12").



WORDS TO KNOW:

fabrics: kinds of cloth

loom: a frame for weaving

textile: woven cloth

warp: the lengthwise support threads on a loom

weft: the threads that weaves across the warp

woven: made by weaving

UP AND DOWN, OVER AND UNDER



Cathy Age 4 demonstrates

GETTING STARTED: Look at the variety of textiles in your clothing and home furnishings. Your sweater was knitted with a long strand of yarn, but many fabrics (kinds of cloth) have been woven (made by weaving). Weaving is done by running one set of threads over and under another set of threads. We will use strips of paper instead of little threads to make a paper weaving.

1. Lift up the red strip nearest you on your paper loom (a frame for weaving). Pretend that this is the first warp thread (the support thread on a loom.)
2. Push a blue strip (the weft, or weaver thread) *under* it. Lift it *over* the second warp strip.
3. Continue pushing the blue weft *under* the third strip, *over* the fourth and so on, until it reaches across the



loom. Now you have woven one full row.

4. Take another blue weft . This time slide it *over* the first warp and *under* the second warp. Continue *over* the third, *under* the fourth, and so on across the row. Does your pattern begin to look like a checkerboard? Push the weft strips up tight together.

5. With your third weft strip, weave as you did with the first row, starting *under* the first warp, then *over, under, over. . .*

6. Weave the rest of your weft strips through row by row. Push each row tight against the one before. Check each row to make sure you have made a checkerboard pattern.

7. When no more strips can be woven, put a dab of glue on the ends of each weft strip to fasten them to the warp strips. Or let someone help you staple them so the weaving will not fall apart.

CLEAN UP: This is an easy clean up. Save any extra strips for another paper-weaving. Throw out any scraps. Put the glue away. You're finished!

TALK ABOUT IT: If your weaving does not look like a checkerboard, what happened? Did you skip an "over-under" somewhere? Did you forget to push every strip up close to the one before? What colors would you choose for another paper weave?

MORE IDEAS: 1. Make a set of paper-weaving place mats to use for a special family dinner.

2. Wrap your first weaving around a big can or jar. Ask someone to help you staple or glue it into a cylinder. Then fit it over the can or jar. Make a flower arrangement in it to decorate the table.

CONNECTIONS: Find woven clothes, sheets, curtains, pillow covers and other objects in your home. Can you find a basket that has been woven? Hint: Look for under-over, in and out patterns in the weaving.