



Get creative with nature

Craft these decorative letters using just sticks and wool to spell out a name or place.

Nature provides some of the materials for this project – turning humble twigs into colourful ornamental letters. You can create words, names or personalised initials to decorate your house, hang on your bedroom door or give to people as presents.

Ask for permission to cut twigs or find ones that have already been cut. Ask an adult for help because you might need strong scissors or secateurs (a garden tool) to cut thicker pieces. If you can't find twigs, you can use wooden stirring sticks or lolly sticks instead.

Twigs that are about five millimetres in diameter are a good thickness for making letters about 12–14 centimetres high, but you can make them any size you like. To make a round letter shape, you will need to use bendy twigs (such as those from willow trees). Alternatively, use two or three thinner pieces bent into a curve and bound together, or tie several short sections together.

Try painting your twigs or adding multicoloured wool or yarn to decorate them. Prop up the letters on a shelf or windowsill, or hang them up with loops of wool from longer, thicker twigs, like in the picture.



What you need

- Twigs
- Wool or string
- Strong scissors
- A ruler and pencil

1 Ask an adult to help you cut some dry twigs into short sections with strong scissors. Trim off any leaves, shoots or uneven bits.



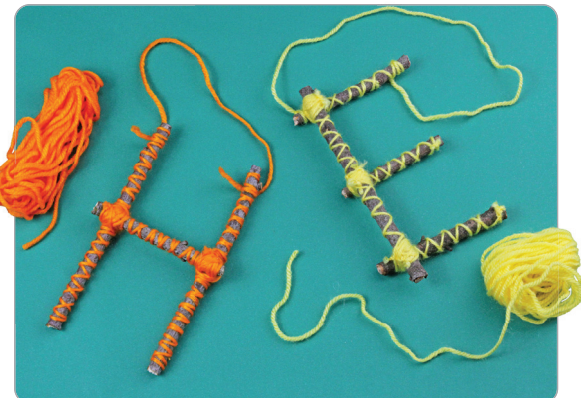
2 Arrange the twigs to make a letter by loosely tying the pieces with wool. Adjust the shapes if you need to, then wrap with more wool to hold the pieces together.



3 Continue wrapping more wool around the letter as decoration. You can use the same colour or several colours if you prefer.



4 To hang the letters, tie a loop at the top so they can be hung up individually or attached to a longer stick, like in the main picture above.



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SCAN ME