



## Nature Crafts: Make a Nature Star

Making a star, or other shapes, out of twigs can be a fun activity to do together!

Grownups, you can help your children focus on counting skills, hand-eye coordination, colors, and a variety of other STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) skills.

**Motivating Questions:** Do you want a big star or a little one? Should we use lots of sticks in each bundle, or only one? If lots, how many? Are these sticks close to the same length? If not, should we make them closer to the same size? How can we do that? What colors should we use to tie the sticks together? Where do we tie it to hold it together? When is it done?

**NOTE for Grownups:** it is fun to do these activities with your children, but remember when they (not you) lead the activity they learn problem-solving skills and gain confidence.

**Materials:** sticks of roughly equal length and thickness; yarn, string, or ribbon; scissors; other materials to decorate your star.

Select twigs that are all the same length and sort them into five piles. You can use single twigs or multiple twigs per pile (such as bundles of three). The examples are all single twigs.

If you are using bundles of twigs, tie the bundles together. For younger children may want to secure the sticks with a rubber band.

Then tie two twigs, or two bundles of twigs together so that you now have three groups of twigs.



Make a V shape out of two bundles and lay them on top of each other so that the end of one bundle connects with the end of the other bundle. And tie the ends together.





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Add the lone stick to make a star shape and tie it in place.



Wrap yarn, string or ribbon around the places where the sticks cross to both decorate the star and help hold it in place. Trim any long ends.



Continue to decorate your star or enjoy it as it is.

