SUMMER CRAFT: MAKE YOUR OWN SUNCATCHER
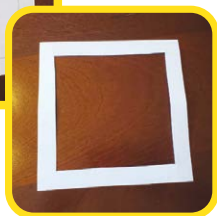
What you'll need:

- Thick paper (such as construction paper) or posterboard
- Parchment paper
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Glue
- String
- Tape
- Paperclip

Step 1: Make a frame

- Draw or trace a circle or square about 6 inches across onto your paper or posterboard.
- Cut out your shape.
- Measure about ½ inch from the edge of your shape, then draw another of the same shape inside (a circle inside your circle or a square inside your square).
- Cut out the inside shape, so you are left with a frame.

Step 2: Make a pattern

- Using another piece of heavy paper or your scraps, cut out strips about ½ inch wide. Make sure the strips are long enough to fit all the way across your frame – horizontally, vertically or diagonally.
- Arrange the strips over your frame, leaving space in between them. You can arrange your strips however you like! Make a shape that looks like a star, the sun or the first letter of your name!
- Once you have your pattern arranged, glue the pieces into place.
- Trim off any strip pieces that are hanging off the frame.
- Apply a thin layer of glue all over one side of your pattern—this will be the back of your suncatcher.
- Tear off a piece of parchment paper that is a little bit bigger than your pattern and lay it on the glue side.
- Let the glue dry for a couple of minutes, then cut off any extra parchment paper hanging over the edges.

Step 3: Add colors

- With the back side of your suncatcher facing you, use crayons to fill in the areas of parchment paper in your pattern.
- Colored chalk works well, too. Bright colors will catch the sun best!

Step 4: Display

- Tape a loop of string to the top of your frame. Unfold a paperclip to make a hanger.
- Find a sunny window to hang your creation!

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