



Spirograph String Art



Wood is the main building material for many things in our homes. It provides everything from the foundation of our walls to the furniture we sit in. When finished, wood can also create beautiful decorations and natural elements to our homes.

Objective: Learn the basics of working with wood and how to create simple yet beautiful art.

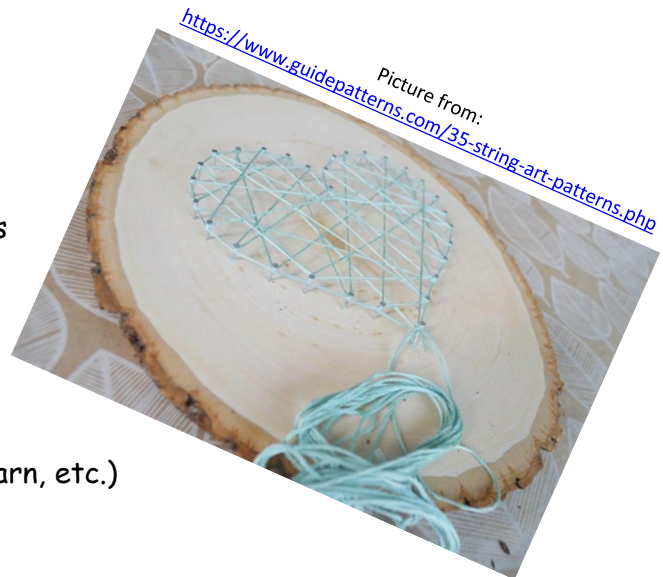
Project: Woodworking- Bingo Day 13

Ages: 1st-12th Grade

Time: 2-3 hour

Supplies:

- Piece of wood (wood plaque from craft store works great and size is up to the artist)
- 4-50 Short nails (brass tacks, trim nails, etc.)
- Pencil & paper
- Ruler
- Hammer
- Colored String (Cotton string, embroidery floss, yarn, etc.)
- Sandpaper (finishing sandpaper is preferred)
- Tack cloth or microfiber cloth- optional
- Stain, varnish or paint- optional



Activity Directions:

1. Start by sanding the wood piece to make sure it is smooth, and no dents, splinters or other man-made blemishes remain. Make sure to sand along the grain of the wood and do the edges if it is not bark or other decorative materials (non-wood or scroll work).
2. Once you are happy with the sanding job, use the tack cloth or other materials to wipe the board clean of sawdust and sandpaper grit. Strong air pressure can also be used in place of tack cloth.
3. If you plan to stain, varnish, or paint your board, make sure to work with a parent. Make sure the area is well ventilated (outside preferable) and on a protected surface. Follow the direction on the can and allow both sides to dry completely before proceeding.
4. Select a shape (triangle, square, hexagon, etc.)
5. Using your pencil, paper and ruler, draw your shape on the paper and make sure it will fit on your board. Add marks to the outer edges of the shape where the nails will be put in.
6. Lay your template over the top of your board and using the hammer, drive one nail through one of the marks to secure the paper to the board. Working back and forth from one side to the other, drive a nail into each mark. Make sure the nails are secure but have not been driven completely through the board. The head and a portion of the nail body will be sticking out to wrap your string around ($\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch should be sticking up). Using more nails will make the design more complicated.

7. Using your string, tie a knot around one nail to secure the string. Begin wrapping the string around each nail to create a pattern. Experiment with your design and add more nails if needed but remember you cannot remove them without leaving a hole.

Facilitation Questions:

- What type of wood did you use (hard, soft, pine, walnut, etc.)
- Was the sanding and staining/painting process longer or shorter than you thought?
- Did your design come out as you originally planned, or did you modify it at some point?
- What are other materials you can use for this project if you did not have wood available?
- Can you make other things beside spirographs using this method?

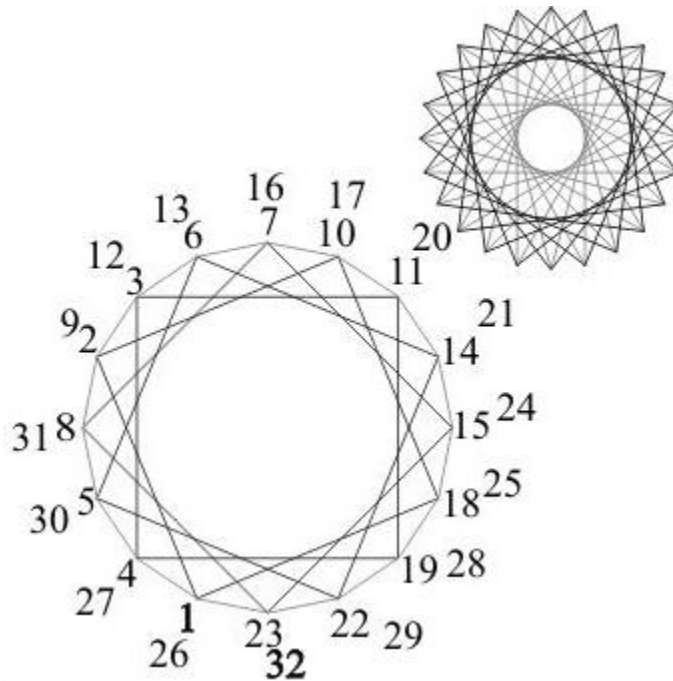


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