



Braided Crowns

Episode 39

Introduction

Understanding patterns and sequences can have wonderful effects on your child's pre-literacy skills; not only is this a great basic math skill, but by understanding patterns, they'll start to understand the patterns in spelling and speech!

These braided paper crowns and bracelets are not only a cute accessory for your child's dress-up gear, but they're also a way for your child to learn about patterns while improving their dexterity!

Supplies

- Tissue paper (several colors) OR newspaper
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Clipboard (optional)



Instructions

1. Tear large strips of paper: Tear paper into strips, 3 strips per page (8-10" wide). Crunch the strips long ways to make a strand that can be braided.
 - a. Tip: Tear with the grain—Most paper has a grain; it'll be easier to tear straight lines with the grain and hard to tear against the grain, so experiment to find which direction is easiest
2. Tie paper strips together: Take three strips (each a different color). Take a piece of yarn and tie them at the top; leave a long tail on the yarn (12-18 inches)—you'll need it later.
3. Braid the paper: Teach your child to braid; outside strands go into the middle of the other two strands, taking turns with right and left. If you're using colored paper, show your child how to make a pattern with the strands they're braiding; this will help them learn patterns and sequences.

Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official [YouTube channel](#) to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at [Plano Library Learns](#)

Library Make is a not-for-profit resource created by Plano Public Library in Plano, Texas. For information about Plano Public Library, visit [Planolibrary.org](#)





Braided Crowns

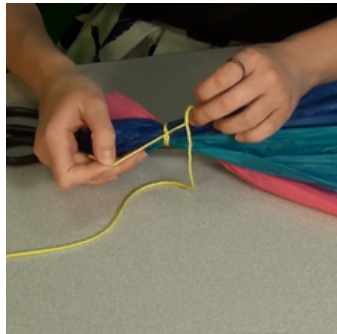
Episode 39

Instructions, continued

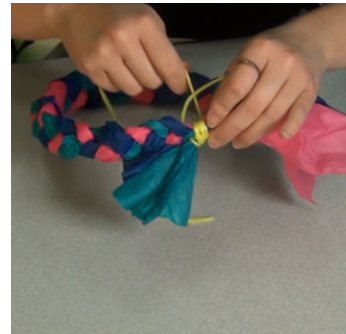
4. Make it longer & tie the ends: With a few inches left, tape/staple more paper to each strand to make a crown OR tie up your strands to make a bracelet. To tie the ends of the braid together, overlap the ends, then take the long tail of yarn from earlier and wrap many times around all strands to create a fat band of color. Trim the ends, then spread them out to create a bow.



Crunch the paper strips long ways to make a braid-able strand.



Tie the top of the strips together, leaving a long tail of yarn.



Tie both ends together; wrap yarn many times to make a fat band.

How to Make a Basic Braid



Start with three strands; these colors are examples.



Yellow over blue (right strand become center strand).



Red over yellow (left strand becomes center strand).



Blue over red (right strand becomes center strand).



Yellow over blue (left strand becomes center strand).

Pattern:
Yellow, red, blue,
yellow, red, blue,
etc.
OR
RIGHT, LEFT,
RIGHT, LEFT,
etc.

Additional Resources

Visit Plano Public Library's official [YouTube channel](#) to view this activity and other Library Make videos

Check out our blog post about this activity at [Plano Library Learns](#)

Library Make is a not-for-profit resource created by Plano Public Library in Plano, Texas. For information about Plano Public Library, visit [Planolibrary.org](#)

