**Weaving Using Burlap**

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**State Standards**

Strand I. 1. D. Create a fiber weaving using a simple loom, Strand I. 3. C. Make artwork that communicates ideas about the world, and Strand II 2. A. Balance, symmetry.

**Materials:** 12’’x12” squares of burlap, size 14 metal yarn needles, Yarn, raffia, large holed beads, tempera paint and brushes (optional).

Youtube 2 minute video on weaving Kente in Ewe, Ghana: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=06_o6MdgdWc&t=10s>

Precut the burlap and give students masking tape to write their names on it.

Demonstrate how to thread a needle and do not knot it. Just loop it through yarn once without tying. This way you can easily get it out but it holds the yarn so it will not slip out of needle. Show how to keep the needle on top of the piece and only pick up one thread of burlap for every 4-5 thread. This is how to keep all the color and yarn on the top and very little wasted on the underneath side.

Encourage students to select a pattern of colors and line designs throughout the burlap.

Students trim but do not know the ends of each strand.

Black and white painted on designs, beads, raffia, and fringing the ends make the fiber artwork even more interesting. We mount our burlap pieces onto a 12”x18” piece of black paper for easy display.

I have found that all ages of boys and girls remain engaged throughout the project with fiber art.

