

Year 4 Art Activity for Home

Hi everyone. While I have tried to give you an activity you will have materials for, if you don't have them, be sure to make some time and space for an art activity even if it's sketching your pet, your favourite book characters or something from your garden.

Weaving a Friendship Bracelet

Materials:

Thin wool or thick thread

Scissors,

Safety pins/tape

Procedure:

1. Measuring wool

The general rule is to cut pieces of wool the length between your fingertips and shoulder - I would say right around 70cm.
Cut 6 strands

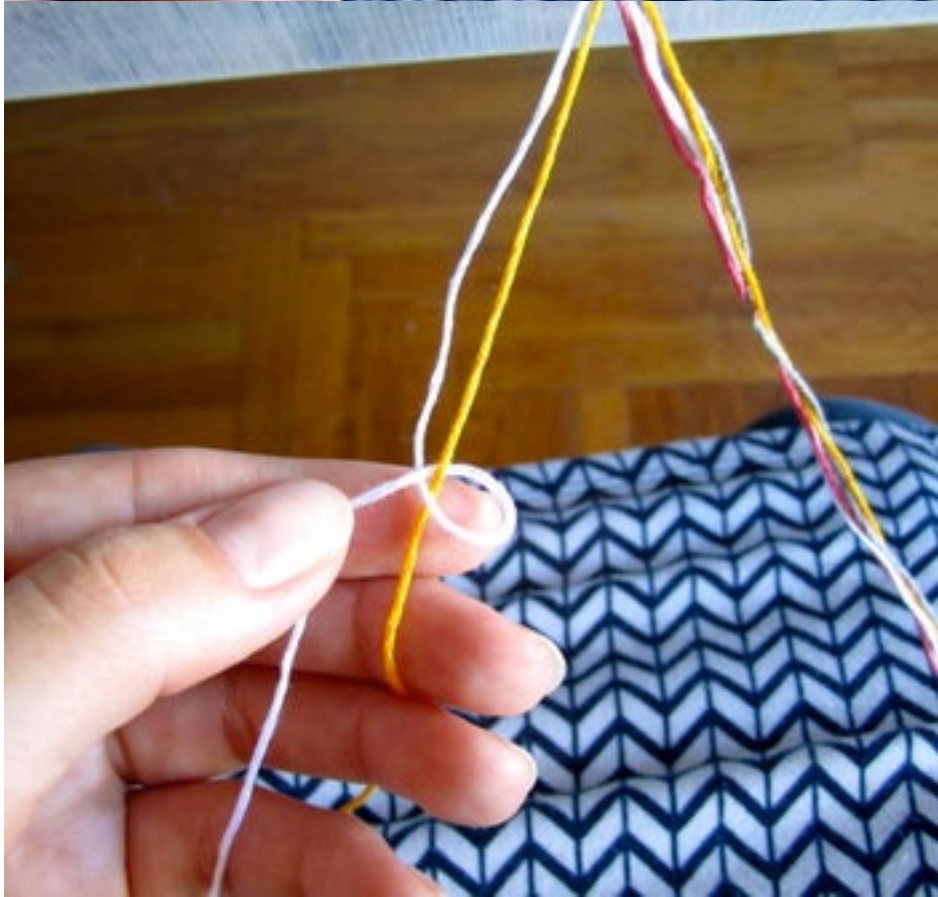
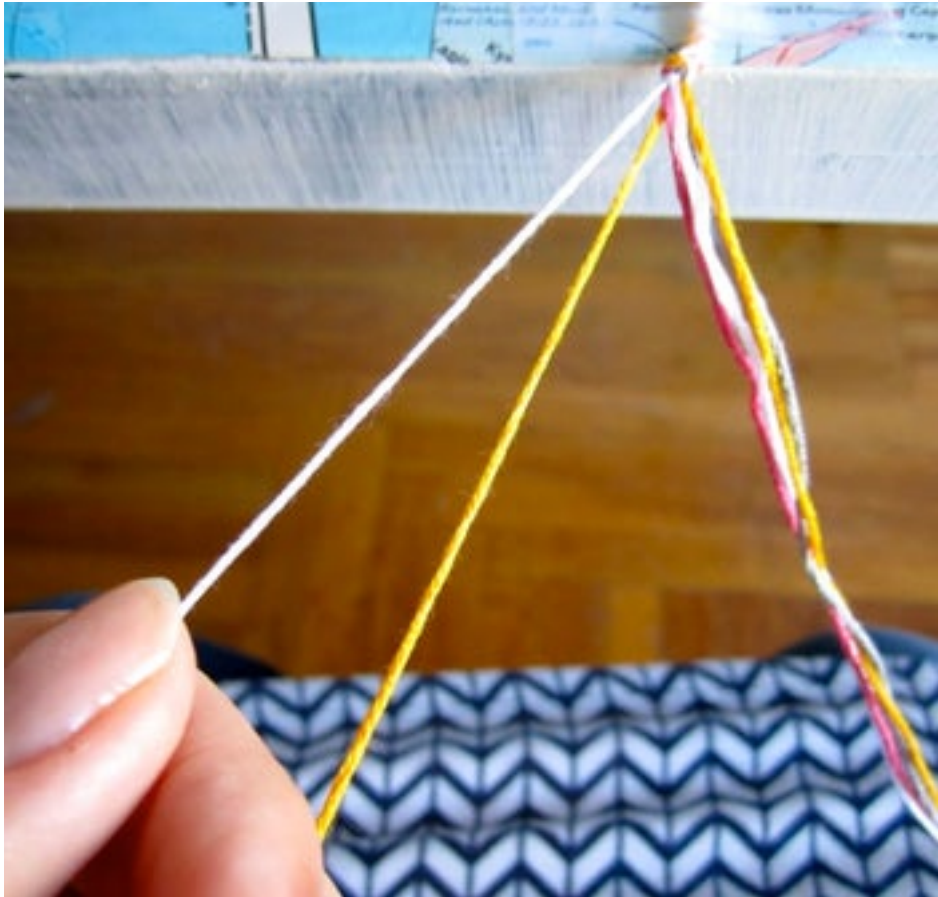


2. Begin the bracelet by taking your cut strands of embroidery floss and tying an overhand knot in one end.

Adhere this to a tabletop and braid 8cm down from this knot. Once you've finished your braid, make another overhand knot at the bottom of the braid.

Step 3: Start the Knotting





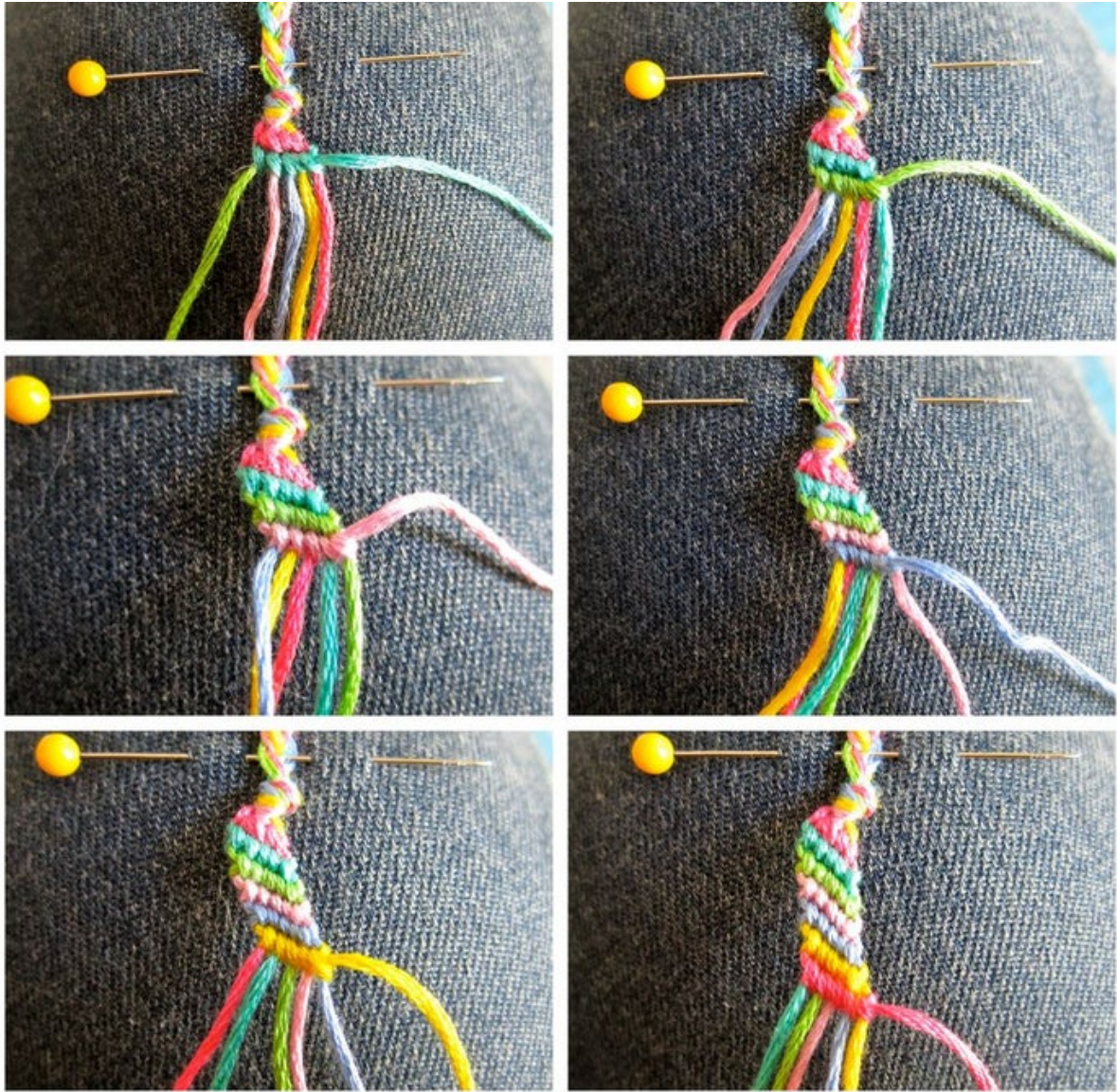
The way you make the ridged, woven looking surface of a friendship bracelet is by making lots of small knots.

First you need to decide what order you want your strands to be in. This will determine the order of the colour of your rows.

Once they're in order, grab the first two strands. The strand farthest to the left is going to create your first row. You'll be knotting it around the other strands of wool to achieve this.

1. Take the first strand, and pass it over the second strand, and then behind as shown in the photo. It is important you knot OVER the second strand, it'll give it the right look.
2. Now hold the second strand taut, and pull the first strand up and towards the large knot. Pull until you meet resistance, but not any harder! This will create a small knot on on the second strand.
3. Make another knot by tying the first strand around the second strand again - just repeat what you did before!
4. Continue moving across to the right, using the first strand to create two knots on each strand of wool in the bracelet.
5. Once you've knotted all the way across to the right and reached the last strand of wool, begin again using the first strand on the left. Make sure you're making TWO knots on each strand.
6. Keep going until you have 3cm of knotting done.

Step 4: How It'll Look As You Go



I feel like this is a useful way to understand what you're doing. :D

As you can see, you're just working your way across with whatever colour is on the left, making two knots on each strand to the right. The colour you've just finished carrying all the way to the right will always hang off to the side, which will help let you know when you've finished a row.

If you miss a strand or accidentally forget to finish a row, it should be easy to spot. It's a good idea to keep a needle around to help you pick out any knots if you mess up - they're so tiny it's hard to do with your fingers!

Step 5: How to Finish the Bracelet





Make sure your bracelet is long enough to go around your wrist. Make another overhand knot right at the end of the main part of the bracelet. From that knot, braid 7cm and then knot again.

Now cut off the extra wool from both ends of the bracelet. Now you're done!

Step 6: Tie It On!

By braiding it the way we did, it'll be super easy to tie/untie it. And you'll be able to do it yourself. :D

Activity 2:

Painting in acrylics. (Or even in texta)

Materials:

A canvas (or A4 paper)

A brush

Paints

Here's the step-by-step painting process:



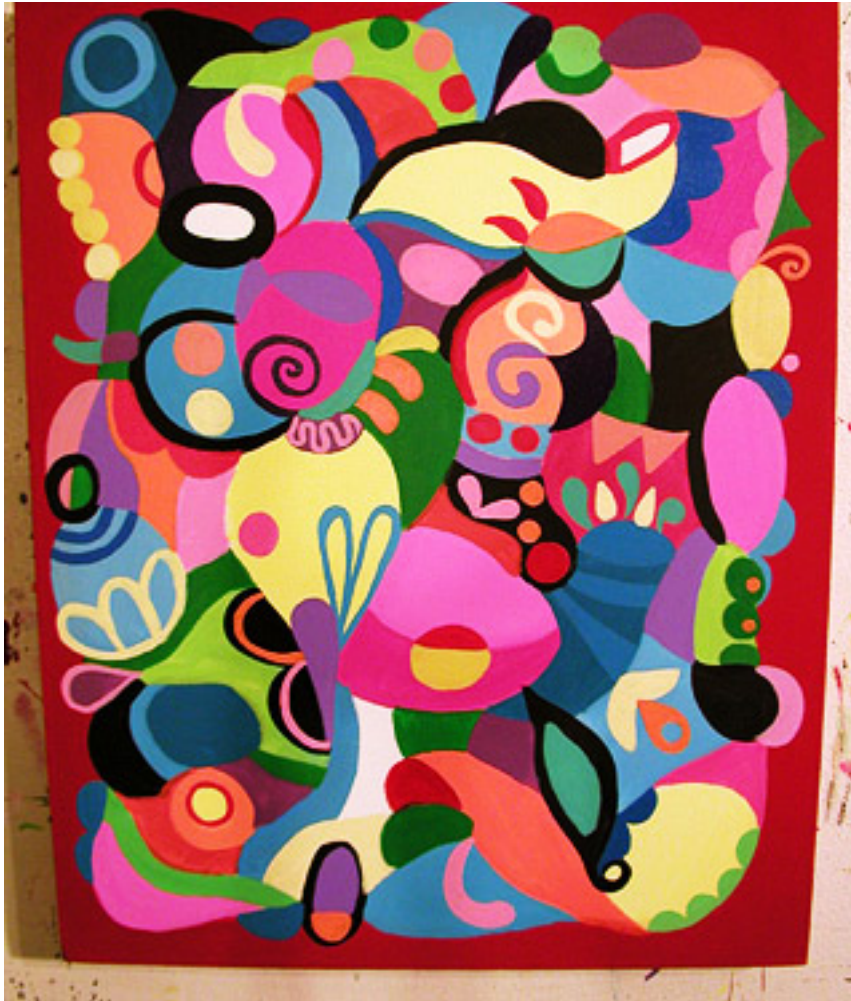
Paint the edges and sides of a **canvas** with red **acrylic paint**. Used 2-3 layers of paint, because the red should be really strong and opaque - not allowing any of the white of the canvas to show through. Wait for each layer to dry before adding the next layer. Acrylics dry very quickly.



Then paint in various shapes, one color at a time. For instance, first paint in all the yellow shapes. Then all the orange shapes, then dark pink, light pink, etc.

Try to create a balanced variety of shapes and colours. The idea is that the different shapes and placement of colours will cause the viewer's eyes to bounce around the canvas. In this way try to create a sense of movement and energy in these funky artworks.

Continue painting in these shapes until the white canvas is entirely covered. These shapes will form the bottom layer of the composition. This first layer of shapes are painted next to each other, as opposed to on top of each other.



Now that the initial bottom layer is mostly covered, start painting in smaller details on top of the shapes I already painted. This is called an **additive process**, or a **layering process**, because it involves adding layers to create the painting. This is one technique you can use to paint abstract art in acrylics.

In general, the new details added are confined to the space of each particular shape. Thus each shape winds up being truly unique from all the other shapes.

You can paint circles, half-circles, dots, swirls, curls, raindrops, triangles, and lines. These designs are very influenced by tribal folk arts from around the world.



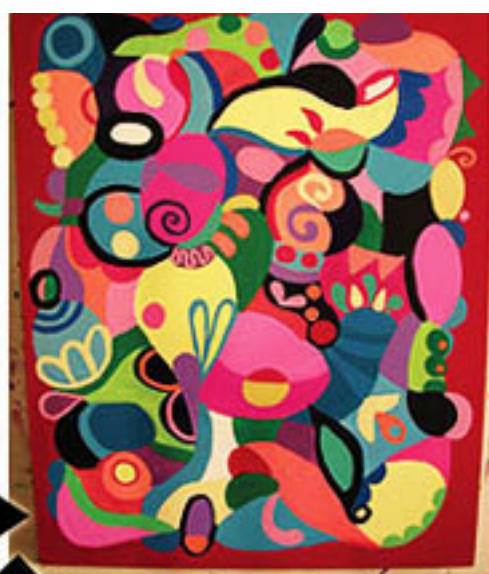
The process of adding more layers of detail continues. As more details are added, they become smaller because you start placing details on top of details.

The repetitive designs start to form funky, sometimes intricate **patterns**. Creating a pattern is one element you can use to make an abstract work of art.

When you add details, add them one colour at a time. For instance, add all the white details over the entire canvas, then add all the red ones, and so on. This means you only have to squeeze out one colour at a time. Because acrylics dry quickly, try not to have more on my palette than you actually use!



Continue adding colors and designs until the painting "feels" complete and balanced. Because it's an abstract painting that is created in an intuitive manner, there is no obvious "finishing point". You just have to let your gut feeling tell me when the painting is done.



© Art-is-Fun.com





Mesmeric - 8" x 10" - Acrylic on Canvas

