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# Kids Weaving: Projects For Kids Of All Ages



## Synopsis

Sarah Swett has loved weaving since the age of eight, when she made magic carpets for her teddy bears. Now, as a professional tapestry weaver and knitwear designer, she shares the joy of creating beautiful woven items with a new generation of young crafters. In *Kids Weaving*, the only weaving book written specifically for children, Swett shows how to make 15 fun, inexpensive, colorful projects -- including friendship bracelets, a rag doll, a fashionable chenille scarf, magic carpets, and funky hand-woven shoelaces -- many of which can be completed in an afternoon. With clear, step-by-step instructions and bright, helpful illustrations, *Kids Weaving* teaches children (and adults too!) how to weave using everything from their hands to cardboard to an easy-to-create loom made from simple plumbing supplies. Throughout the book are fascinating features about weaving around the world; special projects like weaving a hideout from sticks, branches, and wildflowers; and stories of famous characters such as Penelope, the clever weaver from *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. The third in STC's Kids Craft series (following *Kids' Embroidery* and *Kids Crochet*), this delightful, easy-to-use book brings one of the oldest craft traditions to creative children everywhere. A step-by-step format and bright illustrations ensure successful results for children of all ages. All of the projects are inexpensive to make. The only weaving book written specifically for children.

## Book Information

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Grade Level: 8 and up

## Customer Reviews

Grade 3-7-Swett introduces this craft with a simple weaving of a checkerboard note card-a task

requiring two pieces of paper and a pair of scissors. After mastering the technique with several different small projects, she explains how to weave a hideout out of sticks and vines in the yard. She demonstrates techniques on a cardboard loom and progresses to skills for weaving on a pipe loom. These projects show the whimsical and the practical, the useful and the decorative aspects of the art. Hartlove's excellent-quality, full-color photos depict children enjoying the craft in many different settings-inside on rainy days or out in the sunshine by a lake and in a canoe. In addition, the helpful step-by-step drawings clearly depict the processes and techniques. As the book continues, the types of weaving and projects get progressively more difficult but are explained so well that novices could accomplish the most difficult tasks with ease. The author includes the history and folklore that surrounds the art and talks about different types of weaving done around the world. Sources for supplies and a list of recommended reading are appended.-Cynde Suite, Bartow County Library System, Adairsville, GA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Sarah Swett, a professional tapestry weaver and knitwear designer, has traveled throughout North America teaching tapestry weaving, design, and knitting. Her weavings have been featured in solo and group exhibitions throughout the country and appeared in the magazines *American Craft*, *SpinOff*, and *Interweave Knits*, and the book *Knitting in America*. She lives in Moscow, Idaho. Visit her website at [www.sarah-swett.com](http://www.sarah-swett.com). Lena Corwin is a textile/graphic designer and illustrator. She is the illustrator of *Kids Crochet (STC)* and has worked for Calvin Klein, Jill Stuart, Elle Décor magazine, and many others.

This book got me started weaving as an adult! It's great, with inexpensive, useful, and very doable projects. I love it.

I absolutely love my book. I bought it used and it is in awesome condition.

This book has great ideas for inexpensive looms for anyone to use. I am very visual and this book has lots of photos.

I have homeschool friends to whom I recommend this book. Any parent who has a child interested in art or crafting might like introducing them to the art of weaving. The book is a good guide and I plan to use it with my niece who loves arts/crafts.

I know the author (a weaving genius) and this is a fantastic book to introduce children to enjoying the fiber arts.

I bought this book after seeing it in the library because the project instructions were so easy to understand and the projects were interesting -scarf, small rug, drink coasters, bags with flap and shoulder strap, belt. There were good illustrations and text for building the loom. I built the loom with no problems. My trouble began when I tried to weave. I think the problem is in how I attached the heddle strings. The description and the illustration for that step are both vague. What goes wrong? When I lower the shed bar, I get a big opening and I can easily slide the shuttle through. When I raise the shed bar, there is no opening to pass the shuttle through the strings. If I ever figure out how to fix this issue, I will love my loom; until then, it is useless. 5 stars at first impression; reduced to 3 stars for the lack of clarity in the warping method 2 instructions. All the other instruction is very good.

This book is great if you want a book that has interesting, useful projects, clear instructions, and beautiful photos of kids and their weaving. The starting projects are loomless, involving weaving paper ('checkerboard notecards'), twigs ('fairygarden planter'), pliable tree branches ('hideout'), and what looks like a kind of six-strand braiding of embroidery floss hung from a pencil ('friendship bracelet'). From there you graduate to use of a cardboard loom to make a small wool pouch (I did this one) and to weaving cloth strips to make Japanese Rag Warrior dolls. (These, by the way, really do look like dolls my boys would play with.) Following that, the book details how to construct a stand-up loom from pvc piping and fittings, thick wooden dowels, and tongue depressors, and comes complete with heddle bar. I made mine for a cost of about \$20. This pvc loom will handle a band of weaving up to 5" wide. From this loom (dubbed 'inkle loom') you can make these projects: inkle strap shoelaces, tapestry dog collar, a belt, a 43" long scarf, doll-sized pile carpets, and, by sewing woven strips together, a kente cloth blanket. The book also includes information, about making your own fiber dyes, different ways to set up the inkle loom, what is 'fulling' and how it is done, as well as bits of weaving history and lore. I got 'Kids Weaving' from the library six weeks ago. I meant to photocopy only a few pages for use introducing weaving to a small homeschool co-op. But when I began to see that it wouldn't be just a few pages, that's when I realized that I should just buy the book. Nearly all of the projects look like something we would do. That's rare.

A great book, not just for kids. Directions for building a tapestry loom a special plus.

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