weave your own BASKET!

1. Cut your bowl into an odd number of strips. Cut from the rim to the base.

2. Tie a knot in a piece of yarn. Slip the yarn between two of the strips. The knot should be on the inside.

3. Weave the yarn in front of one strip, then behind the next. Repeat until you’re ready to change colors.

4. To change colors, cut the yarn and leave the tail on the inside. Tie a knot in another color of yarn and continue weaving.

5. Optional: look around your house for strips of fabric or scraps of yarn, jute, string, or twine to weave in!

6. Keep weaving until you reach the top of the cup. Cut the yarn and tuck the end inside the cup. Tape or glue any loose ends.

You will need:
- a paper cup or bowl with straight sides
- yarn or string
- scissors
- strips of fabric for weaving (optional)

A brief history of basketry

People around the world have been weaving baskets for thousands of years. In fact, basketry is older than pottery or stone carving. Pottery shards with the imprint of basketry were found in Gambols Cave in Kenya, and they are more than 10,000 years old!

Traditional baskets are made from natural materials such as wood fibers, animal skins, reeds, vines, or grasses. People used whatever was available around them. Today baskets might be woven from plastic, paper, fabric, metal—anything!