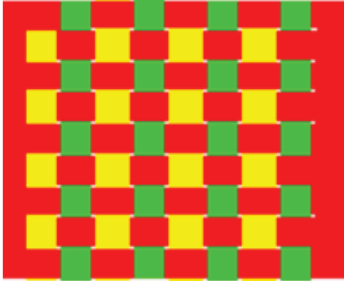


International Math

Activity 3 - Kwanzaa Place Mat



In this activity try making a place mat to decorate your Kwanzaa celebration table. These simple-to-make woven construction paper place mats represent a straw place mat (called mkeka in Swahili).

For this activity you will need: scissors, a ruler, glue or tape and red/black/green/yellow construction paper.



Start with a large piece of construction paper.

Fold it in half.



While the paper is still folded, use a ruler to draw a series of lines across the fold, but do not draw them all the way to the edge - leave about three centimetres at the edge and three centimetres between each line. For younger children, an adult should draw the lines.

Cut along the lines.



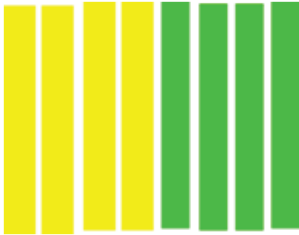
When you're finished cutting, unfold the piece of paper.

It should look similar to the picture on the left.

Can you believe THIS is math?

International Math

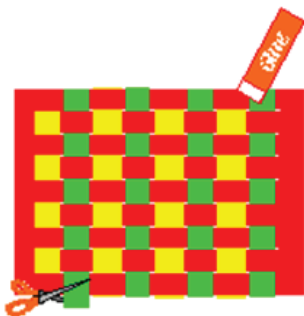
Activity 3 - Kwanzaa Place Mat - *continued*



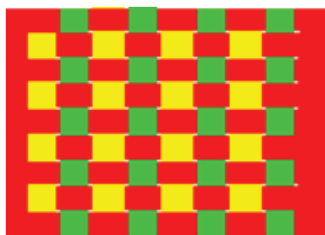
Using paper of other colours, cut many strips of paper about three centimeters wide. The length of your strips should be the same as the height of the large piece of paper used in the last step.



Start weaving the strips of paper into the large piece of paper. Make sure that each new piece of paper is pushed right up next to the previously woven piece.



When you're done weaving, secure each strip of woven paper using glue or tape. You might also have to trim the woven edges a bit to make the edges of the place mat even.



You can now use your place mat at your Kwanzaa celebration table!

Can you believe **THIS** is math?