

World of Wonder

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities

Release week March 17, 2013: Textiles – Plant Fibers

Standards

- Art: Students will use old newspapers to practice weaving.
- Social Studies: Students will report on the cotton gin.
- Social Studies: Students will learn about the history of using flax as a textile.

Activities

1. Use the News: Practice making the three types of weaving patterns – plain, twill and satin. Cut an old newspaper into three equal strips. Arrange them horizontally and vertically into each of the three patterns. They can be taped together or glued to a background sheet if desired.
2. Eli Whitney created the cotton gin. Why did he make it? What does it do? How did his invention help the cotton industry? Research and report on this invention.
3. Flax is a plant whose fibers are used to make a cloth called linen. Many years ago, much of the process was done by hand. Irish linen was famous for its beautiful texture, but the workers paid a high price for their toil. Take a look at this website describing the difficult process they went through to turn the flax plant into fine linen:
www.irish-genealogy-toolkit.com/flax-plant.html.

World of Wonder meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade.