HEADSTONE MANOR & MUSEUM

How to make...
DIY Kite

YOU WILL NEED:
Scissors
Sticky tape,
Pencil, Ruler,
Glue stick.
Greaseproof, parchment or wrapping paper
Paper straws, barbecue skewers or sticks from the garden
Coloured crayons
A selection of leaves to make rubbings from
Strong thread (on a spool is ideal)
Tissue paper

1. Arrange your leaves face down. Place approx 50 x 40cm greaseproof or parchment paper over the top and using your crayons make a colourful leaf rubbing.

2. Make your crucifix shaped kite structure by lashing 2 skewers or sticks together with some of the thread. We used a 28cm skewer (pointy end removed) and a 20cm skewer for the crossbar. The crossbar sits about a third of the way down the longer skewer.

3. With your crucifix shape lying flat on the table, attach a 30cm length of thread to the crossbar by tying the ends to each end of the skewer. It should span the crossbar and have few centimetres of slack.

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4. Tie the remaining thread (still on the spool) to the top tip of the crucifix structure. Then unwind the spool slightly and tie it to the middle of the crossbar thread. Keep it slack (so that when you pull the thread up towards you it makes a pyramid shape).

5. Position your crucifix onto the back of your leaf rubbing using a little tape to stick it in place. Then use the tape to mark out and reinforce the edges of your kite shape, taping diagonally from each end of the cross to the next.

6. Cut around the kite shape, about 2cm from the outside edge of the tape. Fold over the edges tucking in the corners and tape down to reinforce and neaten.

7. For the finishing touches tie 1m of coloured thread or wool to the bottom of the kite to make a tail. Cut some small oblongs of tissue paper approx 9 x 6cm. Cut slits in these so that they look like combs. Twist onto your kite tail to make a series of tassels. Secure with tape. Cut similar tissue paper frills to glue across the front of your kite for decoration. Don't add too many or your kite won't fly.

8. Keep your fingers crossed for a windy day!

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