

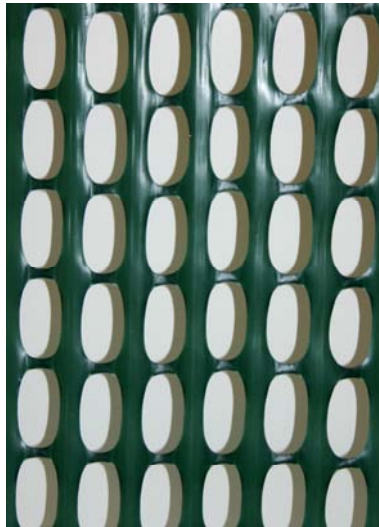


Weaving ideas and adaptations can include changing materials used for the warp and weft of traditional weaving. A quiet weaving station can be a motivator for students. At the end of the school year students can “unweave” their work. Many students enjoy this process just as creating the weaving.



1. Weaving on a Fence (cooperative work)

I have used plastic construction fencing in the corner of many classrooms as a weaving station. When hung properly from the ceiling students can work on both sides. They may sit on the floor, sit in their wheelchairs, or even stand while working on the weaving. Students can work cooperatively or independently.



Plastic construction fencing as shown in this photo can be used for the warp of a weaving. I have chosen this material because of its lightweight quality in large dimensions. The larger openings in the plastic are easier for students who have physical limitations. With an 8' long section hung in a classroom, ten students are able to weave. Cut the plastic fencing into representational shapes instead of a rectangle.



Other Options for warp:

- Ask a construction site to donate fencing.
- Check with your local hardware store to find other materials.
- Consider smaller types of materials such as screen but be careful of sharp edges.
- I have tried using wooden fencing in my classroom but even in smaller sections the weight makes it awkward to use.





There are so many options for creative weavers.

Weft materials can include:

- thicker yarns or rope
- fabric such as torn sheets, t-shirts, jeans
- plastic bags in strips or whole
- lawn chair webbing
- socks, ribbon, Velcro
- paper strips cut with Adapt-A-Cut®

Weaving techniques can include:

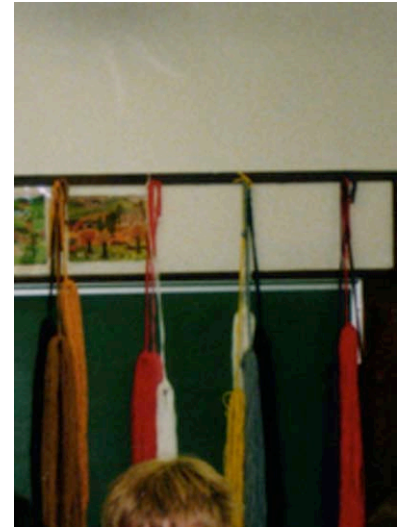
- over, under
- coil around, wrap
- fill open spaces
- leave some spaces open
- pattern or random



Installation of the weaving station:

* Check with your custodial staff before hanging anything to a ceiling. I have used ropes tied to ceiling hooks where the suspended ceiling has been reinforced. Since some students will pull on the weaving with force, they will need to be supervised when working at this station.

* If you cannot hang anything from your ceiling you could try other fencing materials or create your own weaving frame with PVC pipe. Contact B Able To, Inc. for directions.



Find an accessible place to leave materials for weaving into the fencing. In this photo there are lengths of pre-cut yarn hanging close to the weaving. If there is room leave a box of weft materials under the weaving.

The weaving station can become an extension opportunity or positive reinforcement for on-task behavior. Some students may need a change from the planned class lesson. This station provides a "Plan B" activity.

