WHAT IS A GOD'S EYE (OJO DE DIOS)

Do you remember making God's Eyes when you were you were a kid? You may have known them by the name **Ojo de Dios**, which is Spanish for "Eye of God". A God's Eye craft is a <u>classic childhood yarn craft</u>, always popular at Sunday school, summer camp, Girl Guides and after-school craft clubs.

It's a spiritual ornament (find the spiritual meaning further below) made by weaving several colours of yarn around a wooden cross. The cross is typically made from sticks found in the yard or with popsicle sticks (also known as craft sticks).



WHAT IS THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF A GOD'S EYE?

While you're weaving your craft, you can chat about **the origin of the**God's Eye:

Traditionally, a God's Eye was a **spiritual symbol**, and the weaving process was reflective and meditative. The points of a God's Eye represent the four elements of nature: **earth, fire, air and water**, and the center of the ornament represents the eye of God, and is believed to have the power to see and understand things that the human eye cannot. In some cultures, when a baby is born, the father of the household weaves the eye of the God's eye, and each year, until the child's 5th birthday, another ring of colour is added.

HOW TO MAKE A GOD'S EYE ORNAMENT:

To make your God's eye, begin by crossing two sticks to form an "X".

To secure those sticks, and keep them in place, wrap a piece of yarn **around the intersecting points** of the stick. You can knot your yarn to start, or you can just trap the tail under the yarn as you start wrapping. Do a few wraps in one direction, and then rotate your sticks, and do a few wraps in the other direction to ensure your sticks are stable, and won't shift.

Wrap your yarn around one stick, close to the center of the God's eye, and take it over to the next stick. Wrap it around that stick, and take it to the next stick. Continue wrapping and winding in that fashion, rotating your God's Eye craft as you work. Whether you wrap the yarn over the sticks or under doesn't matter, as long as you are consistent.



