

# At-Home Art Activity

## Construct a Lantern with 1708 Gallery



Lights of multi-colored lanterns made of wood and colored cellophane illuminate the streets on September 7th in many towns of El Salvador, including Ahauachapan, Ataco, Apaneca, Nahuizalco, Juayua, and Salcoatita. During this festival, called *Los Farolitos*, the streets are filled with lanterns, music, art, and food to honor the birth of the Virgin Mary. Believed to have started around the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, this festival uses lanterns to illuminate the street and serve as a symbol of hope. Lanterns are so common during this festival, there is even a lantern contest called *Farolitoarte!*

Now it's your turn to create a lantern using supplies you have at home!

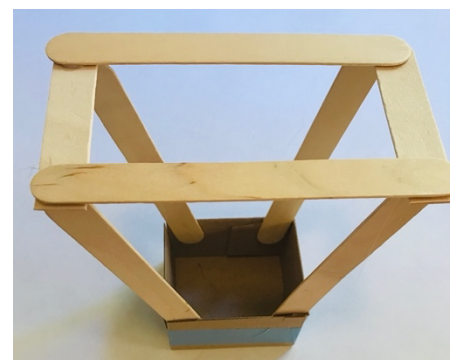
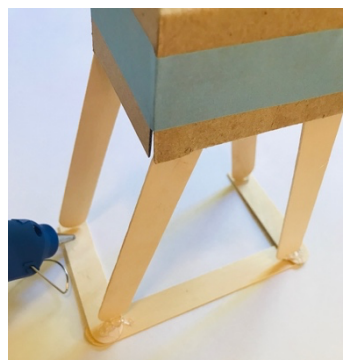
### Materials:

- scissors
- tape
- small rectangular gift box or parcel box (no lid needed)
- 8 tongue depressor sticks or large popsicle sticks
- 4 small sheets of colorful vellum, colorful cellophane, or white baking parchment paper
- 12-inch piece of light cord or yarn
- 1 balloon light, or a battery tea light, mini-battery fairy lights, etc. *(these can be found at craft stores)*
- 1 glue stick
- hot glue applicator (please work with an adult when using)
- pencil or sharpie



### Instructions:

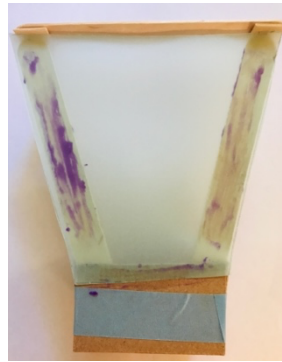
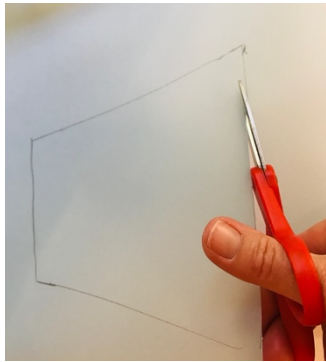
1. On your small gift or parcel box, use hot glue to glue a craft stick on each inside corner on the long sides of the box - slant the sticks outward at an angle. You will have 4 sticks coming out of the box on the corners creating the frame of the lantern.
2. Cut 2 sticks to lay them across the short sides of structure then hot glue them in place.
3. On the long sides of the structure glue 2 long sticks on to the shorter sticks creating a top for the frame of the lantern.



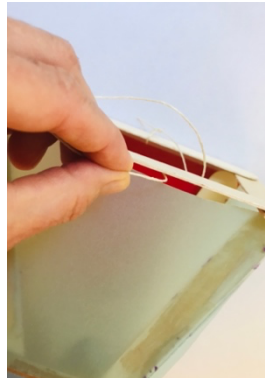
- Now that we have a frame for the lantern, trace the size of the sides (all four) using a pencil or sharpie on your colorful vellum, parchment, or cellophane. These will cover the sides of your lantern.



- Cut the shapes you traced. Using your glue stick, glue these traced shapes to the sides of your lantern frame (boxes and craft sticks). Use tape to reinforce the sides.



- Tie each end of your string to the longer sticks on the top of the lantern. This will be your handle for carrying the lantern.



- Drop your light (tea light, balloon light or fairy lights will work) into the lantern.

- Turn on the light and enjoy!

