



Shinto - Tanabata Matsuri

Tassel

Introduction: Tanabata Matsuri, the star festival is celebrated in Japan in July or August. In front of their homes, people display bamboo branches decorated with paper dolls, tassels and origami. The decorations symbolise success in weaving, writing and handicrafts. At the end of the holiday, people toss the branches into rivers to float to the sea.

Materials: coloured paper, scissors, string, and tube macaroni.

How:

- 1 Cut coloured paper into squares.
- 2 Fold a square in half from corner to corner (diagonally). Open and fold in the opposite direction.
- 3 Turn the square over.
- 4 Fold the square in half from side to side. Open and fold it in half in the opposite direction.
- 5 Turn the square over.
- 6 Push the sides towards the centre to form a bell, which has two triangles.
- 7 Cut off the tip of the bell.
- 8 Tie a tube of macaroni to the end of a length of string.
- 9 Thread the bell onto the string. Rest the bell on the macaroni.
- 10 Keep tying on macaroni and adding bells along the length of string.