These lanterns may look tricky but they are much easier to make than you think and they look really impressive and effective. You can make them with garden cane, bamboo or willow sticks.



Time to make: 45 minutes to an hour

Suitable for: all ages but under 12s will need to be supervised

You will need:

A large tray
Garden Scissors
Garden Cane/Bamboo or Willow
Masking Tape
Tissue paper
PVA Glue diluted half and half with water in a bowl
Sponge/Paint brush
LED replaceable battery tea light

And space where you can make a mess!

Cane/Willow/Bamboo Lantern

Cut your sticks

Take two or three sticks and using your garden scissors cut 4 equal lengths and of similar thickness. Tape the corners together with masking tape to make a square.

Make the frame

Decide how high you want your lantern to be and cut 4 sticks the same length. Tape the ends to the base corners and then tape them all together at the top. For larger lanterns, you may need an extra layer of sticks half way up to strengthen the lantern. See the picture above.

Cover the frame

Lay a sheet of tissue paper in the tray and cover it with the diluted PVA glue using a paint brush or sponge. Hold the four corners apart and place the paper on the lantern structure. Cover the whole lantern but leave a gap at the bottom to insert the light. Overlap the edges of the paper as you go, smoothing down any bits that are sticking up.

Shine a light

Leave the lantern to dry out for a couple of days and when it is ready, insert the LED replaceable battery tealight into the lantern. Use masking tape to hold the LED in place.

You can decorate your lantern with coloured paper or cut out tissue paper shapes of animals, flowers or you could paint it.

Let's Light Up Eden

Place your lantern in your window or doorstep at dusk on Saturday 20th March.

LET'S CEIEBRATE THE SPRING EQUINOX AND AND LIGHT UP EDEN!

With many thanks to Eden Project Communities



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