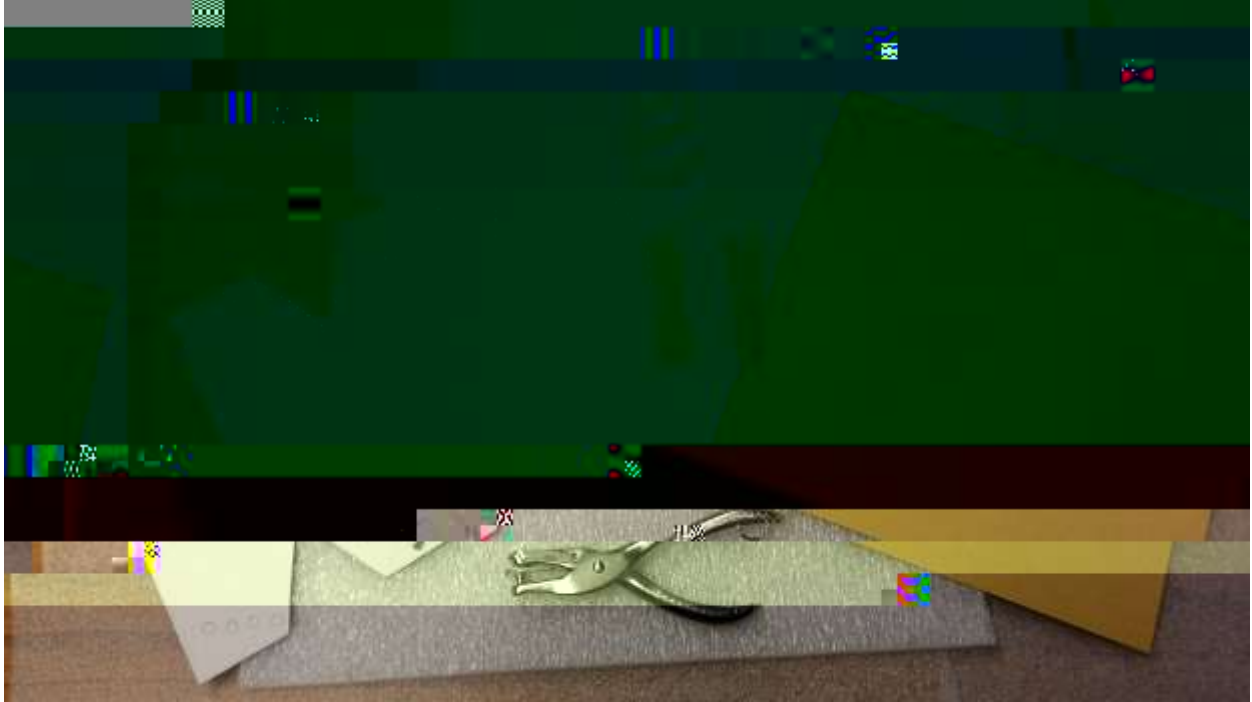




Step by Step Instructions

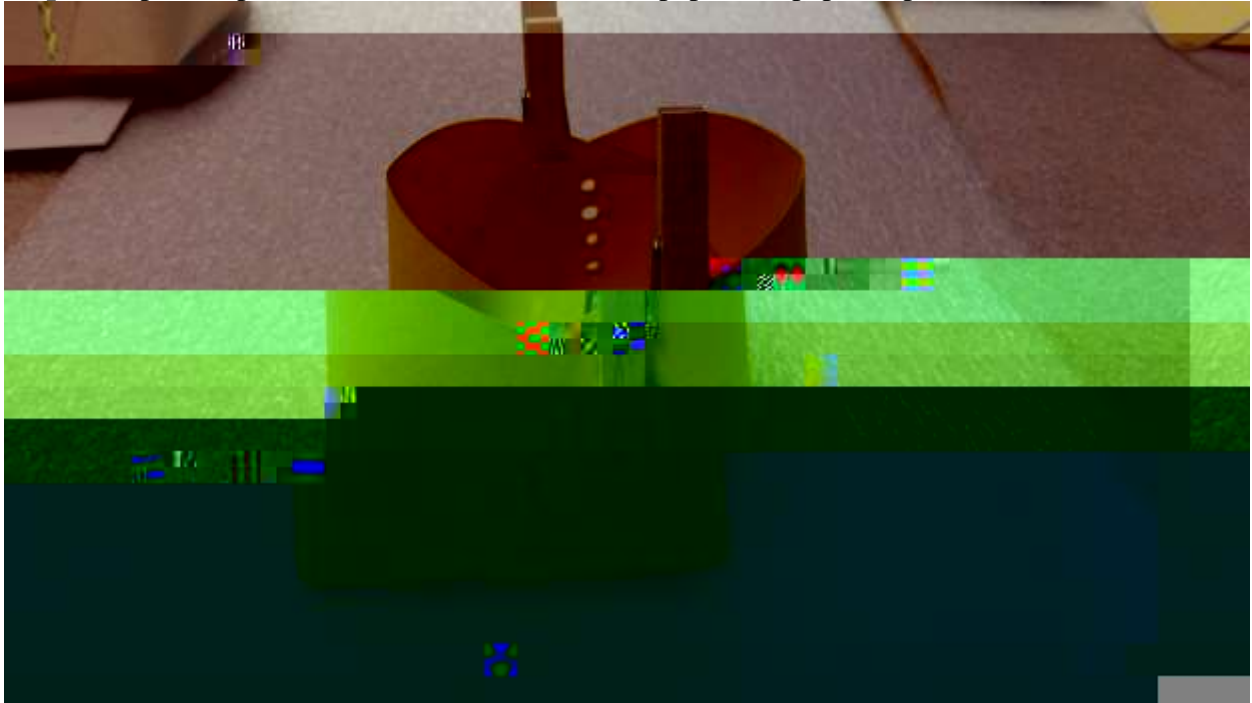
Step 1: Take a piece of construction paper and the stencil and cut out the design from the stencil onto your construction paper. Cut the triangles out of the sides and use a hole punch to create the holes.



Step 2: Starting on one of the short ends of the paper, fold both sides into the center and align all of the holes. When they are all aligned, put a paper clip on the top to hold it in place.



Step 3: Repeat step 2 on the other short side of the paper and paper clip.

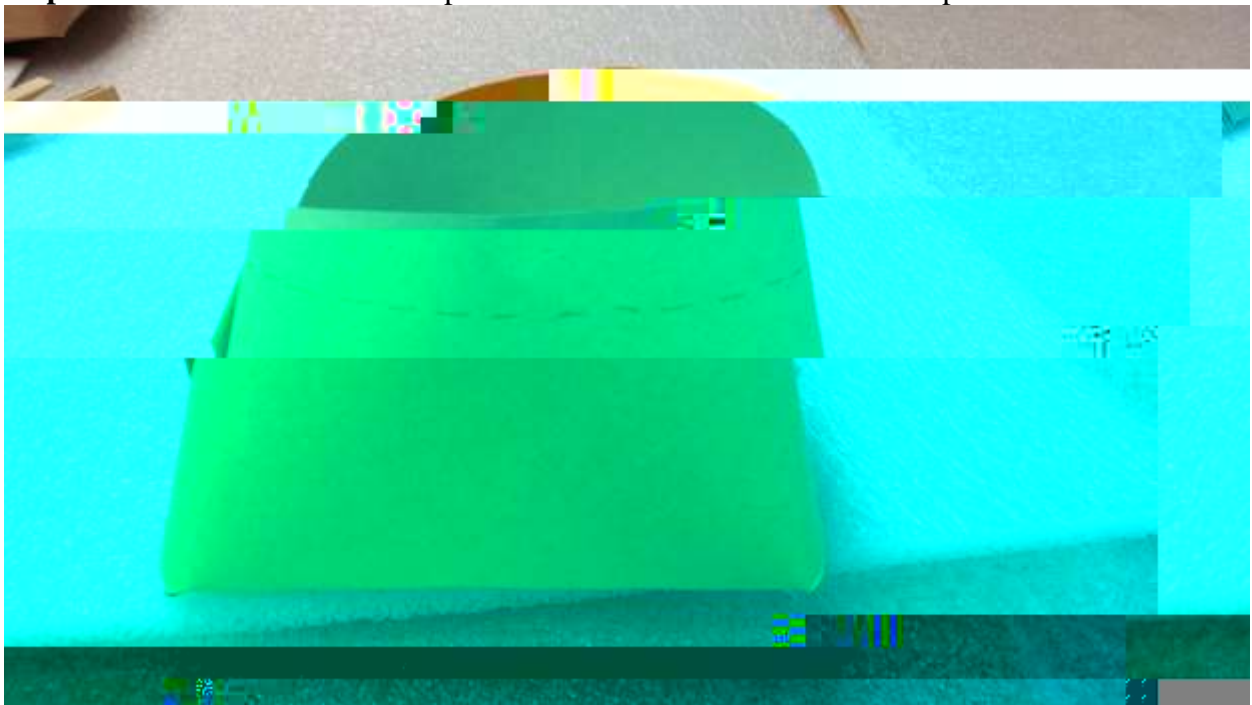


Step 4: Take your string and string it through the 4 holes that are aligned starting on one end of the basket, then repeat on the other side. Remove the paper clips and you have a free standing paper basket.

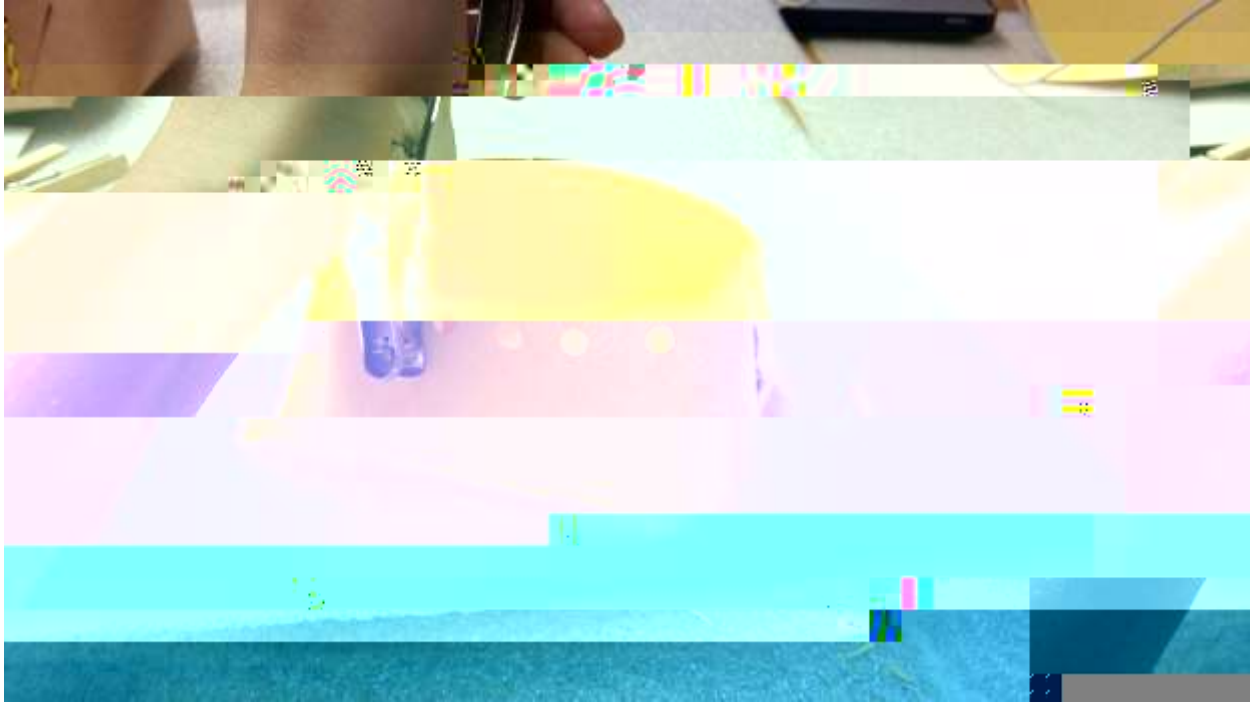




Step 5: cut the excess off of the top of the basket so it is flat across the top.



Step 6: (Optional) Punch holes along the top edge and string twine or pipe cleaners around the top to simulate the finishing technique of the traditional baskets.



Step 7: (Optional) Decorate the outsides of the baskets with drawings, symbols and whatever they like.

Materials Needed

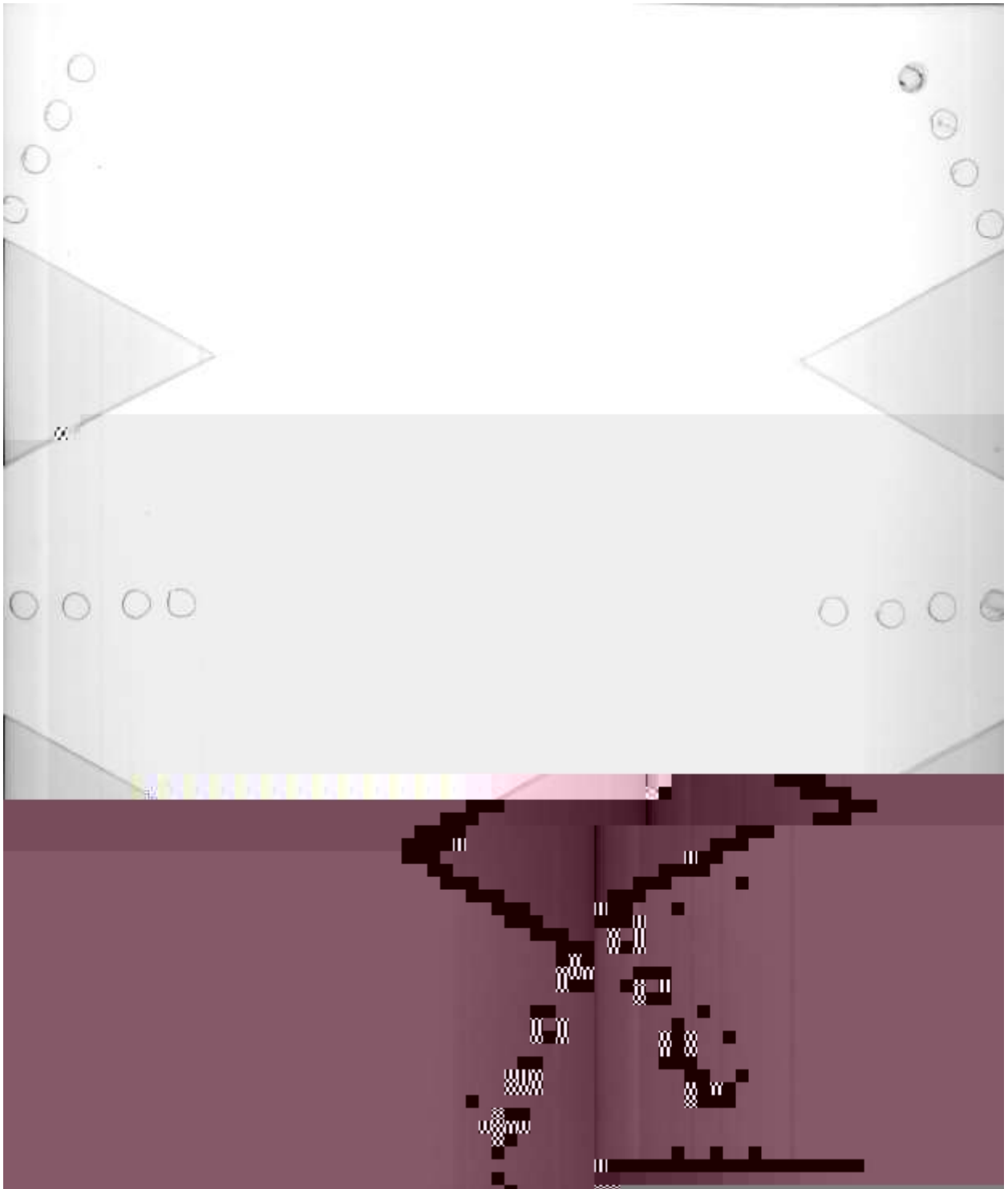
Construction Paper
String or twine
Clothes pins, two per student
Pipe cleaners (optional)
Crayons or markers (optional)

Discussion Points

Birch bark basket making was and still is a skill that is handed down through the generations. How would they teach someone to make these baskets? Why? Who?

Birch bark baskets were water tight and used for cooking, storing, collecting, and anything that we would use a plastic bucket for today. Think about what could be cooked in these baskets, what could be collected, what could be stored?

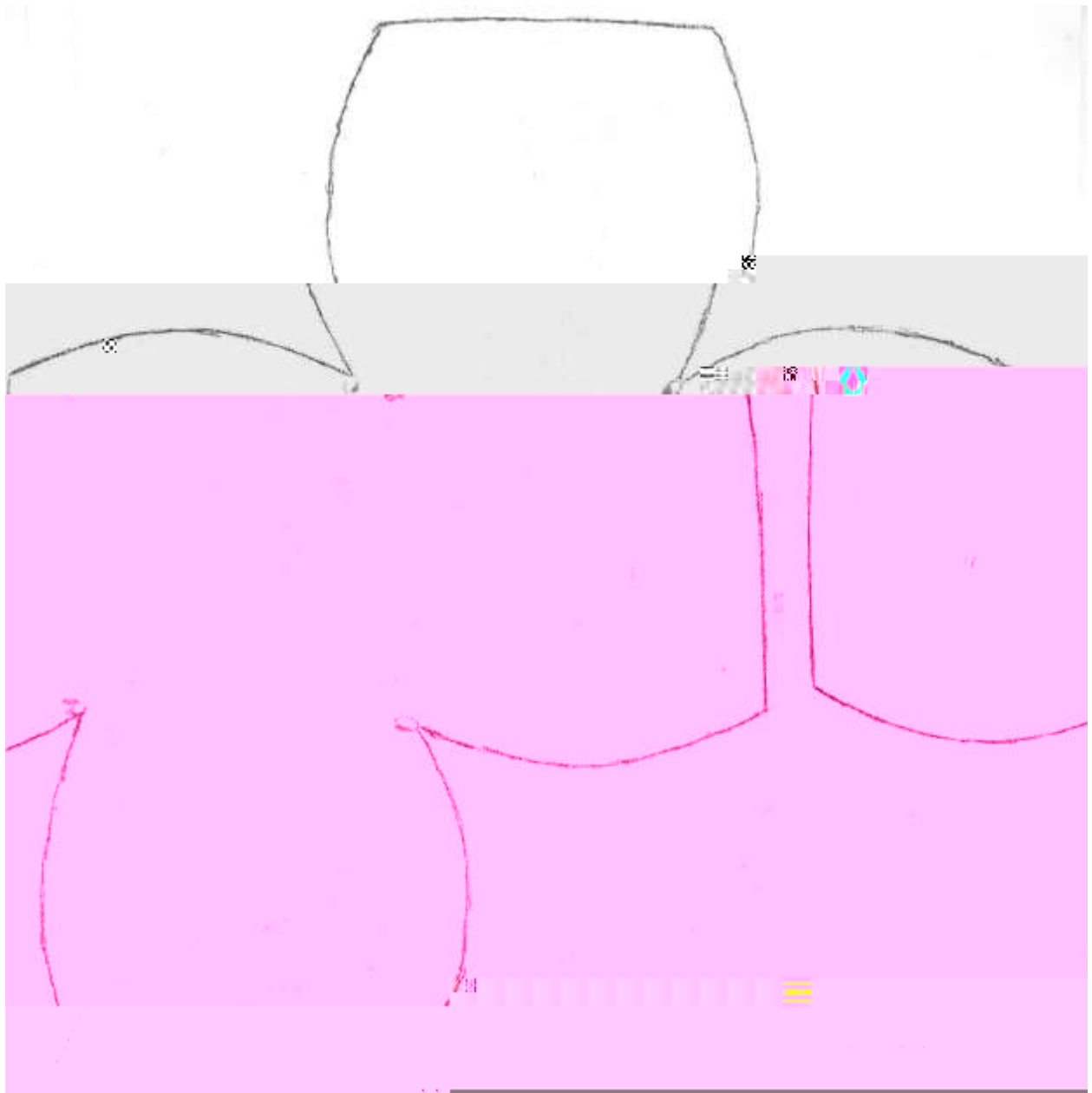
Template 1



Additional Templates

Two different styles of baskets have been provided. Students are encouraged to try to design and produce their own basket(s).

Template 2



Template 3

