

Unbroken Land 2020  
'Light The Water'  
Bamboo Lanterns Tutorial



## Materials

### **Incite Arts supplied packet:**

1. 4 x 30cm #1 Bamboo sticks  
notched on one side
2. 16 x 20cm #2 bamboo sticks
3. 4 x 20cm #3 bamboo sticks  
notched on both sides
4. 24 pieces of wire
5. 25 rubber bands
6. 40 glue dots
7. Light
8. Paper (not pictured)



### **Other items you will need:**

- Coloured pencils, craft paint or crayons
- Sticky tape
- Craft scissors
- Small pliers (for twisting wire)
- Ruler
- A helping hand
- Suitable (outdoor) bench/table

### **Time Required to Make**

3 hours over 2 days

## Making your Lantern Frame

As your lantern is a hand crafted item, it will be unique and not necessarily completely square. This is OK and part of its charm!

### Step 1: Make 2 base frames.



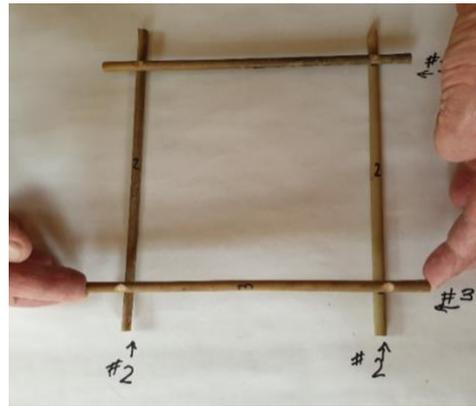
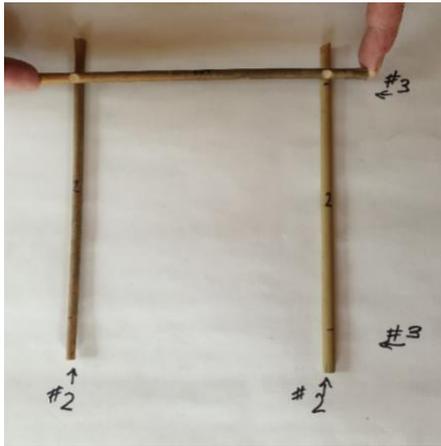
The bases are made from **#2** and **#3** bamboo sticks.

**#2 sticks** have black pen marks where you will put your glue dots.

**#3 sticks** have Notches where you will put your glue dots.

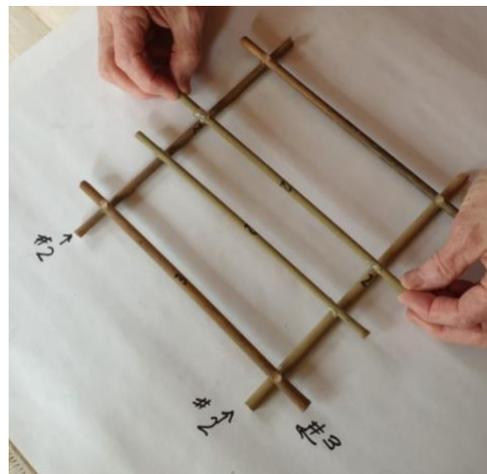
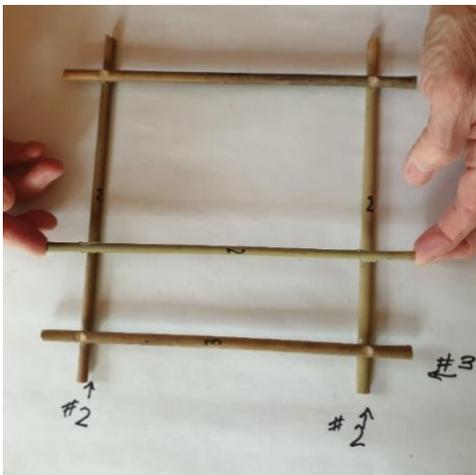


a) Join **#2 stick** black pen mark to **#3 stick** at the notch

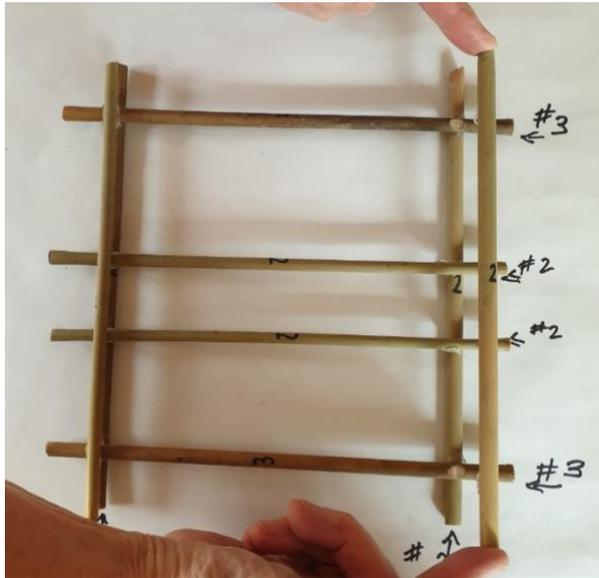


b) Now attach a rubber band to each corner. Twist the band several times until it's tight (the rubber band acts as support until the glue sets).

c) Place **# 2 sticks** roughly in the middle of the square. This will support the light.



- d) Now place **#2 sticks** as shown in the picture. You need to put glue dots on the notches.



- e) Attach the wire to the four corners of the base frame. ***Start from underneath the bamboo leaving the ends pointing upwards. Twist the two ends together then bend the wire inwards.***



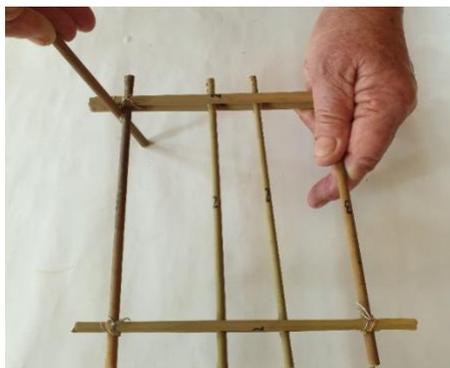
**Once completed, wait 1 day for the glue to completely set.**

**1 Day Later...**

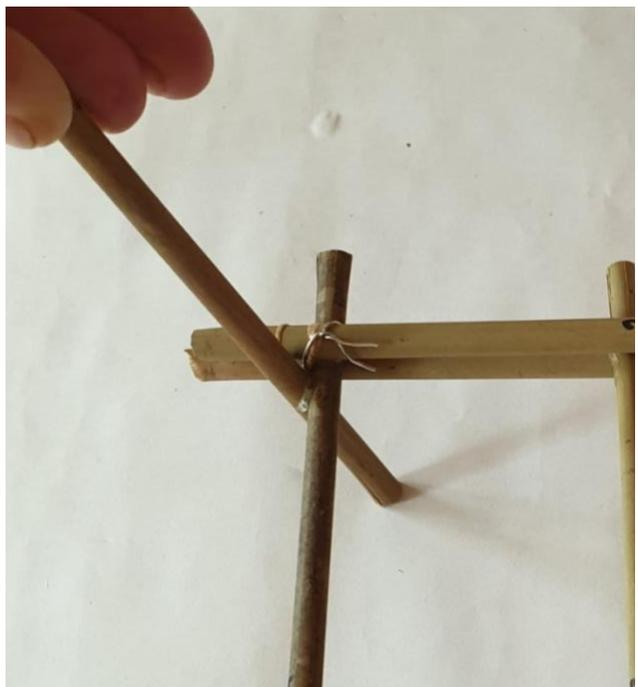
**Step 2 : Joining the base frames together**



a) Once the 2 base frames are dry, place the **#1 bamboo sticks** (with glue dots in the notches) to the outside corners of the frame.



b) Press firmly and hold it in place with 1 or 2 rubber bands. Then secure it with the wire as soon as you can.



**You may need someone to assist holding the length while adding the rubber band and wire.**



c) Now attach the second frame to the other end. Put glue dots in the notches of the **#1 sticks** and line up with the second frame.

Add rubber bands and wire to each corner.

**Note:**

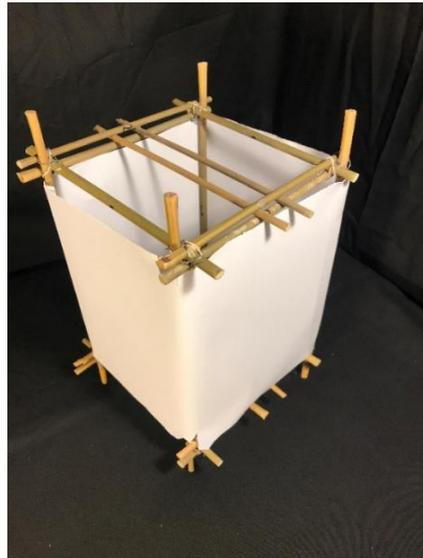
Once all corners are secured with glue, rubber bands and wire, the structure should be free standing.

Lay the lantern down and allow it to set for another day before moving it around.



**Tadaa! You have made a Lantern frame!**

### **Step 3: Making your Lantern Screen**



**Materials:** Use the paper provided.

#### **a) Cut your Screen**

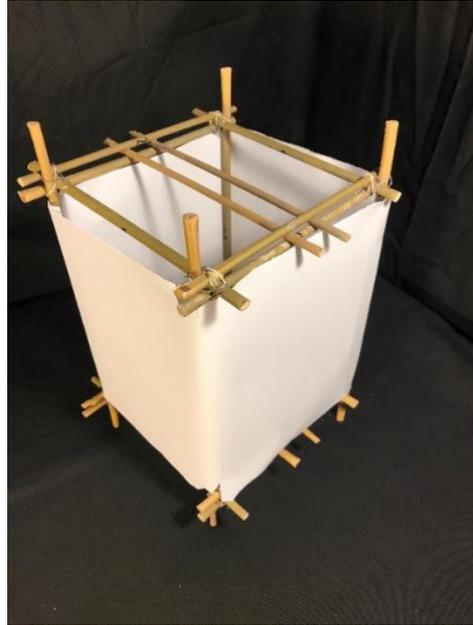
We suggest you fold the paper to create a two layer screen. Cut the paper to size allowing enough extra paper to overlap and join the edges with sticky tape. Your finished screen will be wrapped around the outside of the frame.

The size is approx. 660mm long x 200mm high.

(Remember, your lantern is like no other; a little bit 'wonky' is OK!)



## b) Decorate your Lantern Screen



You can use coloured pencils, crayon, artists chalk, craft paint, collage or anything else that works!

(You can decorate the screen with the paper on, or off the lantern.)

You can experiment by placing the light inside to see how light or thick to make the decoration.

Your design is to be on the theme of water and all the beautiful colours; browns, golds, olives, blues and greens of the desert water.

You can ask someone to help with your design if you want.

If you use paints and water, you can expect the paper to buckle slightly. This won't matter and will continue to add to the character of your lantern!

c) Once your screen is decorated you can fit it snugly around the outside of the frame.

Congratulations, now you're ready to put the light inside.

Remove the plastic sheet from the sticking pad and attach the light on the central #2 sticks of the base frame.

Take a photo of your lantern with its light on in your backyard, park, school or home. If you have a group of friends, make one each and take a group photo. You can even dress up in the water theme if you like!

Send your pictures to [communications@inciteya.org.au](mailto:communications@inciteya.org.au) so we can share them through Incite Arts social media and on our website.

Your lantern will tell your unique story about water. Water is life!

ENJOY!