

DT– Willow Lanterns Sparrowhawks

Key Vocabulary

willow canes	Thin sticks from a willow plant or tree that have been dried and then soaked before using to make lanterns.
lantern	A small, handheld light.
parade	A group of people who walk together for a celebration, usually with lights and music.
prototype	A first practise at making something before you make the real thing.
design	To plan and prepare something and decide on all the details of it.
secure	To fasten something firmly to another object.
strengthen	To make something stronger.
reinforce	To make something stronger by adding another material.

Key facts

Traditionally willow was used for a multitude of items from ladders, fences and of course baskets. It is a durable, resilient, pliable material and grows well wherever there is water.

Willow trees were thought of as sacred in Celtic mythology because they grow mostly on riverbanks, which held special spiritual significance in Celtic culture.

The purpose is to encourage the spirits into ensuring a good harvest the following season. It takes place on the twelfth night after Christmas and involves a visit to a nearby orchard for singing, dancing and general merrymaking.

What you need:
 Masking Tape, Willow Rods, Scissors, Secateurs, Gaffer Tape, LED Light, Garden Wire, Tissue Paper (not strength)

HOW TO MAKE A LANTERN

Join them together with masking tape to create a square

1. Cut 4 willow rods to the same length for the base. Keep longer rods for later

2. Add two diagonal pieces of willow to strengthen the base

3. From this basic pyramid shape, endless variations are possible. Turn page over...

4. Cut 4 longer willow rods for the height and attach to each corner and at the top

5. Decorate and strengthen the sides with willow in different patterns. Remember that they will show up in the silhouette

6. Attach hoop to the top of lantern with gaffer tape - make sure it's secure!

7. Make a hoop out of garden wire to hang the lantern from

8. Mix PVA with water 50/50

9. Cut tissue paper into smaller pieces and spread with the PVA mixture using a sponge or paintbrush

10. Cover all the sides and the base of the lantern with tissue paper

11. Add a final coat of PVA all over the lantern to strengthen the tissue paper

12. Cut a hole in the centre of the base and attach an LED light inside the lantern using gaffer tape. Make sure the light is pointing upwards

13. Decorate the lantern with coloured tissue paper shapes or black sugar paper to create a silhouette. Designs could include snowflakes, animals, trees, patterns and words. Finish with another layer of PVA

14. Attach a stick to the hoop at the top to hold the lantern

Variations in shape could include a cone, sphere or star

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Examples of what we can make

