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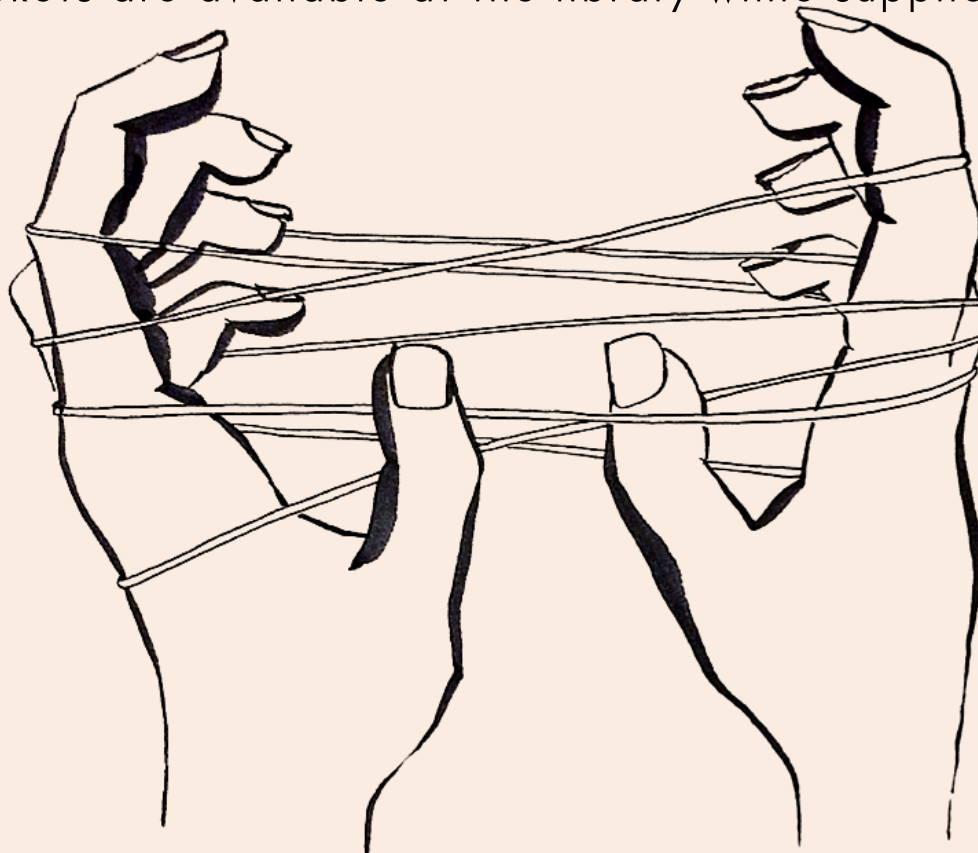
MOORESVILLE
Public Library

presents

Storytelling with String

Check out our YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/wLhGsxsOQNI>

Packets are available at the library while supplies last.

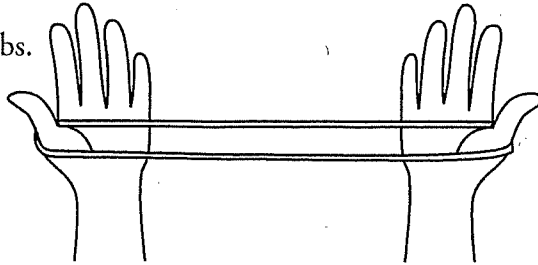


The Pesky Skeeter

Create Mosquito string figure.

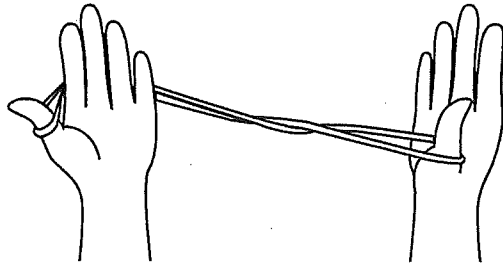
1. Loop string around both thumbs.

Start by looping the string around your thumbs.



2. Pull the string around the back of your left hand. It should still be looped around each thumb.

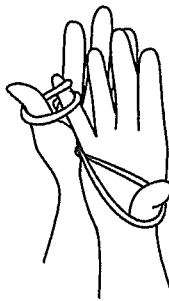
Wrap the string around the back of your left hand. It is still looped around each thumb.



3. Reach across with your right pinkie and pull the strings between the left thumb and index finger.

Reach across with your right pinkie and pick up both pieces of string that run between your thumb and first finger.

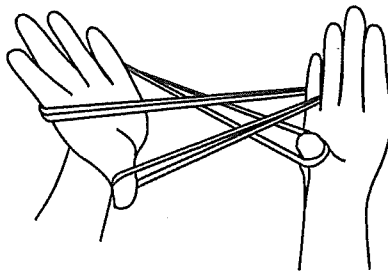
Pull your hands apart.



4. Pull your hands apart.

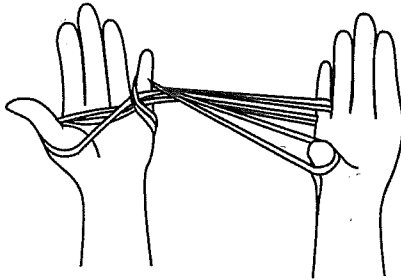
Now reach over all the strings with your left pinkie and pick up the two strings that come off your right thumb.

Pull your hands apart.



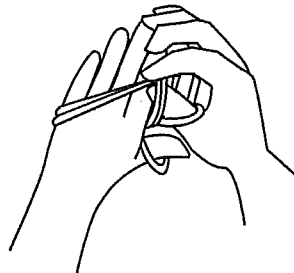
5. With your left pinkie, reach over all the strings and pull the two strings in front of the thumb and pull hands apart. Keep the loop around the thumb.

Squeeze the fingers of your left hand together to hold all the strings together. Use your right hand to pick up the strings that run around the back of your left hand. Pull them up over your fingers and drop them in front of your hand.



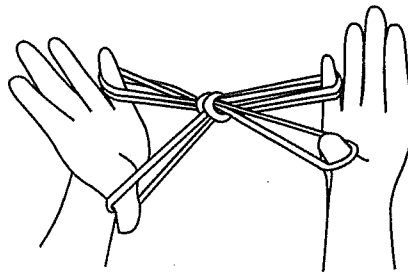
6. Keep your left fingers together and bend them down. With your right hand, pull the strings from behind the left hand over the fingers. Drop them in front of your hand.

Pull your hands apart and you'll see the mosquito. Wiggle your pinkies and thumbs in and out to make the mosquito fly. Don't forget to buzz like a mosquito as you do this.



7. Gently pull your hands apart and you should see the mosquito.

Now comes the good part. As soon as your audience admires your nicely buzzing mosquito, slap your hands together and shout "Got it!" Then pull your hands apart, letting the loops slip off of both pinkies. The mosquito will disappear.



Story:

There once was a pesky skeeter. Create string figure quickly and show audience.

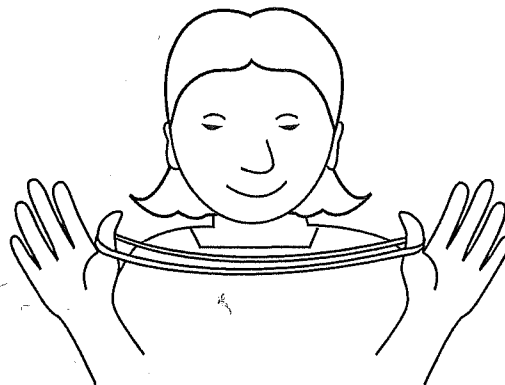
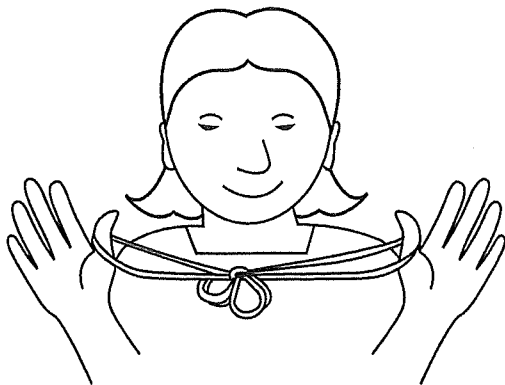
He saw a little girl and he wanted to eat her! Find a girl or woman in the audience and buzz mosquito over her head. Make a slurping sound.

He buzzed up and down. Buzz Mosquito up and down.

He buzzed all around. Buzz Mosquito over the top of audience members' heads.

Suddenly, he caught the little girl's eye. The little girl went POW! Clap hands together, releasing loops from the pinky fingers.

And the skeeter went bye bye! Pull your hands apart. Mosquito will disappear. Wave bye with one hand as you say, "bye bye!"



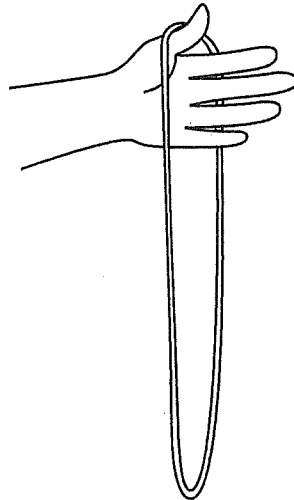
The Stubborn Turnip

A String Tale based on a Russian Folktale

Ma Farmer was in the garden and she saw that her turnip had grown to a giant size. She knew it was ready to pull. So she grabbed the turnip and she began to pull.

With your left palm facing out, loop the string around your hand, including your thumb. When you say, "She tried to pull it up" and "The stubborn turnip," tug on the string hanging down.

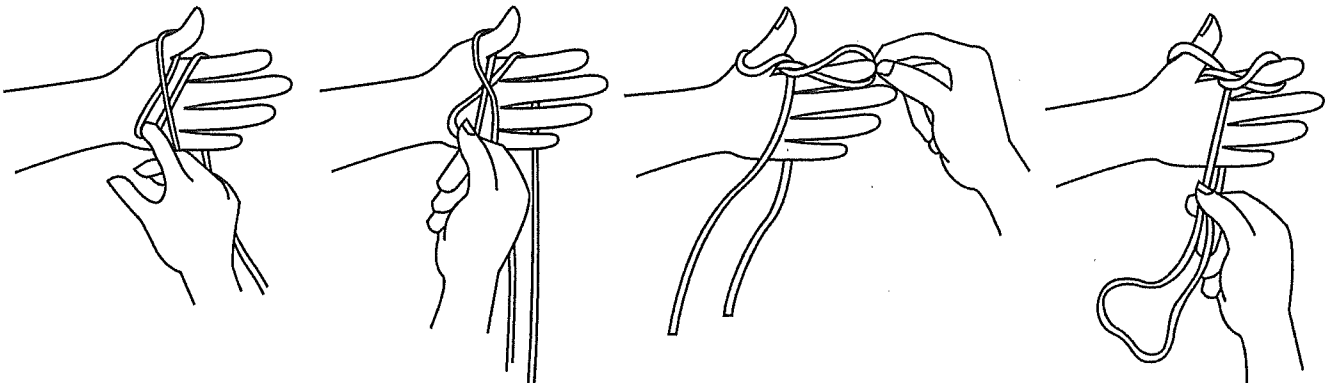
She tried to pull it up (clap, clap). She tried to pull it up (clap, clap).
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap).



"That's a stubborn turnip," said Ma Farmer. She needed help so she called Pa Farmer. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began to pull.

Using the index finger of your right hand, reach under the front string between the thumb and index finger of the left hand and pull a loop of the back string to the front as shown. Give the loop one clockwise twist and hook it over the left index finger. Remember the clockwise twist or the trick at the end will not work. Point to the corresponding fingers when you say "pa" and "ma." When you say, "She tried to pull it up" and "The stubborn turnip," tug on the string hanging down.

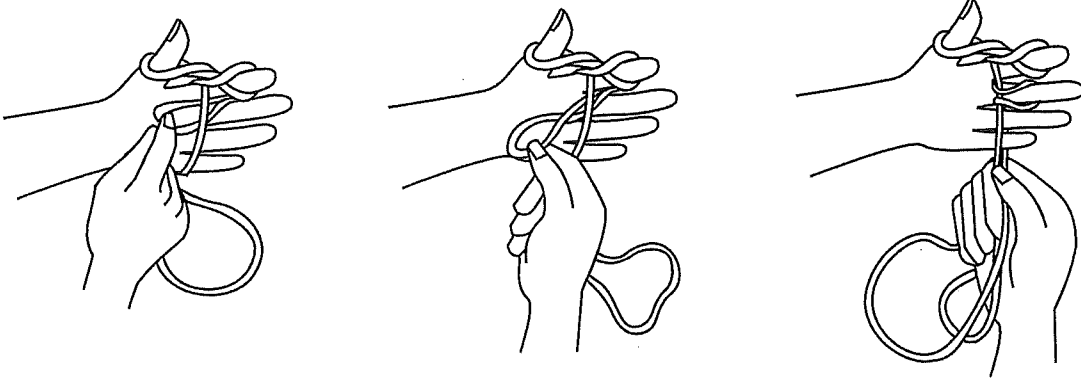
They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap).
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap).



“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said Pa. He needed help so he called Cow. Cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began to pull.

Now, it’s a matter of repeating the step. With your right index finger, reach under the front string between the index and middle finger, and pull a loop of the back string to the front under the top string. Give it a clockwise twist and hook the loop around the left middle finger. Point to the corresponding fingers when you say “cow,” “pa,” and “ma.” When you say, “They tried to pull it up” and “The stubborn turnip,” tug on the string hanging down.

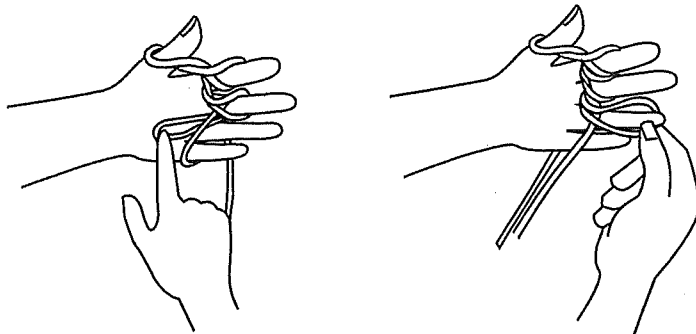
They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap).
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap).



“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said Cow. She needed help so she called Dog. Dog grabbed Cow. Cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began to pull.

Repeat the step. With your right index finger, reach under the front string between the middle and ring finger, and pull a loop of the back string to the front under the top string. Give it a clockwise twist and hook the loop around the left ring finger. Point to the corresponding fingers when you say “dog,” “cow,” “pa,” and “ma.” When you say, “They tried to pull it up” and “The stubborn turnip,” tug on the string hanging down.

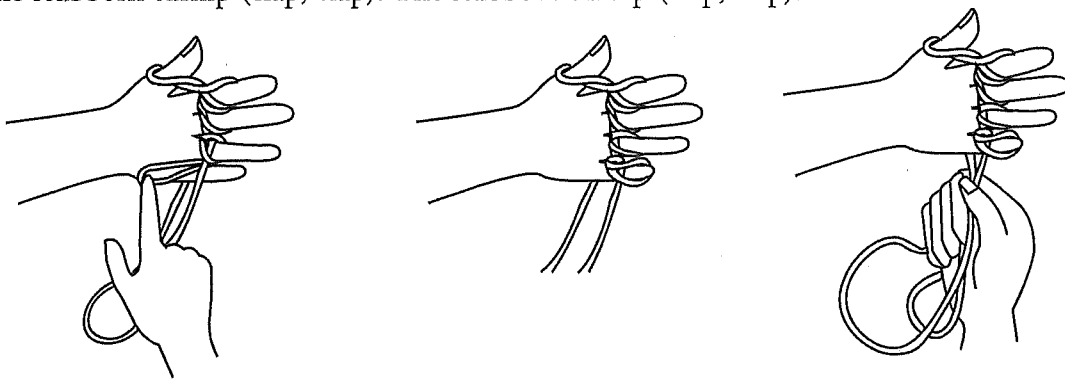
They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap).
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap).



“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said Dog. He needed help so he called Cat. Cat grabbed Dog. Dog grabbed Cow. Cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began to pull.

Repeat the step. With your right index finger, reach under the front string between the ring and pinkie finger, and pull a loop of the back string to the front under the top string. Give it a clockwise twist and hook the loop around the left pinkie finger. Point to the corresponding fingers when you say “cat,” “dog,” “cow,” “pa,” and “ma.” When you say, “They tried to pull it up” and “The stubborn turnip,” tug on the string hanging down.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap).
The stubborn turnip (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap).



“That’s a stubborn turnip,” said Cat. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn’t pull up the stubborn turnip. They were about to give up when a mouse came by. She said, “Maybe I can help.”

With your right hand, grab the dangling string at the bottom and form into a small circle to symbolize a mouse.

“That’s a great idea,” said Ma Farmer. “Go to the end of the line.” So Mouse went to the end of the line. Mouse grabbed Cat. Cat grabbed Dog. Dog grabbed Cow. Cow grabbed Pa. Pa grabbed Ma. Ma grabbed the turnip and they began to pull.

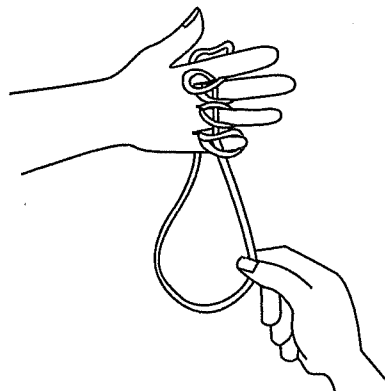
Wiggle the string for the mouse and point to the corresponding fingers when you say “cat,” “dog,” “cow,” “pa,” and “ma.” When you say, “They tried to pull it up,” tug on the string hanging down.

They tried to pull it up (clap, clap). They tried to pull it up (clap, clap)

And suddenly ...

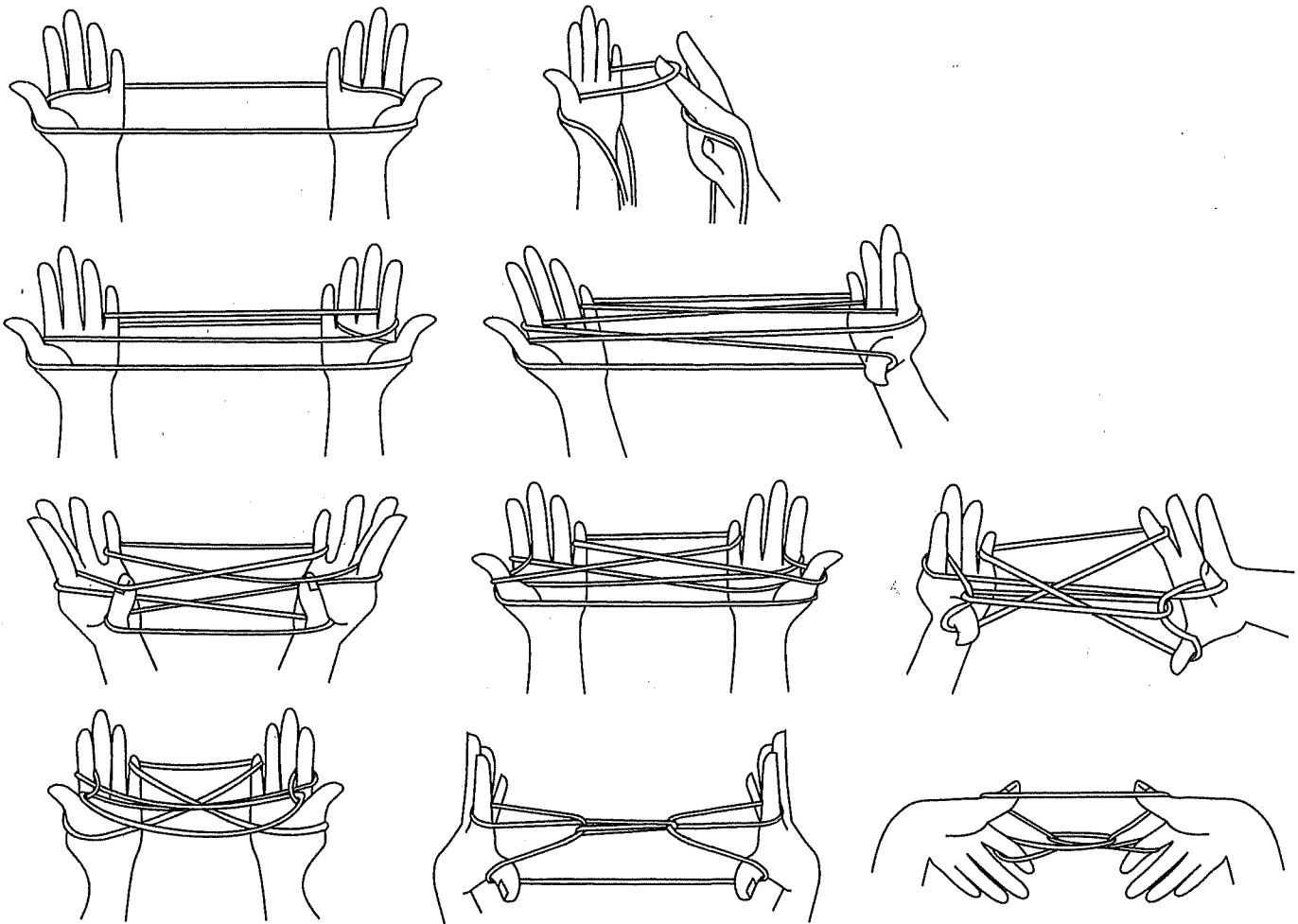
The turnip came up ... a little at first. Then they gave it a giant pull and the stubborn turnip came up!

Release the loop from the thumb.
This is the turnip coming up a little at first.
Then pull the long front string down.
All the loops will release from the fingers.



The turnip was gigantic!

Loop the string around both hands to show a big circle (the giant turnip). Advanced: Form the Cup and Saucer string figure while saying the lines below. 1. Loop strings across both of your palms, behind the pinkies and thumbs. 2. Reach across with your right index finger and pick up the string from the front of the left palm. 3. Pull your hands apart. 4. With the left index finger, repeat steps two and three. 5. Reach over with both thumbs and hook the thumbs under the string on the far side of each index finger. 6. Pull thumbs back to original position. You should have two loops on each thumb. 7. Next, you will "Navajo" the loops. With your mouth, or your other hand, pull the bottom loops over the tops of the other loops on your thumbs. 8. Drop the loops from both pinkies and pull your hands apart. The bowl will be upside down. 9. Tilt your hands so that the bowl is right-side up.



Ma Farmer was so happy that she had enough turnip to make a big bowl of turnip soup for everyone.

Show bowl (Cup and Saucer string figure).

The moral of this story is ...

Never give up (clap, clap). Never give up (clap, clap).
And you can pull up (clap, clap). The stubborn turnip (clap, clap).