

SCRIBBLE, SPIN, SWIRL & STITCH ACTIVITIES

Each craft seems to have its own vocabulary! What do the words mean? Choose a craft in *Scribble and Spin* to learn about the tools and products. Research additional words that are associated with the craft.

What is your favorite word in *Scribble and Spin*, and why? (The author loves the word niddy-noddy because it's silly word for a practical tool!)

Look for the words *khokhloma*, *krathong*, and *ikat* in *Scribble and Spin*. What type of craft do they describe? What other words are written near each crafted item, and what do they mean?

Scribble and Spin uses "shape poems" to describe what can be made with different crafts. Take a close look at the shape of the poetry. Make a shape poem to describe something that interests you. Use words that are associated with your interest. (Did you notice the theme of time in the book?)

What crafts do you find the most intriguing? Look through craft books and research online to see how to create some of the crafts in *Scribble and Spin*. You can find instructions for weaving, basketry, painting, and other crafts in the book.

Artisans often start with a sketch of what they would like to make. They may do a quick drawing or a detailed blueprint. Look through *Scribble and Spin* to gather ideas about what you might want to make and start sketching! (Don't worry about how good the art may look to others. They are your ideas for inspiration!)

Design a rug or a new fabric using colored pencils or pens, paints, or computer programs. Find out how you can take the next step to turn your design into a product. (Will you learn how to weave or needlepoint? Can you paint your design on plain cloth?) Ask at local craft stores about products that can help you create a rug, even if it's for a dollhouse!

If you were to make a doll, what would it look like? How would you put the pieces together?

In *A Note from the Author* at the end of the book, the author encourages readers to "honor the heritage" of the crafts, and "learn about how some images and techniques are symbolic and sacred." Why is that important and how can it be done?

What cultural communities originated *gyotaku*, *bargello*, *papel picado*, or *pysanky eggs*? Look through *Scribble and Spin* and investigate the origins of other crafted items.

You can learn more about crafts by researching books and websites, but communicating directly with artisans is one of the best ways to gather information. Artisans often demonstrate at craft fairs and museums or share their techniques on videos. Make a list of questions to ask artisans and reach out to them. They love to talk about their crafts! For example, you might ask:

Where do you work on your craft, and do you have to practice?

What is the history of your craft and who taught you how to do it?

Do you use technology to create your craft? How does it help?