

# Fly a Kite



## Kite Flying (Afghanistan)

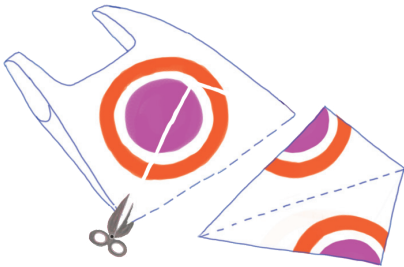
In Afghanistan, kite flying is a national pastime. In the Dari language spoken there, the word for kite is **gudiparán** (*goo-dee-pahr-ON*), which means “flying doll.” Some kite flyers enjoy the game of kite fighting, where players use their kites to capture other kites and take them down.

### You'll need:

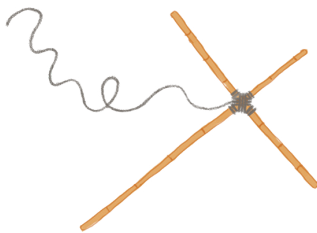
- string or yarn / wool
- plastic bag
- strong tape
- 2 wooden dowels, bamboo skewers or straight sticks
- materials for decorating the kite (such as stickers or tissue paper and glue)

### Let's get started:

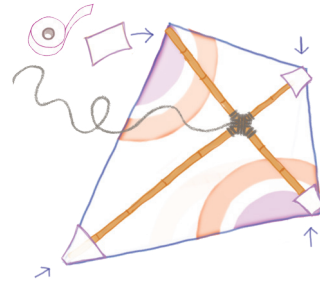
- 1 Flatten your plastic bag on the floor. Draw a triangle onto the folded edge of your plastic bag like the one in the picture. (One side you draw should be longer than the other.) Cut it out and then unfold it to reveal the diamond shape of your kite.



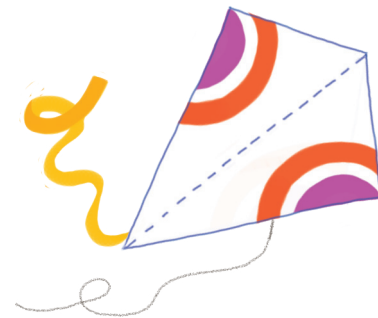
- 2 Decorate your kite however you like, but don't add too much weight or it won't fly!
- 3 Place the sticks in a cross shape and bind them together tightly with string. You may need to ask an adult to help with this.



- 4 An adult will also need to help you cut your sticks to size so they fit the kite. Then tape the sticks' four ends firmly to the corners of the kite.



- 5 Tie one end of a long piece of string tightly around the place where the sticks cross. You'll hold this string as the kite flies.
- 6 Make your kite's tail from the leftover scraps of the plastic. Cut a long, narrow strip. Wrap one end of the tail around the bottom of the vertical stick and tie it with a knot or tape it firmly to the stick.



- 7 Once you've made your kite, head to the park or an open space on a breezy day and see how high it can fly. Want to make a game of it? Compete to see who can fly their kite the highest.