Palm frond weaving is one of many traditional crafts practised by Torres Strait Islanders. It has practical uses such as for making mats, hats, bowls, costumes for dance and used in the preparation of meals.

Clan groups and Islands have their own trademarks when producing these items. Certain families are well known for their weaving. Palm frond weaving is also used to make play items for children, such as in this activity.

**WHAT YOU NEED**

- Palm fronds/leaves
- Stem of the palm frond

**ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS**

You can use strips of card if you do not have access to palm fronds. The straw from a straw broom, or small twigs can be used for the stem.

Start with two palm frond strips, equal in length. Fold one into a short zig-zag shape with a loop.

Slide the second strip into the left side of the zig-zag loop.

Fold the end of the second strip (#3 in the above photo) up and through the centre of the zig-zag loop.

Fold the same end of the strip (#3) down and back through the zig-zag loop, this time to the right side.

Prick a small hole in the centre and slide the stem of the palm frond through it to complete the windmill.

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