



## Christmas Crafts from Around the World

### PHILIPPINES

One of the most iconic Philippines decorations is the parol; a star lanterns initially used to light the way to early morning mass in the 9 days leading up to Christmas. Children all over the Philippines start as early as in September making these lanterns! (For those that speak Spanish, notice the similarity to the word Farol, or lantern! This dates back to the Spanish colonization of the Philippines).

#### Woven Christmas Ornament

##### Materials:

- 5 bendy straws
- tissue paper, cut in strips
- ribbon

##### Instructions:

To make this DIY ornament, start with the star itself. Simply pinch one long end of a bendy straw and connect it to the short end of the next straw. You'll continue doing this with all the straws – making a star shape as you go – until you finally connect the last one back to the first. It was easier when I used tape as necessary to help bend the straw. To make the tassels, take a couple of tissue paper strips and tie them very carefully to the star's bottom points. Make a loop with ribbon through the top point of the star and hang it on your Christmas tree! These would also look lovely hanging in a window.

Alternatively, you can use pipe cleaners and twist them to form a star.

