

# Activity Idea

## KNOTS

*Recommended for Adults*

Often overlooked, the history of knots goes further than you think. According to *The New York Times Style Magazine*, it predates the axe and the wheel (Judy Rosen, 2014). The art of knot tying has spanned all cultures and not only has significance for survival, but also for religious and political purposes (Lindsey Philpott, 2005). The Gordian Knot and Alexander the Great, the Celtic knot, and knots used to symbolize marriage are some examples.

In today's world, outdoor enthusiasts, survivalists, and Katniss Everdeen from *The Hunger Games* aren't the only ones who can benefit from the art of knot tying. From tying your shoe, surgical procedures, braiding friendship bracelets, tying a necktie, or even tying up a roast, knots are super handy. For more information, check out the library resources and the other free resources listed below. Happy knot tying!

### **Books and Magazines:**

*Outdoor Knots* on OverDrive [tinyurl.com/y9mxb09z](https://tinyurl.com/y9mxb09z)

*The Pocket Guide to Outdoor Knots* on Hoopla [tinyurl.com/y99od4cm](https://tinyurl.com/y99od4cm)

*The Ultimate Book of Decorative Knots* on Hoopla [tinyurl.com/yalhpy8b](https://tinyurl.com/yalhpy8b)

*Friendship Bracelets* on Hoopla [tinyurl.com/ycsv6uuk](https://tinyurl.com/ycsv6uuk)

*The Knotting and Braiding bible* on Hoopla [tinyurl.com/y9zvpnns](https://tinyurl.com/y9zvpnns)

*Crochet in a Day* on Hoopla [tinyurl.com/y9rzju3j](https://tinyurl.com/y9rzju3j)

*Interweave Knits* on RBDigital [tinyurl.com/y74sv599](https://tinyurl.com/y74sv599)

*Interweave Crochet* on RBDigital [tinyurl.com/y9j95zzf](https://tinyurl.com/y9j95zzf)



### **Online Classes:**

Knitting 101 on Universal Class <https://tinyurl.com/huk7wpk>

### **Articles and Websites:**

Animated Knots (they have great step-by-step guides on how to tie different knots for different purposes) [tinyurl.com/y9rzcc6t](https://tinyurl.com/y9rzcc6t)

The Mariner's Museum Library Gallery. "Knots in History." <https://tinyurl.com/y7z4zwwr>

Nix, Elizabeth. (2014/2019). "Why is a Ship's Speed Measured in Knots." *History*. <https://tinyurl.com/y8y2yvyh>

Philpott, Lindsey. (2005). "Knotting." *Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion*. Gale eBooks. <https://tinyurl.com/y9v9ubob>

Rosen, Jody. (2014/2017). "In Praise of the Humble Knot." *The New York Times Style Magazine*. <https://tinyurl.com/ybvorb3>

### **Spark an Idea!**

Now that you've learned more about knots, let's put it into practice. Grab any rope, shoelace, necktie, or string you have around the house, and tie a new knot you learned. You can share a picture on social media and tag us - @LACountyLibrary