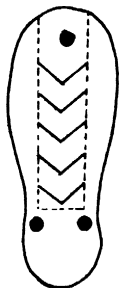


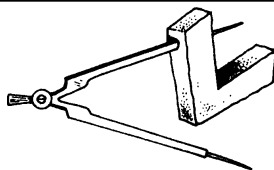
CLIMBING CAT

The material required is an old rubber (Hawai) slipper, a divider, one used ballpen refill, one small bamboo or ice-cream stick, thin but strong thread, and a few matchsticks.

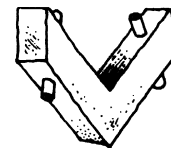
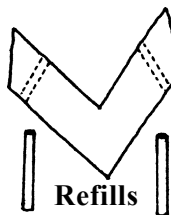
You also need an old magazine to keep the rubber for cutting. This will protect the knife blade.



1. Cut a 5-cm strip from the rubber slipper. Cut "V" shapes from this slipper.



2. Use the compass point to make two holes in the "V" rubber pieces as shown. The holes should be at a slant.

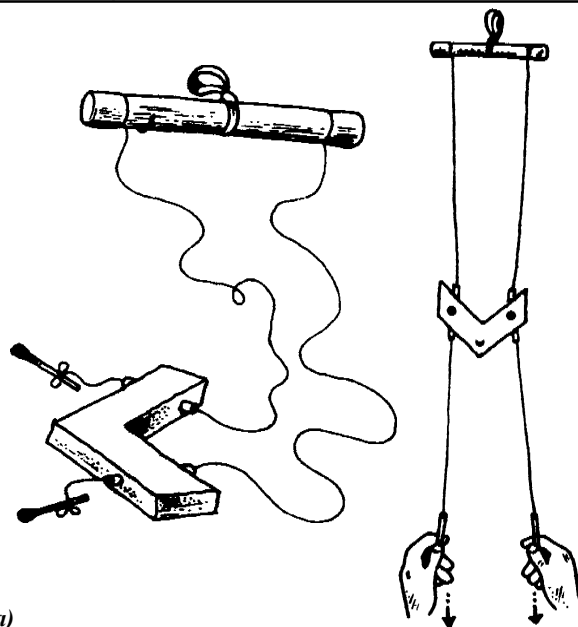


3. Insert small pieces of used ballpen refills in the rubber holes.

4. Take two 125-cm long pieces of strong but thin thread. Tie them tightly to the ends of a 12-cm long bamboo stick. Make a notch in the middle of the stick. Tie a loop of thread in this notch. The notch will prevent the loop from sliding.

Weave the threads through the two refill pieces of the "V" rubber. Finally tie two pieces of plastic straw or two matchsticks to the ends of the threads. Now hang the middle thread loop of the stick on a nail.

Hold the matchsticks in your hands, and pull the thread so that it is tight. Now pull the left and right hand threads alternately. You will find the "V" rubber piece climbing up. On loosing the tension in the strings it slides down. If you make two eyes and a mouth on the "V" rubber it almost looks like a climbing cat.



(Pix Courtesy Low-Cost, No-cost Teaching Aids by Mary Ann Dasgupta)