

# SCREENS

## Historical Aid

A traditional Japanese home is a simple wooden building that is slightly raised above the ground. It is surrounded by a verandah that may be closed by means of sliding wooden screens.

Most traditional homes are small. To make the most out of the limited space, the rooms are separated by movable paper partitions called *fusama* that can be rearranged to change the size or shape of the room. The inner wall, or *shoji*, is made of sliding screens of wood and translucent paper. When all the screens are open, the gardens can be seen from every room.

## Project

Make a small version of a shoji, or paper screen.

## Directions

1. Cut two pieces of waxed paper the same length.
2. Arrange the selected materials on one sheet of waxed paper.
3. Place the second sheet of waxed paper on top.
4. Use a cool iron to melt the papers together.
5. Fold and staple construction paper strips over each end of the paper. Hang with yarn.

## Materials

- Waxed paper
- Construction paper
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Iron
- Assorted materials such as: gold paper, scraps of tissue paper torn into bamboo shapes, glitter, pictures of trees and animals cut from magazines

