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String Stars: A Joyful Ending for a Class

Our activity will teach participants to make a string star. This string figure was originally made in Japan, but connects to the universal childhood pastime of playing with string. The activity of making a string star connects students' lived experience of playing cat's cradle in childhood to their university education. In our teaching, we use this activity as a means to end a course and create a lasting memory of joy in the mathematics classroom.