



A leading figure in New Hampshire's studio furniture movement, Jon Brooks is highly regarded for his ability to combine craftsmanship, inventiveness, and poetic whimsy. Born in 1944 in Manchester, New Hampshire, Brooks earned the degrees of BFA and MFA at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. In 1970 he commenced teaching at St. Anselm's College in his native city. See more work by Jon Brooks [here](#).

What differences do you see between these chairs and ones you have at home? What similarities do you see?

Now grab some sticks and see what you can create. A few ideas are listed below but feel free to make something else.

Jon Brooks, *Styx Ladder-back Chairs*, 1986, maple, brass, and paint, 97 in. x 18 in. x 18 in., Gift of McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton.

**Activity:** Painted Sticks - Use sticks as your canvas to create a colorful bouquet and more.

**Materials:**

- Sticks of various sizes, cleaned
- Paintbrush
- Craft or acrylic paint (you can also use sharpie markers to add color over a layer of white paint)
- Optional additional materials: paper, ribbon or yarn, pipe cleaners, beads

**Directions:**

- After cleaning your stick, add a layer of white paint and let dry
- Use paint or marker to add color. You can make designs such as stripes or polka dots, or just add large areas of color.
- Use your colorful sticks to: make a bouquet in a vase, create a hanger for artwork on paper, create a mobile, make a magic wand, and more!

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