Introduction
We can use an object, words, photos, drawings, as symbols to help us prepare and learn more about ourselves. We can share about the symbols, why we chose them, what they mean, to get to know each other.

Connections and strands
Wool, yarn, rope, string, is often composed of many tiny fibers, twisted, and intertwined forming strands.

For a rope or cord they can be strengthened. A cord of three strands is stronger than one strand or two. The same is said of the strength shared across a wider surface, like when yarn is knit into a piece of fabric, or a net is fashioned with many knots.

Humans have been working with String and Cord as far back as we know. It connects us to our past. It will continue to be with us as it is re-invented, re-purposed and developed. Just think of our network of cables distributing electricity and information.

In L’Arche, we have used string, yarn, rope in so many creative ways, from the hammocks of Honduras, to the rugs and placemats of Kent, woven textiles and sewing from Dornach, L’Arche Im Nauen, and the delicately embroidered cards from Ukraine.

In preparing for our time together in June, we invite you to find a ball of yarn or a spool of thread in its unused form - full of potential- and then also to make something using string, yarn, or thread as symbol of connection.
Help you explore, together or on your own, check out some textile artists in your tradition or one you are interested in.

Help show someone you care by making them a friendship bracelet.

Help hold things together, fix or join objects.

Some people might like to create a prayer rope/bracelet, as a way of helping their prayer.

Help to tell a story or create a quilt panel.

You can build on that: for instance, use the string to show connections on your map of the world.

How do you use String?
In your opinion, what is the most creative use of string you’ve encountered?

ARTIST PROFILE: Cecilia Vicuña’s
Symbols of Interconnection with Chilean Artist Cecilia Vicuña’s - "Brain Forest Quipu"
bit.ly/bfq_tate
WATCH: 360° walk-through of the work.
bit.ly/bfq_tate_360

ARTIST PROFILE: Simone Pheulpin
Symbols of growth and decay, time and repetition. French Artist Simone Pheulpin’s cotton sculptures
bit.ly/pheulpin_info
WATCH: Pheulpin talking her about process
Auto-generated captions available
bit.ly/pheulpin

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Sharing TOGETHER:

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