How to make a reed boat

It is not certain whether the people who lived on the shores of Lake Kasumigaura used reed boats. However, since ancient times, reeds have been used for thatched roofs and reed blinds, removing substances that cause pollution from the lake water, and maintained reed beds serve as spawning grounds and habitats for living things, supporting the richness of the lake.   We decided to create a reed boat, thinking of the countless reed boats floating on the lake, as a stepping stone to creating a life that lives alongside the lake.

This guide was created based on the experience of building reed boats on our own, with reference to the documents listed below. We would like to express our gratitude to my predecessors.
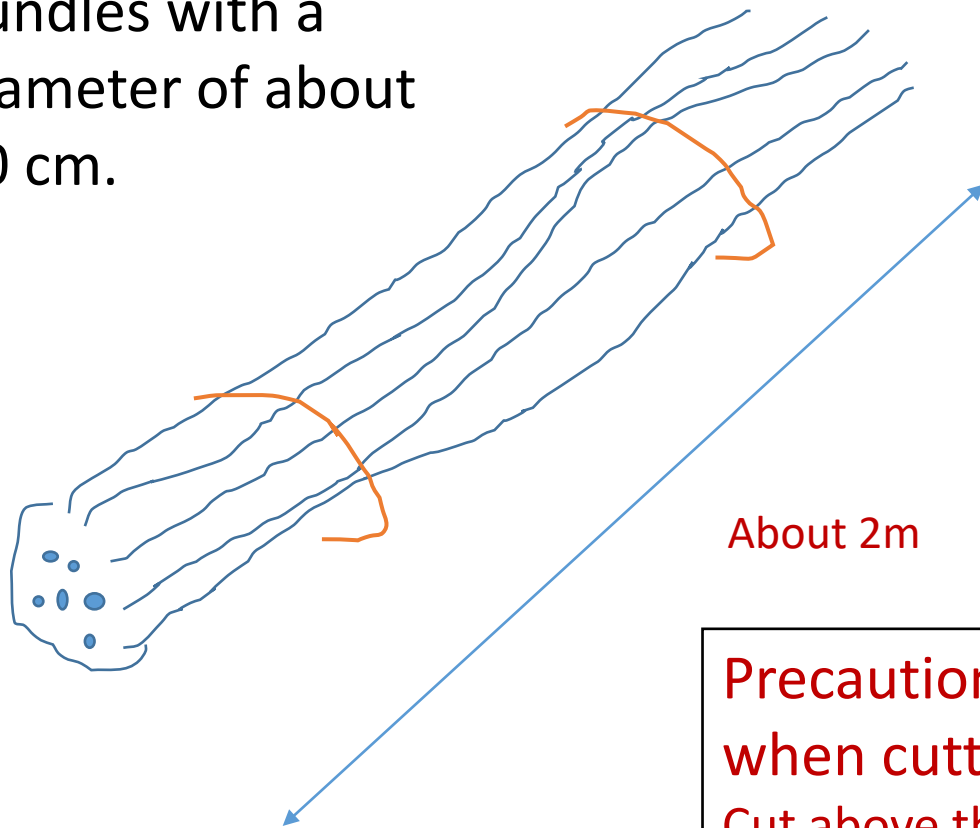
http://kamuna.net/
http://kamuna.net/?page_id=10
http://www.greenproject.net/modules/wfsection/article.php?articleid=61
http://www.lcv.ne.jp/~ytashiro/ashibune.pdf

NPO Kasumigaura Academy

Step 1
Reed cutting

Harvest 30 reed bundles with a diameter of about 20 cm.

About 2m

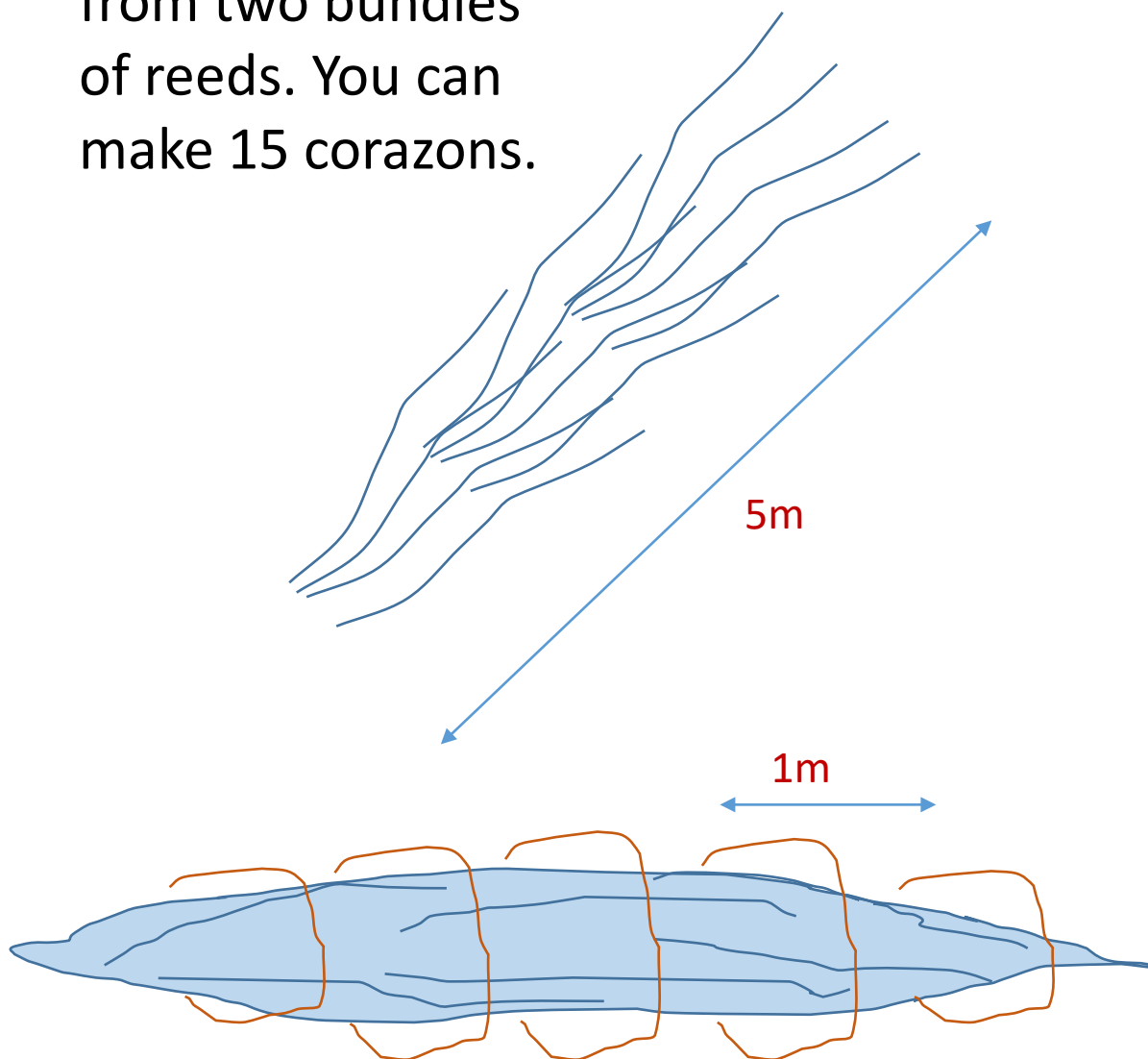If it is a fully grown reed bed, 5m x 5m will be enough for one boat.

It takes 1 to 2 hours for 4 adults to complete the work.

Step 2
Korason

Make one korason from two bundles of reeds. You can make 15 corazons.

5m

1m

How to tie
Tighten it temporarily with a clove hitch and then tie the final knot to keep it together firmly.
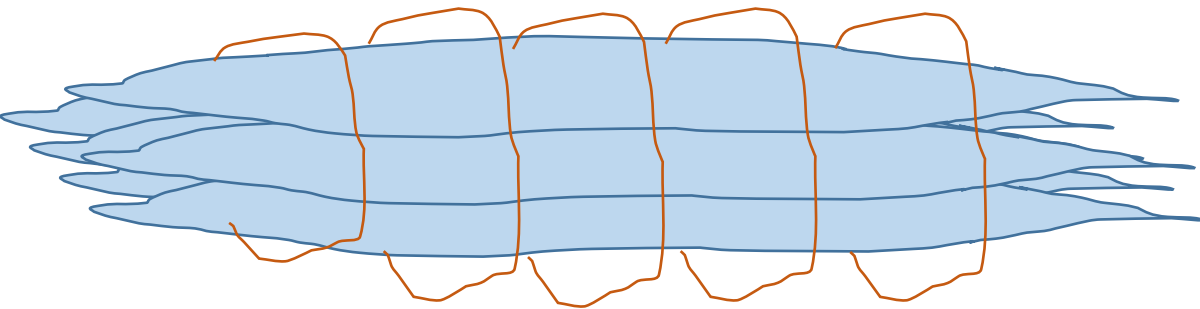Use thin twine.

Scatter the reeds in the shape of a fan. At this time, sprinkle it on the front and back as well. Be careful not to make the total length too long. When you have finished scattering, tie the outer reeds around the inner reeds.
4 people worked for 1 hour.

Step 3
Choriso

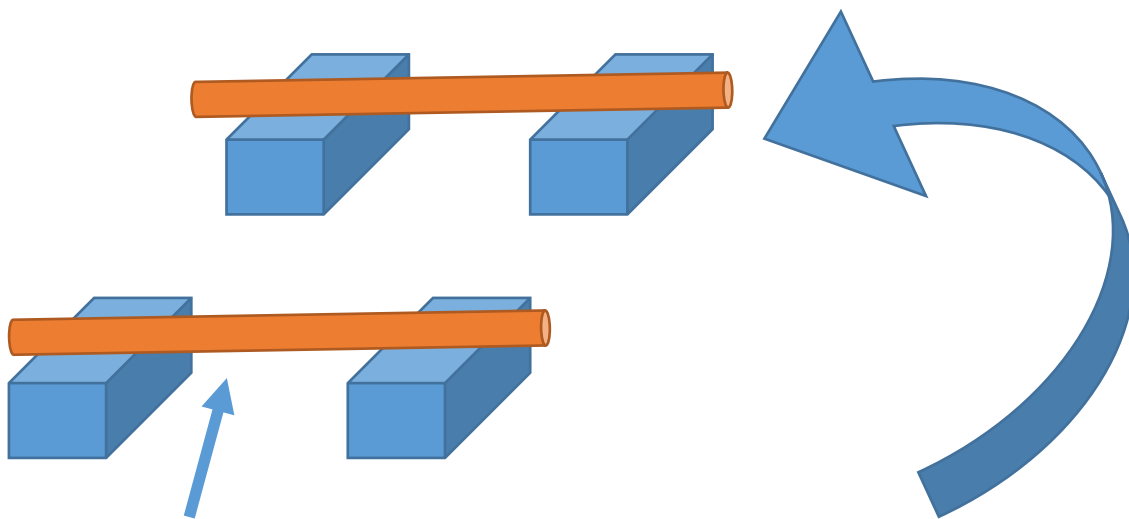Make 1 choriso
from 6 korasons.
Makes 2 choriso.

Korason is on the right.
Choriso in the center. The
one on the left is about to
be tied up and made into
choriso.

In this way, you will
have 2 chorisos and 3
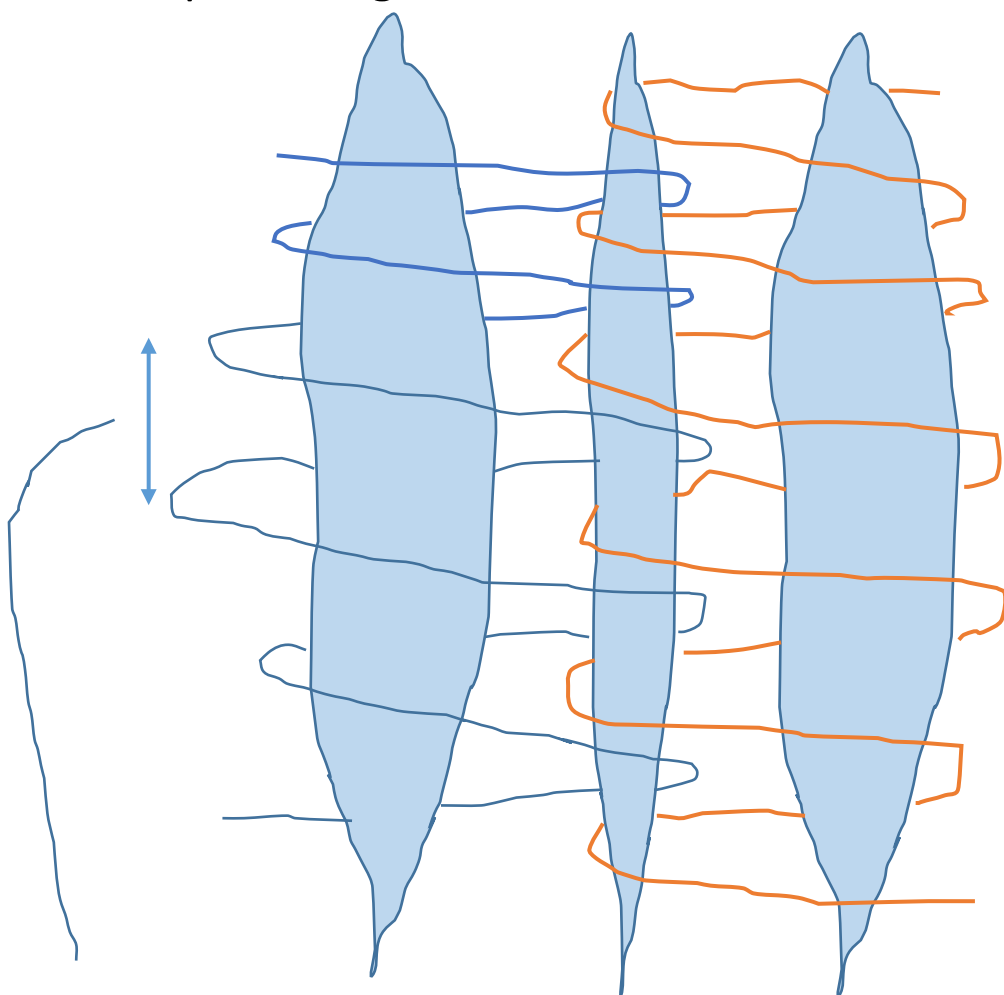korasons.

4 people worked for 15 minutes.

Step 4
Main body

Make it wider. If the choriso rests on the table, it will be difficult to thread the rope through it.

Tie 2 choriso and 1 korason with a spiral rope.
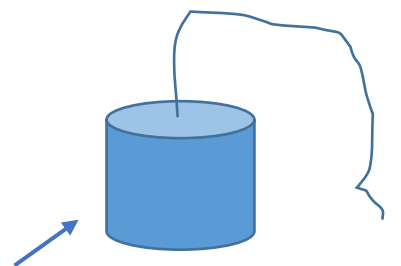
Be careful not to space the ropes too widely. Keep it within 30cm.

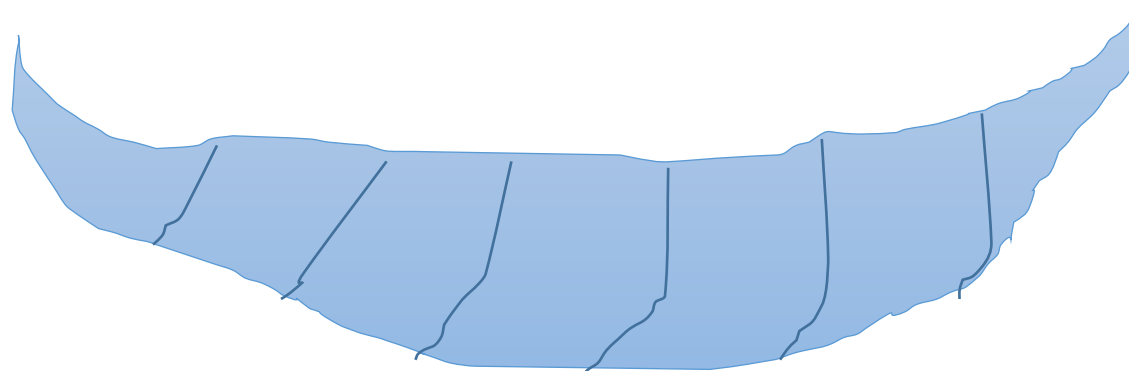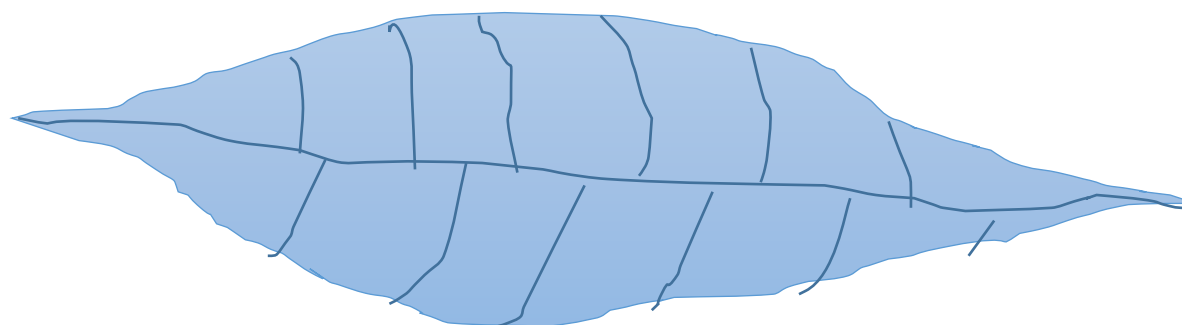It is easier to move the coil of rope through it.

take this and go through it.

Continue to next page

Step 4
Main body (continued)

Top view

Side view

Tie it up while lifting the bow.

Tie and secure the bent position. If you don't tie it up tightly, it will go straight back.

It is difficult for children to bind Choriso and Korason tightly. Adults should do their best.
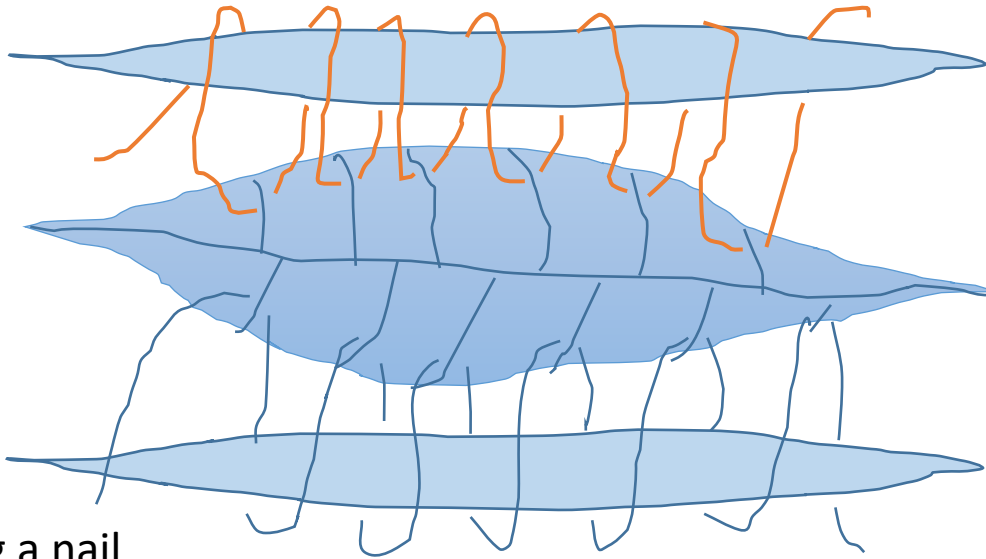
Tap the choriso lightly with a stick to close the gaps between the reeds and tighten.

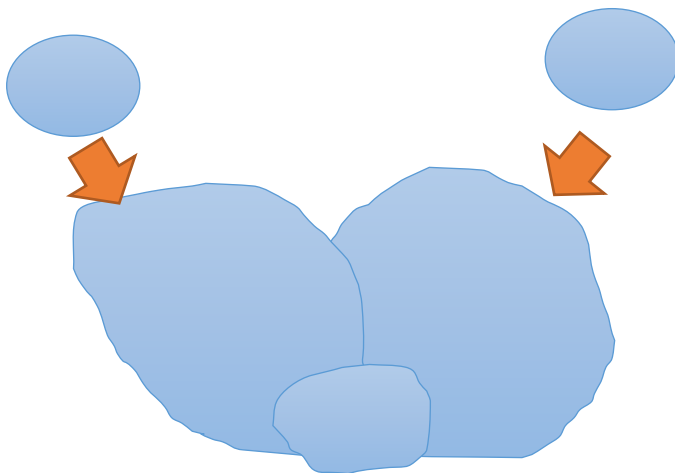You can hook a string to the nail puller and pull it hard.

Step 5
Main body (Wave protection)

Attach korason to the top of the main body to protect it from waves.
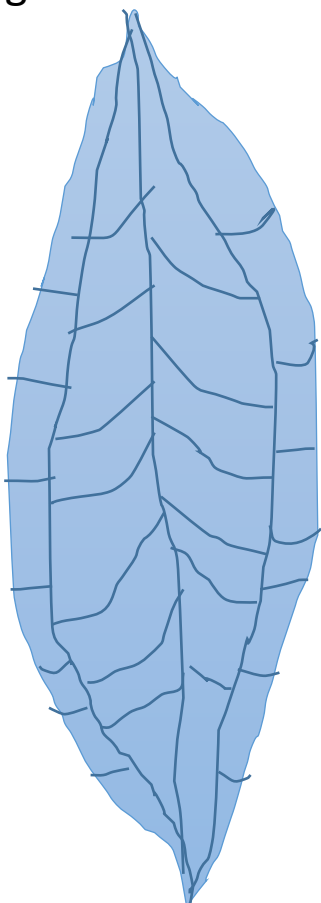

Using a nail puller, you can lift a piece of string to create a gap in which you can pass another string.
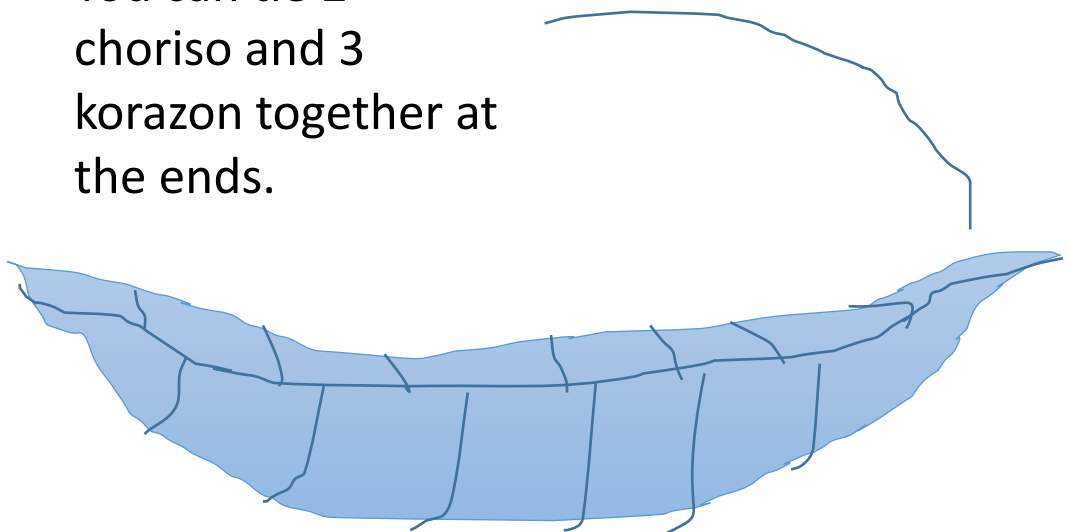
How to tie
Tie it up tightly anyway.

Use thick jute rope.

You can tie 2 choriso and 3 korazon together at the ends.

Up to this point, 4 adults worked for 1 hour.

Step 6
Voyage

It floats properly.

In some cases, for safety reasons, a string may be tied to the stern so that it can be pulled back in case of an emergency.

Step 7
After the journey

The photo shows the reed boat being dried in preparation for making roasted sweet potatoes.

If you have the space, you can display it, compost it, and do a lot more with it.
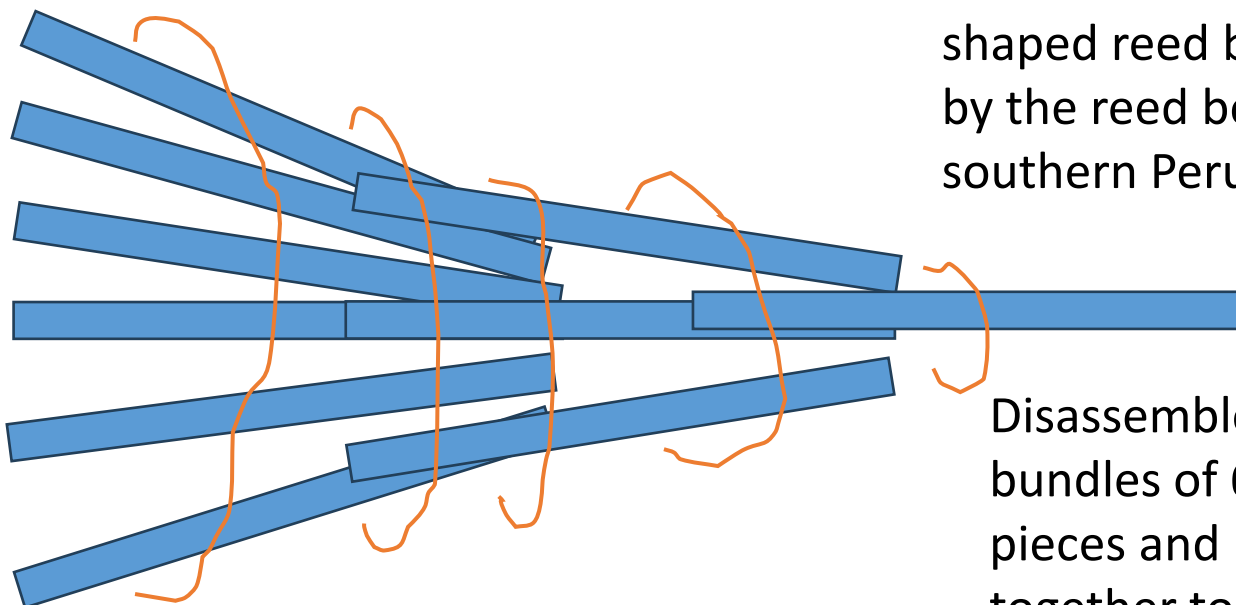
Step 8
Application

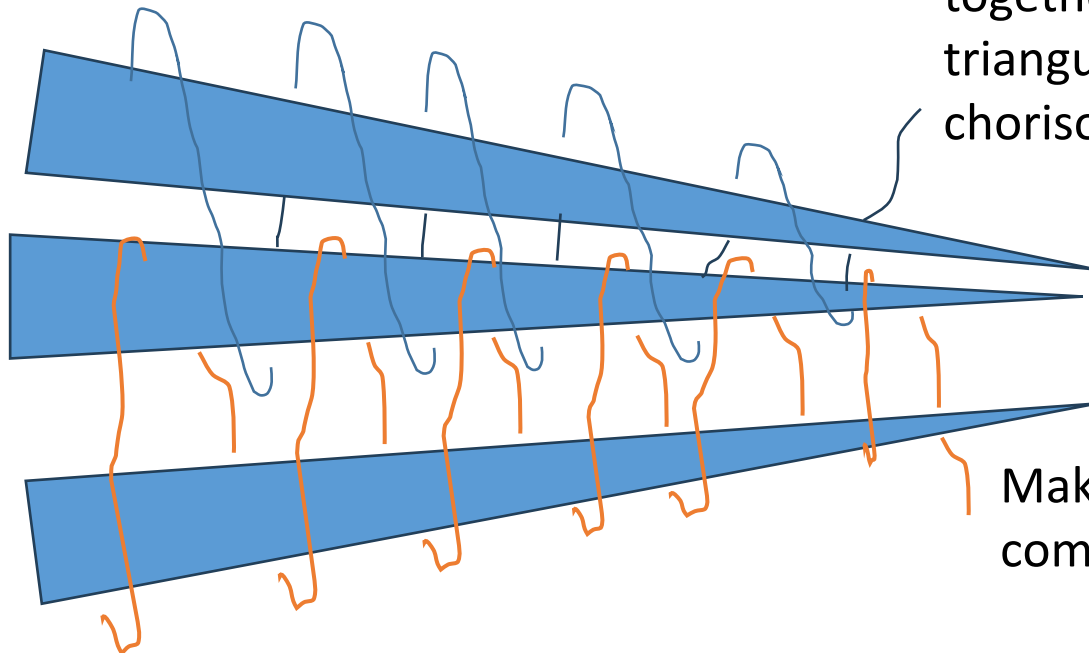The one introduced so far is a reed boat shaped like Lake Titicaca type.

There are many other types of reed boats that can be considered.

Build your own unique and innovative reed boat.

The one on the left is a SUP-shaped reed boat inspired by the reed boats of southern Peru.

Disassemble the reed bundles of 6, 3, and 1 pieces and put them together to make a triangular pyramid-shaped choriso.

Make three of these and combine them into one.

Step 9
Contact

The goal of our activities at Kasumigaura Academy is to restore the rich ecosystem and the activities that depend on it, and to realize a local community where people can feel enriched.

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Kasumigaura Academy Homepage

https://k-acad.com/