

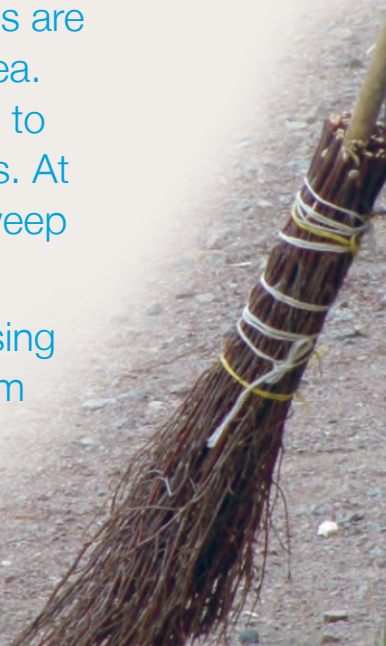
Make a broom

“Hai, I’m Alumita. I live in a town called Kokopo in Papua New Guinea. There is an active volcano near my house. Sometimes the wind blows ash into my house, and I have lots of extra sweeping to do.”



Alumita makes her own brooms using coconut fronds (like the one pictured on the page opposite). Brooms like this are used throughout Papua New Guinea. At school, children use the brooms to sweep outside areas and walkways. At home children, particularly girls, sweep as a regular chore.

You could make a similar broom using flax, twigs, ferns or leaves – tie them together with some string or rope from home.



Here are Alumita’s instructions for making a broom using the leaves of coconut fronds:



1.

First you cut a coconut frond and remove the leaves.

2.

Take the leaves and separate the green fibre from their spines.

3.

Weave the thin strands of fibre together into a bundle and tie them with a piece of bush rope – then you have a broom!



Here are the Riversdale Brownies with a broom they made from toi toi.