



## holiday crafts

Over 400 crafts at all different levels of difficulty dedicated strictly to holidays and all the joy they bring. There are so many great gift ideas that kids can make for others, as well as many traditional crafts that you have made since you were a little tot! Great ideas for Sunday School or at home!



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## HOLIDAY CRAFTS

### Father's Day

#### Father's Day Apron

**Materials:**

1 white or off-white apron (any style will do)  
Pencil  
Fabric paint  
Paintbrush  
2 empty Nestle Wonderball boxes  
1/4-inch thick twine (approximately 1 foot per stamp)  
Craft glue gun  
Paper plates

**Instructions:**

1. With a pencil spell out "Dad" across the chest of the apron (or any place on the apron you choose) in large block letters.
2. To make the string stamps, glue 12 inch pieces of twine in different patterns to the bottoms of 2 empty Nestle Wonderball boxes. Let dry.
3. Pour a generous amount of paint onto paper plates. One color per plate.
4. Using the paintbrush, paint in the block letters that spell out "Dad".
5. Dip the Nestle Wonderball box into the paint and be sure that the twine is completely covered. Press the stamp onto the apron.
6. Repeat several times, with a multiple of colors to create your design. Allow it to dry for several hours.
7. Let Dad try it on and get cooking.

**Tips:**

To keep your colors true, it is best to dip each stamp into a single color of paint.

#### Father's Day Medal

**Materials:**

Paper  
Ribbon  
Frozen juice lid or jar lid  
Foil  
Markers  
Scissors  
Glue

**Instructions:**

1. Have your kids make their Dads a "Best Dad" award this Father's Day! Start by cutting a circle out of the paper. Make the circle a little smaller than the lid. Cover the lid with foil. With markers, write this poem on the paper circle, or have the child make one of their own:

### **BEST DAD**

*My Dad is The Best, you see,  
Because he takes good care of me.  
My Dad's the best in every way,  
I love you, Dad. Happy Father's Day!*

2. Glue the poem onto the foil covered lid. Take a length of ribbon and glue to the back so you can hang this around Dad's neck. You may want to hot glue the ribbon on, if so, be sure to have an adult use the hot glue gun. Finish this off by adding the date, the child's name, and a little glitter!!!

### **Father's Day T-Shirt**

#### **Materials:**

White plain tee shirt in dad's size  
Fabric paint  
Pencil  
Cardboard

#### **Instructions:**

1. Pre-wash the T-shirt.
2. When dried sketch what you would like to include on the shirt.
3. Place the piece of cardboard inside the shirt for support (leave it inside when using the fabric paint).
4. It can be pictures of dad's favorite things (fishing pole, for example). You can also write "World's Favorite Dad".
5. Don't forget that the shirt has both a front and back!
6. After you have drawn what you want to include use the fabric paint to decorate.

### **Nuts About You - Jar of Nuts**

#### **Materials:**

Jar with a lid  
Sand paper  
Epoxy glue  
Tacky glue  
Peanuts or other nuts  
Paper glue (rubber cement)  
Gold spray paint

#### **Instructions:**

1. If you are using a metal lid, sand it to make it ruff. Have an adult spread the epoxy glue over the top of the lid and then put small amounts of glue on the peanuts and stick them to the top of the lid. Let the glue dry. Use tacky glue (a child can do this part) to glue the rest of the nuts on the top making a pile of nuts. Let the glue dry and then paint with gold or other color of paint.
2. Draw a label on a piece of paper and write, "Dad, I'm nuts about you! Decorate the label and glue it onto the jar.

### **Fathers Day Note Holder**

#### **Materials:**

Pattern of a small truck  
Clothespin (painted a bright color)  
Magnet  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Cut out the pattern of a small truck. Have children color it and put their name on it and the year. Laminate the truck for it to last longer. Glue the truck onto the colored clothespin. Put refrigerator magnet on back of clothespin. Now he can hang notes on the refrigerator.

**Daddy's Little Girl Picture Frame****Materials:**

Camera

Clothes to dress like each child's dad such as a baseball cap, a tie and suit, brief case, golf clubs, fishing outfit, etc.

Card stock

Glue

Crayons and markers

**Instructions:**

1. Take a picture of your child in his father's clothes or doing something that his father likes to do like reading, watching TV, gardening, playing baseball, cooking, working on the car, etc.
2. Cut out a frame to fit the picture and write a saying on the bottom. Have your child decorate the frame.

**I Love Daddy Sign****Materials:**

Paper

Marker

Scissors

Tape

**Instructions:**

Cut oval shapes out of paper and writing I LOVE DADDY! Tape the sign to the back of each child.

**Paint Stick Note Holder Man Father's Day Gift****Materials:**

Paint stick

4 craft spoons

2 mini-spring clothespins

Fake hair (or something to make hair out of)

Wiggly eyes

Markers

Paint

Material

2 tiny wooden circles

Glue

**Instructions:**

1. Glue craft spoons onto the back of a paint stick about 4 inches down from the top at a 45-degree angle to the craft stick to make the arms.
2. Cut the small ends off two craft spoons to make feet and glue them on to the bottom of the craft stick.
3. Glue on two tiny wooden circles for ears, and wiggly eyes.
4. Cut out clothes from material using your doll to make the pattern and then glue them on.
5. Glue on a clothespin on each arm so that the man can hold notes.
6. Use markers to draw on the mouth and shoes and paint or color to finish.
7. Put a tiny note in one hand and write something on it to give to dad.

## Daddy's Priceless Tie for Father's Day

### Materials:

Photo of child  
Poster Board  
Scissors  
Colored markers  
Yarn  
Glitter  
Glue  
Buttons  
Beads  
Sequins (anything to decorate with)  
1-hole punch

### Instructions:

Ahead of class time, cut out ties from the poster board, about 17" long, and make them much fatter than a normal man's tie - with a knot type shape at the top. Have the kids glue their picture in the middle of the tie and then have them write on it and decorate it with glitter, buttons, sequins, anything to sparkle it up will do. Be sure to have them sign and date it. Write "Daddy (or Grandpa), I love you!, and something from their heart. Then punch holes at the top and string the yarn through so that dad can actually wear it.

## Bookmark Poem

### Materials:

Paint or inkpads  
Paper  
Contact paper  
Hole punch  
Yarn

### Instructions:

1. Write the saying on one side of the bookmark and then have the children decorate the other side with their fingerprints.
2. Cover the bookmark with contact paper.
3. Punch a hole in the top and add some yarn. Cut about 4 strand of yarn about 8 inches long. Put the strands together and fold in half. Place the folded end through the hole so that a loop shows through the other side. Bring all the stands on the other end through the loop and pull tight.

### Poem:

*These are my fingerprints  
tiny and small.  
To place in your Bible Winter,  
Spring, Summer, and Fall.  
Reminding you the whole year  
through, the best gift of all ---  
is my love for you.*

## Footprint Picture with Poem - Use this poem to make a footprint picture for Dad.

### Materials:

Typing paper  
Construction paper  
String  
Glue  
Paint  
Stapler

### Instructions:

1. Type out the poem on one side of a piece of paper and make enough copies.
2. Have the children put their footprint or prints on the other side of the paper and draw a pretty border.
3. Glue the picture onto a piece of construction paper.
4. Staple some yarn on the top to hang the picture.

### Poem:

*"Walk a little slower daddy," said a child so small.  
"I'm following in your footsteps and I don't want to fall.  
Sometimes your steps are very fast,  
Sometimes they're hard to see;  
So walk a little slower, Daddy,  
For you are leading me.  
Someday when I'm all grown up,  
You're what I want to be;  
Then I will have a little child  
Who'll want to follow me.  
And I would want to lead just right,  
And know that I was true;  
So, walk a little slower, Daddy,  
For I must follow you.*

## Mother's Day

### A Mother's Beatitudes Sheet

### Materials:

Special designed paper  
Ribbon  
Optional - Paper to make special frame/store bought frames.

### Directions:

On specially designed (flowers or something like that) paper type or write the following and have the children write a special message at the bottom.

#### *A Mother's Beatitudes*

*Blessed is the mother who understands her child, for she shall inherit a kingdom of memories.  
Blessed is the mother who knows how to comfort, For she shall possess a child's devotion.  
Blessed is the mother who guides by the path of righteousness, For she shall be proud of her children.  
Blessed is the mother who is never shocked, For she shall receive and know confidence and security.  
Blessed is the mother who teaches respect, For she shall be respected.  
Blessed is the mother who emphasizes the good and minimizes the bad, for her children shall follow her example*

*Blessed is the mother who answers questions honestly, For she shall be trusted.  
Blessed is the mother who treats her children as she would like to be treated, For her home shall always be filled with happiness.*

Roll the paper up and put a pretty ribbon around. If you want you can also either have them make a special frame to put around it or buy a special frame.

### Sit Upons

#### Materials:

1 thick magazine or catalog  
Old plastic coated tablecloth  
Yarn  
Large sewing needle

#### Instructions:

1. Fold your tablecloth in half. Place your magazine or catalog on the tablecloth. You'll be cutting out 2 squares from this. Cut out a square about 1 1/2-2 inches wider than the magazine. You don't want too much of an edge because then the magazine will slide around too much. The plastic part of the tablecloth will be the outside covering.
2. Take the 2 plastic squares and the one magazine and make a "sandwich " putting the magazine in the middle. You can use large straight pins to hold all the "sandwich" pieces in place. Once you have done this, using the hole punch, make openings equally spaced all around the perimeter of the "sandwich ".
3. Thread the sewing needle with the chosen yarn. Make a knot and start sewing through the holes. This will keep the "sandwich" together. After going all away around the perimeter of the rectangle end with a knot.

### Mother's Day/Daily Prayers

#### Materials:

1 piece 3' x 2 1/2" ribbon or fabric  
7 pieces of 4 1/2" x 2 1/2" coordinating ribbon or fabric  
Daily Prayers (see directions)  
Glue  
1 soda pop-top

#### Instructions:

Print the following Daily Prayers on white or colored paper and glue one to each of the seven pieces of ribbon or fabric.

#### *Monday Wash Day*

*Help me my God to wash away all my selfishness and vanity that I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead.*

#### *Tuesday Ironing Day*

*Dear Lord, help me to iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have accumulated through the years so that I may see beauty in others.*

#### *Wednesday Mending Day*

*O God, help me to mend my ways so that I will not set a bad example for others.*

#### *Thursday Cleaning Day*

*Lord Jesus, help me to reach the dust of all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart all these years.*

#### *Friday Shopping Day*

*O God, give me the grace to be a wise and prudent shopper that I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and my family and all who are in need of your love.*

### *Saturday Cooking Day*

*Help me, my Savior, to brew up a huge kettle of brotherly love and serve it with the clean sweet bread of human kindness.*

### *Sunday The Lord's Day*

*O God, since I have now prepared my house for you, please come into my heart as my honored guest so that I may spend the day in your presence.*

*Amen*

Equally spacing the seven pieces, use glue to attach onto the longer ribbon or fabric. Finish by turning under a couple of inches at the top and hot glue pop-top for hanging on the wall.

## **Mothers Day Butterfly and Poem**

### **Materials:**

3 colors of Tempera paint  
Black tempera paint  
White construction paper  
Paintbrushes

### **Instructions:**

1. Have the child open his hand and spread his fingers. The body of the butterfly is painted in black. Start with the tip of the child's middle finger and paint all the way to the bottom of the palm. Next color the palm on both sides of the black line the first color. Then paint the thumb and pinky finger with the second color. Lastly paint the last two remaining fingers with the third color. Next press the hand onto a piece of white construction paper. Make sure to keep the middle finger still and move the other fingers to expand the "wings" of the butterfly. (I make sure my paper is big enough for two prints - I just print the first one and then move the hand to another area and print again. (I use the second hand print as a bulletin board butterfly or sometimes hang from the ceiling).
2. When the paint dries you can add an antennae with a marker. Cut out the butterfly and mount on a contrasting piece of construction paper with the following poem:

*This isn't just a Butterfly  
As you can plainly see.  
I made it with my hand  
Which is a part of me.  
It comes with lots of Love  
Especially to say  
I hope you have a very  
Happy Mother's Day.*

## **Whisking You a Happy Mother's Day**

### **Materials:**

One wire whisk for each child  
Hershey Hugs and Kisses candy  
Ribbon  
Hole punch  
Card stock

### **Instructions:**

Have the children fill the center of the whisk with Hershey's (move the wires and pop them inside). Make a card that says: "Whisking you a Happy Mother's Day that's filled with Hugs and Kisses." Love, (child's name). Tie the card on with ribbon.

## Bundle of Soap

### Materials:

1 Bar of Soap  
Fabric  
Fabric Ribbon  
Stickers  
Scissors

### Instructions:

Cut the fabric into squares large enough to wrap around the soap (10"). Give each child a bar of soap, and let them choose a sticker to put on it. Place the soap in the center of the fabric. Gather the edges around the soap, and tie a ribbon at the top to hold it in place.

## Decorated Soap Craft for Mom

### Materials:

Soap (square soap works best)  
Felt  
Lace or other pretty material  
Rickrack  
Ribbon, buttons, sequins, small silk flowers, beads, etc. (Anything you can find that will look pretty on the soap.)  
Short straight pins with big round heads and some with small flat heads  
Glue

### Instructions:

Cut the felt, lace, or material to fit the soap. Wrap the material around the soap and secure it to the soap on the back with some straight pins with the flat heads so that the pins don't stick out. You can cover the to sides of the soap if you would like or just leave open. Turn the soap over and decorate the tops and sides with the flowers, ribbon, sequins, etc. using the straight pins with the rounded heads.

## Homemade Bath Salts

### Materials:

2 1/2 lb. Epsom salt  
Food coloring  
Perfume

### Instructions:

Combine Epsom salts with food coloring and perfume in a large bowl. Mix well so color is even. Put into smaller jars and let stand 4-6 weeks before using. This causes the odor to blend with the salts. This bath salt is very soothing and makes for a very relaxed bath.

## Votive Candle Holder Craft for Mom

### Materials:

Various colors of tissue paper  
White glue and water (plus small plastic lid to hold the glue)  
Paintbrush (1/2" wide)  
Wide mouth short canning jar (baby food jar might also work)  
Votive candle

**Instructions:**

1. Mix glue and water together in a 1 to 1 proportion.
2. Tear tissue paper (or punch out shapes using decorative punches such as flowers and hearts).  
With the paintbrush, spread a little glue on the upside-down jar, and place a piece of tissue paper on top. Continue pasting tissue paper on the jar until it is covered. When it is covered, the child can glue the punched out designs in a border or design (upside-down so when it is finished, it will be right-side up) paint a thin coat of glue on top of all the paper. Let dry. Be sure the paper is not taller than the top of the jar and do not fold over the rim to the inside of the jar (fire hazard).
3. When it is dry, add a votive candle. When the candle is lit, the jar will look like stained glass. Remind the children that candles are only for adults. They should never try to light them or play with them.

**Mothers Day Kisses****Materials:**

2 wrapped candy kisses  
1 plastic spoon  
4x4 piece of netting and ribbon

**Instructions:**

Place the two kisses back to back in the bowl of the spoon. Cover with netting and tie a small ribbon. To the ribbon bow attach the following poem:

*Happy Mother's Day!  
A spoonful of love  
And a couple of wishes  
That you enjoy your  
Mother's Day Kisses!*

**Pot holder Craft for Mother's Day****Materials:**

White potholders or material to make potholders  
Permanent markers or Opaque Paint Markers

**Instructions:**

1. Decide on a design for the potholder. You may want to draw the picture first on a piece of paper and then copy it onto the potholder.
2. Use permanent markers to draw the picture onto the potholed or write a letter to your Mom. Make sure to put the date on the back.

**Flower Ribbon Pin Craft****Materials:**

Ribbon (about 1 1/2" wide)  
Florist wire  
Green chenille stems  
Pin back or magnet  
Buttons, pompoms or fun foam

**Instructions:**

1. Using the florist wire, punch a hole in the ribbon on one side. Continue weaving the wire in and out down one side of the ribbon bunching up the ribbon as you go. When you have enough ribbon on the wire to form a flower, cut the ribbon and bring the two ends of the ribbon together. Wind the ends of the wire around each other and cut off any excess.
2. Glue a button, pompom or fun foam shape to the center of the flower.
3. Wind a green Chenille Stem to form a stem and leaves and glue the stem to the back of the flower.
4. To finish, glue a pin back or magnet to the back of the flower.

**Pipe Cleaner Flower Pin Craft****Materials:**

2 pipe cleaners (chenille stems), one green for the stem and other any color you prefer  
Glue  
Pin back

**Instructions:**

1. To make the stem and leaves make a loop at one end of the pipe cleaner and attach it by winding the end of the pipe cleaner around the pipe cleaner about 3 inches from the end.
2. Make another loop about the same size and wind it around the stem at the same place you did the first one. The rest of the pipe cleaner forms the stem.
3. Now attach the end of the second pipe cleaner to the top of the flower stem by winding the ends around each other.
4. Bend the second pipe cleaner around in a circle about 1 1/2" wide starting at the end attached to the stem. Make another loop by bringing the free end of the pipe cleaner up behind the first loop and making a second loop. Make another loop the same way. To finish bend the end in towards the center of the flower.
5. Glue a pin back onto the green stem of the flower.

**Easter****Easter Basket****Materials:**

1 or 2 liter soda bottles  
Scissors  
Paper punch or staple  
Glue  
Tissue paper or anything you want to decorate the basket with  
Pinking shears (optional)

**Instructions:**

1. Cut off the bottom of a soda bottle. This will be your basket. Trim the edge cleanly, or use pinking shears or other decorative scissors to make a fancy edge.
2. Cut a 1/2 to 1 inch ring from the soda bottle, cut it in half and use one half as the handle.
3. To attach the handle use a paper punch to put a hole in the basket where the handle should be attached. Punch a hole at each end of the handle. Use yarn or ribbon to attach the handle to the basket. Or you can use the brass colored paper brads to attach the handle, but this isn't recommended if young children will be using them. You could also use a stapler to attach the handle, but it is less flexible when finished.
4. You can leave the basket plain or use glue and tissue paper to decorate the outside.

## **Palm Branch**

### **Materials:**

Green construction paper  
Green pipe cleaner  
Glue

### **Instructions:**

Cut out a leaf shape from green construction paper. Glue a green pipe cleaner to the middle of the leaf. Let the children cut slits in the branch to make leaves.

## **Easter Butterfly**

### **Materials:**

Zipper sandwich bags (cheap ones are fine)  
Tissue paper scraps, various colors  
Pipe cleaner (chenille stem)

### **Instructions:**

Have the children tear the tissue paper into small pieces and put a couple of tablespoons of the torn paper in a zipper bag. Spread out the paper so it looks like stained glass. Fan fold the bag (like an accordion). In the middle of the bag, twist a pipe cleaner to form the butterfly's body. Curl the ends to look like an antenna.

## **Easter Surprise Packages**

### **Materials:**

Toilet paper tubes  
Wrapping or tissue paper  
Tape  
Chenille wires  
Index cards  
Markers stickers  
Small candies, gum or toys

### **Instructions:**

Have each child print a bible verse (Easter related) on an index card and then decorate the card. Fold or roll it to fit in the tube; then fill with candy and wrap with paper and tie ends with the chenille wires (like the English cracker style). Have them give it to someone to surprise them.

## **Bunny and Egg Refrigerator Magnets or Pins**

### **Materials:**

Plastic spoons  
Small round magnets or jewelry clasps  
Fun foam  
Ribbon  
Markers  
Paint  
Plaster of Paris  
Glue

**Instructions:**

1. Set up the plastic spoons on newspaper so that the scoop side of the spoons are facing up. Prop the handle end of the spoons up on something to make the scoop side of the spoon level.
2. Mix the Plaster of Paris according to the directions. Use another plastic spoon to spoon in the mixed plaster into each cup of the plastic spoons.
3. Let the plaster set for a little bit until the plaster is set enough to hold the magnets or jewelry clasps upright.
4. When the plaster is set enough press the clasps or magnets into the plaster. Let the plaster dry completely and remove the molds from the spoons.
5. To finish use markers or paint to decorate the molds. For the rabbit cut out ears from fun foam and glue to the back of the mold. Glue a bow to the front of the rabbit.

**Styrofoam Easter Egg Decorations****Materials:**

Styrofoam eggs  
Lace  
Beads, sequins  
Short straight pins  
Silk flowers  
Rick Rack

**Instructions:**

1. Use straight pins to stick lace, beads, sequins, or anything else that would look pretty onto the eggs. You may need to buy straight pins with the round heads to stick some beads on that have large holes.
2. To hang the egg, cut a length of ribbon use a straight pin to secure it to the top of the egg.

**Bunny Bank****Materials:**

1 – Empty 56 oz. canister (washed and dried)  
18 inch to 20 inch pieces of felt, pink or brown  
1 sheet of white felt (approximately 9 inches x 12 inches)  
2 - 8-1/2 inch x 11 inch pieces of craft foam, pink or brown  
Wiggly eyes  
3 white pipe cleaners, 3 brown pipe cleaners  
Craft glue gun  
Craft knife  
Cardboard or cork sheet 1/8 inch thick  
White faux fur fabric (approximately 1/2 yard)  
Large pompom (white or black)  
Small white pompom or small piece of Styrofoam

**Instructions:**

1. Clean and dry an empty 56 oz. canister.
2. With the yellow plastic cap removed, wrap and glue the felt all around the outside of the canister. Cut (two) 1-1/2 inch slits one inch apart (about 1-1/2 inches from open end of canister) where the foam ears will be inserted.
3. Cut 2 ears out of craft foam.
4. Using the lid, trace a circle on the felt and cut it out. Glue onto the top of the lid. Cut a 1/4-inch strip of felt to glue around the edge of the lid so that the lid will be completely covered.
5. Glue the wiggly eyes to the covered lid.
6. Glue the small white pompom or Styrofoam piece under the eyes to create the nose.
7. Cut the 3 pieces of pipe cleaner in half and glue three on each side, just under the nose to create the whiskers.

8. For the tail, glue a large pompom to the back of the canister.
9. Make the Bunny's feet. Cut out one set made of cardboard or cork, and one set made of faux fur. Glue the faux fur to the cardboard.
10. Glue the fur feet to the bottom of the Bunny Bank.
11. PARENTS ONLY: Cut a slit in the top of the Bunny Bank, large enough for coins to drop in easily.
12. Now the Bunny is ready to be fed. Let the bunny dry overnight before you begin to use him.

## Easter Pins

### Materials:

Assorted colors of fun foam  
Buttons  
Satin Ribbon  
Pin Back  
Glue  
Egg Template (three different sizes)

### Instructions:

1. Trace the shape of an egg onto the fun foam. Use three different sizes (small, medium, and large). You can use pinking shears to cut these out for a fancier effect.
2. Glue the eggs on top of each other largest to smallest.
3. Glue on buttons to the smallest egg.
4. Glue on a satin ribbon bow, glue on the pin back, and you have an Easter pin.

## Wooden Spoon Bunnies

### Materials:

Two wooden ice cream spoons  
Margarine tub  
Masking tape  
White glue  
Styrofoam tray to work on  
White poster paint and a paintbrush  
Clear glitter  
Two wiggle eyes  
Small pink pompom  
Safety pin  
Thin pink ribbon

### Instructions:

1. Glue the spoon end of the two sticks together at an angle so that the two handles form a V shape for the bunny's ears and the front spoon end forms the head.
2. Mix one part glue with two parts white paint in the margarine tub. Paint the bunny white, then quickly sprinkle over the paint with clear glitter.
3. Glue two wiggle eyes and a pompom nose on the head of the bunny. Glue the bow just below the ears of the bunny.
4. Glue the safety pin to the back of the bunny. Use the masking tape to hold the pin in place while the glue dries.

## Growing Easter Baskets

### Materials:

Empty 1/2 gal. Milk Cartons  
Potting Soil  
Grass Seed (fast growing if you have it)  
Stuff to Decorate Carton

**Instructions:**

Take empty milk cartons, cut down to 4-5" high. Can cover with contact paper or construction paper and decorate. Fill 2/3 full with potting soil, then generously cover with grass seed. Have children water daily; grass should grow in about 4-7 days. With remaining carton, cut a handle to staple to the basket. Fill with decorated eggs.

**Easter Chicks****Materials:**

2 Cotton Balls  
Orange and Black Construction Paper  
Dry, Yellow tempera Paint  
Glue  
Empty, Clean Egg Shell

**Instructions:**

Put some of the paint in a zipper bag, put in the 2 cotton balls and shake until they are yellow. Feet, eyes, and beaks can be cut from orange & black construction paper and glued on. Then you can glue the chick into half of the eggshell.

**Egg Creatures****Materials:**

Eggs (not hard-boiled)  
Sharp nail  
Glue  
Miscellaneous supplies

**Instructions:**

Blow the contents from fresh eggs. Pierce each end of egg with sharp nail. Blow firmly into large end, over dish to catch egg liquid (which you can use for a recipe). Let shells dry. Decorate to resemble rabbits, chicks, or cartoon characters using markers, paint, glued on construction paper, etc. To make stand upright: Cut strip of sturdy paper 1/2 inch by 4-6 ins. Glue into circle, sit egg in it. This paper stand could also be incorporated into design as a collar.

**A Rabbit to Decorate Your Table****Materials:**

Paper plate  
Cotton balls  
Glue  
Mini pompoms  
Construction paper

**Instructions:**

Take the paper plate and glue the cotton balls on the plate. Then take the mini pompoms and make a face for (him or her). Use the construction paper and make ears glue them on (him or her). Now bend the ears on it.

## Candle Eggs

### Materials:

Eggs (not hard boiled)  
Sharp nail  
Old candles or paraffin wax  
Wicks

### Instructions:

Hollow out several eggs by gently poking a small hole in one end of each egg. Rinse clean and set the eggshell in the egg carton. Melt some old candles or paraffin wax and wax coloring in a double boiler over low heat. Place a funnel over the opening of the egg and carefully pour wax into the hollow eggshell in the carton. When the eggshell is full, insert a wired wick into the egg, centering it with a piece of tape for support. Allow the wax to cool and harden, then break off the shell and buff the candle with a soft rag. Heat the bottom end of the candle to soften, then press on a flat surface to make it stand up or use a candleholder. Variations: You can use several different colors of wax, layering them. Let them cool between colors. Add glitter or metallic confetti to make the egg sparkle. Color the wax with old color crayons instead of buying wax coloring. BE SURE THE EGG SHELL IS DRY BEFORE FILLING IT!

## Giant Easter Eggs

### Materials:

Balloon  
Liquid Starch or Watered Down Glue  
Large Paintbrushes  
Crochet Thread

### Instructions:

Blow up a balloon and tie a 2 ft. piece of thread to the bottom of it. Cover the entire balloon with starch or watered down glue, using a large paintbrush. Wrap crochet thread around the balloon in one direction, leaving small gaps about 1/2 inch wide so the balloon isn't completely covered. Wrapping doesn't have to be perfect. Apply another light layer of starch or glue on top of the thread and wrap with another layer of crochet thread in another direction. Repeat one or more times until the balloon is covered with thread. Hang the balloon from the bottom thread to dry for about 24 hours. When fully dry, pop the balloon and gently pull it out of the thread. Hang the giant egg from the ceiling or place it in a giant Easter basket.

Variations: Use multicolored thread or yarn. You can flatten the end of the egg by pressing on it gently so it will stand on end. Leave an intentional opening to set figurines and eggs/candy in. They are very pretty this way. Practical tips: Work quickly before the glue/starch dries or add more when necessary. Handle the egg with care after it dries, as it may cave in if you squish it.

## Bunny Baskets

### Materials:

Empty, Clean Milk Carton  
Construction Paper  
Glue  
Crayons or Markers

### Instructions:

Bottom out 1/3 of a milk carton. Staple a 1" strip across the top for a handle. Cut out bunny shapes; sitting up bunny - ears on top, round head and fat body. Make sure it is the width of the milk carton (a bit like the traditional cat drawing). Decorate the basket with paper chips (small pieces of paper cut or torn) and draw on bunny's face. You can also paint the basket with glue and dip it into a container of confetti. Glue on a cotton ball on the opposite side of basket for bunny's tail.

## Easter Bonnets

### Materials:

Paper Plate  
Styrofoam Plates  
Glue  
Crayons or Markers  
Miscellaneous supplies

### Instructions:

Make Easter bonnets from Styrofoam soup bowls stapled to paper plates that have the center cut out of them. Let the children decorate them as desired. Supply them with cut out flowers, ribbon, and anything else you like.

## Bunny Ears

### Materials:

Head band  
Glue  
Newspaper  
Sparkles  
White paper  
Pink marker

### Instructions:

1. Find headband that is basic.
2. Dip the top part in glue (wipe off any drippy edges with a paper towel).
3. Lay it down on newspaper and sprinkle all sparkles all over the place.
4. Start to put on your accessories. Take the white paper and cut out to long bunny ears.
5. You could trace the first one so it's even.
6. Then take your pink marker and color a little bit of the inside of the ear with your pink marker.
7. Glue them on your headband.
8. If they fall use cardboard behind the ears and glue the white paper on to the cardboard. The cardboard should be in the same shape as the ears.

## Celebrate New Life Chick

### Materials:

Plastic colored Easter eggs  
Cotton balls  
Glue  
Construction paper  
Dry yellow paint

### Instructions:

Take the dry yellow paint and color the cotton balls. Glue a yellow cotton ball into a plastic egg. I took a hole puncher and made eyes and then made orange triangular beaks. These were really easy, and the kids liked them.

## Bunny Pot

### Materials:

Plaster of paris  
Twig  
Terra cotta pot  
White spray paint  
Felt  
Pompom  
Wiggly eyes  
Small ornaments

### Instructions:

1. Using plaster of paris, secure a branchy twig inside a terra cotta pot.
2. Trim the branches as necessary and spray paint the branch and pot white.
3. Decorate the pot with felt ears, pompoms for muzzle, felt mouth, large wiggly eyes and fabric-coated wire for whiskers, and a pompom tail.
4. You can even add felt feet and stick them to the bottom of the pot.
5. Now you can decorate your tree with small ornaments, purchased or hand made.  
You can also decorate the pot in neutral colors and just hang seasonal ornaments on it all year round.
6. You may want to "plant" your branch in a plastic pot since the terra cotta pot may crack when the plaster of paris hardens.

## Colored Eggs

### Materials:

Colored Eggs  
Tissue Paper or Crepe Paper

### Instructions:

Wet the egg and place pieces of colored tissue paper on it. Set it aside to dry. When the egg dries the tissue paper falls off and the colors stay behind.

## Filter Paper Eggs

### Materials:

Coffee Filters  
Food Coloring  
Eye Droppers and Straws

### Instructions:

Precut egg shapes out of coffee filters. Mix water and yellow food coloring and place mixture in a baby food jar. Do the same for blue. Let the children use eyedroppers or straws to drip colors on the filter shape. The colors will run together and make beautiful eggs.

## Barefoot Chick

### Materials:

Yellow Paint  
Construction Paper  
Crayons  
Glue  
Cornmeal

**Instructions:**

Paint the bottom of the child's foot with yellow washable liquid paint. Have him press his foot onto a sheet of construction paper. When the child's foot is clean and the paint is dry, have him use crayons to add an eye, beak, and legs to his chick. Finally have him spread glue along the bottom of the paper, then sprinkle the glue with cornmeal.

**Embroidered Card****Materials:**

Pencil  
Needle  
A blank card  
Thread or yarn  
Markers  
Stickers and other decorating materials

**Instructions:**

Take a blank card and with a pencil lightly draw a design on the cover of your card (Easter eggs, duck, or whatever you want to do with Easter). Take the needle with the color you want on it use the thread/yarn to trace your design. If small children are doing this project have an adult poke the holes first and give the child a plastic yarn needle to use.

**Bunnies in the Grass****Materials:**

White Paper  
Crayons  
Glue  
Pompoms or cotton balls

**Instructions:**

Have children color a white sheet of paper all green (scribbling is just perfect). Have them glue on 10-15 1/2" pompoms or pieces of cotton balls. You now have "Baby Bunnies Hiding in the Grass!"

**Styrofoam Eggs****Materials:**

Styrofoam Eggs  
Paint  
Push Pins  
Miscellaneous craft items

**Instructions:**

Take big Styrofoam eggs and paint them. Use little gems from the craft store, like the kind for making jewelry and crafts. Get a bunch of pins, the kind with the ball. When inserted through the plastic things, they look like little flowers. Cover the egg in these.

**String Egg****Materials:**

String  
Balloon  
White glue  
Paint

**Instructions:**

Inflate a balloon and tie it. Fill a bowl with glue. Soak string in glue. Wrap balloon with the string. Wrap different ways (up, down, and diagonal) to get a better design. Allow to dry completely. Paint. You may want to sprinkle some glitter on the wet balloon after you paint it. Make sure the string is completely dry, then pop the balloon and hang up for a unique Easter decoration.

**Easter Egg Fantasies****Materials:**

Eggs  
Pencil  
Sharp scissors  
Egg dye  
Glue  
Beads  
Glitter  
Sequins  
Cotton balls  
Flower picture or tiny artificial flowers

**Instructions:**

1. Draw an oval shape in pencil on the side of an egg for opening. Use pointed embroidery scissors to cut along the pencil line. Empty the contents of the eggs. Carefully wash out the eggshells and let them dry. You are going to decorate the opening and make a scene inside. They may be used as is, or dipped into egg dye or a food-coloring solution. Or the inside may be one color and the outside another, instead of dipping.
2. Now begins the fun of decorating. Glue each shell to a circle of plastic sponge or set it on a piece of clay. Decorate the outside with colored sequins, beads, or glitter. Glue a piece of fluffed cotton to the inside bottom. On this, glue a tiny flower picture cut from an old magazine, or use tiny artificial flowers.
3. Another version with more detail is to create a scene inside the egg. Use cotton and trace cutouts, a sprig of dried grass, a tiny barn, and animals from a picture or greeting card to make your own figures and objects from paper or clay. A scrap of rickrack or braid may be glued around the opening.
4. Next time make an egg that can be hung up. Glue a tiny piece of cotton at the top, then a length of embroidery floss or narrow ribbon for the hanger. Cover the cotton with some tiny beads, small colored stones, or a small plastic flower.

**Chicks****Materials:**

Construction Paper  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Cut out some yellow egg shapes about 6 inches long. Trace the kids hands on yellow paper and cut them out. Have your kids add faces to their chicks and add their cut-out hands (one on each side). I cut out little eyes, and a beak and had them glue them on. You can also add feet if you like!

**Chick Puppet****Materials:**

Yellow cotton ball or pompom  
Glue  
Popsicle Stick  
Construction Paper Scraps

**Instructions:**

A Cute stick puppet or decoration for Easter. Start by gluing a yellow cotton ball or pompom onto a Popsicle stick. Punch hole with a hole punch out of black paper for eyes, and a diamond shape of orange for a beak-fold the diamond in half. Glue on eyes and beak. Make a bunch of them to fill a basket and read the little red hen.

## Thanksgiving

### Turkey Shirt

**Materials:**

T-shirt - the size of the child that you're making it for  
Fabric paint  
Paper plates or better yet tin pie plate  
Piece of cardboard

**Instructions:**

1. Pre-wash the shirt.
2. Place a piece of cardboard between the front and back of the shirt for support. Pour paint into pie plate.
3. Clean your child's hand. Here's the messy part --- place your child's hand in the paint
4. Take the hand and place on the shirt so that the fingers are partially flared, like feathers of a turkey. You can repeat the pattern of turkeys all over the shirt.
5. If you like, after the shirt has dried, you can use fabric paint in a tube to outline and decorate the turkeys on the shirt. Also your child, with help from you, can write their name on the shirt with the date.

### Ear of Corn Magnet

**Materials:**

Small bubbles bubble wrap  
Scissors  
Ruler  
Margarine tub  
Craft stick  
Sticky-back magnet  
Water  
Cereal box  
Yellow tissue paper  
Brown tissue paper  
Glue

**Instructions:**

1. Cut a 3-in tall corn shape from the cardboard.
2. Cut a piece of bubble wrap to fit over one side of the corn shape to make kernels.
3. Mix three parts glue to one part water in the margarine tub. Mix with craft stick.
4. Cut some strips of brown tissue paper to make the husk. Glue the strips out from the top of the corn.
5. Cover the front of the corn with glue and glue the bubble wrap to the corn shape, covering up the bottom edges of the husk so they don't show.
6. Cut a piece of yellow tissue paper large enough to wrap around the corn shape to cover the front and back. Dip the yellow tissue paper in the watery glue and wrap it around the corn to cover it entirely. Let this dry!
7. Put a piece of sticky-back magnet on the back of the corn.

## Thanksgiving Tablecloth

### Materials:

Plain white tablecloth

Fabric paint

Printing items. Here are some suggestions:

Use potatoes to cut desired shapes into and use to print on the cloth.

Sponges

Feathers

Corn Cob

Make a print of your hand and turn it into a turkey!

### Instructions:

1. Wash and iron the cloth first. This will give you a nice flat surface to work on and any shrinking the cloth will do will have been done on this first washing.
2. After placing the cloth on a clean wide space and laying down protective newspaper you can plan where to place your prints, what colors to use etc.
3. If you are going to "dip" any of the printing items in paint you can use a paper or Styrofoam plate to put the paint on.

## Tepee Table Place Holders for your Thanksgiving Table

### Materials:

Paper

Tape or glue

Large toothpicks

Crayons or markers

### Instructions:

1. Make your own Tepee pattern.
2. Color the tepees and write the names of the people who will be sharing your Thanksgiving dinner on each tepee.
3. Tape or glue 3 toothpicks onto the back of the tepee at the top.
4. Curl the pattern into a tepee shape and tape the back closed.

## Pilgrim Hat

### Materials:

Paper grocery bags

Scissors

White paint

White ties cut from material

### Instructions:

1. Cut the bottom off the grocery bag so that it is about 8" high.
2. Cut one of the short sides out. (One of the sides that has the folds in it.)
3. Fold back the edges of the side that you just cut about two inches. Do it two times. Now paint the hat white and staple or glue on some ties. If you don't have time to make a hat you can just tie a white scarf on the pilgrim.

## Nut Turkey

### Materials:

Peanut in shell  
Walnut in shell  
Un-popped popcorn kernels  
Wiggly eyes  
Ribbon  
Glue

### Instructions:

Glue the peanut (head) to the walnut (body). Glue on a popcorn kernel for the beak, and 4 kernels for the feet. Glue on wiggly eyes, and tie a ribbon around the neck.

## Craft Stick Turkey

### Materials:

Colored craft sticks  
Short craft sticks  
Craft spoon  
Wiggly eyes  
Wooden shapes for the turkey's wattle and beak  
Pipe cleaners  
Red paint  
Black and yellow construction paper  
Glue

### Instructions:

1. Glue colored craft sticks around the wooden spoon to form the turkey's tail feathers.
2. Cut out a pilgrim hat shape from black construction paper and glue on a yellow trim and then glue it on to the top of the craft spoon.
3. Glue on wiggly eyes.
4. Paint a teardrop shaped wooded piece red and glue it on to the turkey as shown. 5. Glue on a smaller teardrop shaped piece upside down to form the beak.
5. Glue onto smaller craft sticks on each side of the turkey's head and neck to form wings.
6. Shape brown pipe cleaners to form the turkey's feet and glue them on to the back of the turkey.

## Tennis Ball Turkey

### Materials:

Tennis ball  
Craft feathers  
Orange chenille  
Wiggly eyes  
Small yellow buttons  
Brown poster paint  
Paintbrush  
Paint stir stick  
Glue  
Egg carton for drying

**Instructions:**

1. Cut a 1 in. slit in the tennis ball.
2. Squeeze the slit on each side to open the ball enough to drop in some buttons to make the ball a shaker. Slide the end of the paint stirrer into the cut so that the shaker has a handle. Paint the ball brown.
3. Bend the end of the orange chenille down to form a turkey head and glue it to the front of the ball. Glue two wiggly eyes on each side of the head.
4. Glue colorful craft feathers across the back of the turkey for tail feathers.

**A Bunch Of "Turkeys"**

Makes a good class project.

**Materials:**

Cardboard paper  
Glue  
Pictures of the kids

**Instructions:**

1. Take close up pictures of each individual student the week before, but it's really a good idea to start with the pictures before so that no child is left out.
2. Cut "feathers" out a cardboard in various colors
3. Cut turkey shaped bodies without the heads.
4. Cut out little "gobblers" out of red construction paper.
5. Glue the turkey bodies to the cardboard and then glue the feathers to the body in a semi-circle pattern. Then cut the child's picture so that there is only the face and glue the face to the body.
6. Glue the "gobblers" to the child's chin.
7. Laminate after the kids are finished to preserve.

**Apple Turkey****Materials:**

1 red apple  
1 large marshmallow  
5-6 small marshmallows  
12-14 raisins  
As many toothpicks as marshmallows  
1 candy corn

**Instructions:**

- 1) Place apple on hard surface with stem up. Take off stem if there is one.
- 2) On each toothpick, you will have 2 raisins and 1 marshmallow. The marshmallow will be at the top (or rounded tip of the pick) and the raisins will be below the marshmallow (nearest to the pointed end of the pick).
- 3) Evenly space the toothpicks directly behind where the stem would have been.
- 4) Directly opposite of where the marshmallow/raisin toothpicks are is where you will place the large marshmallow face.

**To make the face:**

Use 2 raisins for the eyes; push them into the large marshmallow. Use the 1 candy corn for the nose; push the corn into the marshmallow using the pointed end. Mount the head and you're done!!

### Circle Turkey

**Materials:**

Brown Paper Bags  
Scrap Construction Paper  
Glue  
Crayons  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Cut two circles out of paper bags; one about 5 inches and one about 3 inches. Cut out a strip (about 1 inch by 3-4 inches) and accordion fold it. Glue one end toward the top of the large circle and the other end in the middle of the small circle. Cut an oval (about 2 inches by 4-5 inches) to be the head and neck. Glue it to the middle of the small circle. From the scrap construction paper, cut out feathers on glue them to the top edge of the large circle. Color on eyes, beak, etc.

### Indian Vest

**Materials:**

Paper Bag  
Scissors  
Optional Materials (see below)

**Instructions:**

Cut a vest from the paper bag, cut a slit up the front and neck and armholes. To decorate, either cut out construction paper shape (arrows, sun, designs) and glue them on, or use potatoes to paint them (slice potato in half: cut design into potatoes: dip in paint and print onto vest).

### Indian Headband

**Materials:**

Brown Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Stapler or Tape  
Scrap Construction Paper

**Instructions:**

Cut brown construction paper into strips, fit it around child's head and staple or tape ends together. Cut feathers out of scrap construction paper and glue or staple onto headband.

### Bubble Wrap Dried Corn

**Materials:**

Paper towel tube  
Small bubbles bubble wrap  
Yellow tissue paper  
Brown tissue paper  
Masking tape  
Scissors  
Glue  
Plastic spoon  
Newspaper  
2 Styrofoam trays

**Instructions:**

1. Cut three 2-in. slits, evenly spaced, around one end of the tube. Wrap the cuts tightly over each other to form a point at the end of the tube. Use masking tape to hold the point together.
2. Wrap the entire tube in bubble wrap with the bubbles facing out. Tuck the extra wrap at each end of the tube down into the tube. Use small pieces of masking tape to hold the wrap in place if you need to. It is important not to cover up the bubbles, which are the kernels of the corn.
3. Mix one part water with two parts glue in one of the Styrofoam trays. Roll the bubble wrap in the mixture and cover it by wrapping it in two or three layers of yellow tissue paper. Tuck the excess paper at each end down into the tube.
4. Cut several long brown husks from the brown tissue paper. Glue them inside the tube at the wide end of the corncob.
5. Let the ear of corn dry completely on the other Styrofoam tray.

**Thanksgiving Characters****Materials:**

Toilet Paper Roll  
Crayons  
Glue  
Construction Paper  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Cover roll with black paper. Cut a small circle, draw a face on it, and glue it onto the roll. Other things to add: arms, feet hair hat brim, apron, etc. You can also make Indians and turkeys this way.

**Pilgrim Hat Thanksgiving Cup****Materials:**

Small plastic or paper cup  
Black yarn  
Black, gray, and red felt  
Lightweight cardboard or poster board  
Glue  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

1. Cut the bottom out of the paper cup. Cover the outside of the cup with glue and wrap the cup with black yarn until it is completely covered. Set aside to let dry.
2. Cut a 6-inch circle from the lightweight cardboard or poster board. Cut a 6-inch circle from the black felt. Glue the felt piece to the lightweight cardboard piece. This will be the hat brim. Glue the wide edge of the paper cup to the felt side of the hat brim. Make sure the cup is centered on the hat brim. Cut a piece of gray felt that will fit around brim. Glue the black felt piece around the cup above the hat brim. Cut a small red buckle out of the red felt. Glue the red buckle over the blue band in the front of your hat.
3. You can place a piece of paper by everyone's plate before dinner and have them write what they are thankful for and place in the hat. Then, before dinner is served have each person draw out of the hat and read from the paper. This works well with small children who need help with prayer time at Thanksgiving.
4. Now you can fill your hat with treats and place it at the table for your Thanksgiving evening or use to decorate for fall.

### Scripture Verse Turkey

**Materials:**

Opened pinecone  
Feathers cut from construction paper  
2 red chenille sticks  
Fine line marker  
Glue  
Favorite short scripture verses

**Instructions:**

The feathers should be about 1 1/2 inch wide and 3-4 inches long in different colors. Have a sheet of verses for the student to copy onto the feather. Prepare at least ten for each turkey. Bend the chenille sticks into the shape of a turkey head and throat, have 2 pieces to bend in "L" shape for feet. Put a dab of glue on one end of each of the feathers and stick into the fullest part of the cone, glue the head and the feet in the appropriate places for the turkey effect.

### Hand Print Turkey

**Materials:**

Heavy Paper  
Brown Paint  
Feathers

**Instructions:**

Dip child's hand in paint, and make a handprint on the paper (make sure the fingers are spread). Draw on a beak and glue on feathers. You can also add beads for eyes.

### Turkey Napkin Holders

**Materials:**

9 inch lightweight paper plates  
Poster paint  
Small brush  
Crayons  
Colored pencils  
Scrap construction paper  
Scissors  
Tape

**Instructions:**

1. Roughly paint or color the edges of the plate. If using paint wait until it dries before proceeding.
2. Cut a 2 1/2 inch long scrap of construction paper, rounding one end to make head.
3. Carefully notch a V-shape on head for a beak, or draw a beak with marker. Cut or draw 2 curves alongside of head for turkey's wattle.
4. Draw eyes. Bend the paper plate in 2 straight lines- one 3 1/2 inches from the top, one 3 1/2 inches from the bottom. This will form the place to put your napkin into.
5. Bend head 1/2 inch from straight edge. Secure it to the bottom of the paper plate with tape.

## Cornucopia Place Cards

### Materials:

Bag of Bugles snack chips  
Small fruit-shaped candies  
Crinkle cut scissors  
Yellow, orange, and brown construction paper  
Glue  
Marker

### Instructions:

1. Use the scissors to cut a 2 x 3-1/2 in. paper card for each person you need to make a card for.
2. Glue a Bugle chip in the top left corner of each card for a cornucopia.
3. Glue three or four little candies spilling out of the horn.
4. Use the marker to write the name of each guest on the place cards.

## Paper Turkey

### Materials:

Black or Brown construction paper  
Yellow construction paper  
Red construction paper  
Squiggle Eyes  
Feathers  
Orange pipe cleaners  
Glue

### Instructions:

1. From the black or brown construction paper, cut two large circles for the body of the turkey (just fold it in half and use a small plate as the pattern). With scraps, cut oblong head that with straight edge along the bottom.
2. For beak, cut diamond shape from yellow construction paper.
3. For red neck flap, cut narrow squiggly shape from red construction paper.
4. For legs, cut 1.5-2.0 inch pieces of pipe cleaner. Wrap one piece of pipe cleaner around bottom of another to create "feet".
5. Trim as needed.

### Assembly:

1. Glue eyes in place on headpiece.
2. Glue red neck flap at an angle in mid section of head (remember beak will be placed on top). Fold diamond shaped yellow beak in half.
3. Glue lower half of beak on top of red gible. This allows the top of the beak to be free moving. Set aside head of turkey to dry.
4. On one black circle, spread glue over top half of circle. Place feathers in a fanning shape. Put longest feathers at the top so they are seen over the head. Be sure feathers are glued securely.
5. Glue two pipe cleaner feet at bottom.
6. Glue remaining black circle on top of feathers and feet.
7. Glue Head at the top of last black circle (there needs to be some over lap).
8. Let dry. You could also place magnet on back or do this with felt instead of construction paper.

## Indian Drum

### Materials:

Oatmeal Box or any Can with Lid  
Tape  
Construction Paper  
Rubber Bands  
Crayons  
Scissors

### Instructions:

Cut a piece of construction paper to fit around can. Draw "indian" designs on it, and tape it onto can. Cut 2 circles out of construction paper about an inch bigger than the lid. Put it over the top and bottom of the can, and use rubber bands to hold it on.

## Paper Bag Turkey

### Materials:

Brown Paper Bags  
Scrap Construction Paper  
Newspaper  
Glue  
Crayons  
Scissors

### Instructions:

Stuff the paper bag with newspaper, leaving about 3 inches to fold shut. Try to fold it so both ends look the same and then glue it shut. Cut out feather shapes and glue onto bag. Draw and cut out turkey head and neck; making two tabs where the base of the neck will be. Fold one tab forward and one tab back and attach it to the bag.

## Thank You Book

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Magazines  
Stapler or Yarn  
Glue  
Crayons  
Scissors

### Instructions:

Fold paper or papers in half and staple fold or poke holes and tie them with yarn. Find pictures in magazines of things you are thankful for and glue them into the book.

## Thanksgiving Cornucopia

### Materials:

Paper Grocery Bags  
Magazines  
Crayons  
Glue  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Cut the paper bag so you can flatten it. Cut out the cornucopia cone shape, add a circle to the "open" end. Color it if desired. Cut out pictures of fruit from magazines and glue them onto circle of the horn.

**Totem Pole****Materials:**

Egg Cartons  
Scrap Paper, Feathers, Beads, etc.  
Crayons  
Glue  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Cut egg cartons into 4 rows of 3 cups. Glue 2 sections together, back to back, to form the totem pole. Decorate as desired.

**Thanksgiving Paper Chain Decoration****Materials:**

Construction paper  
Scissors  
Markers  
Stapler

**Instructions:**

Cut out 2 inch by 6-inch strips from various colored construction paper. Have everyone write one thing they are thankful for on the strips. Form the strip into a circle and staple. Make sure the writing is side out! Take the second strip and stick it through the center of the first circle you made then staple. Continue doing this until you have used all your strips.

**Tree of Thanks****Materials:**

2 Paper Grocery Bags  
Construction Paper (fall Colors)  
Crayons, Markers, or Pencils  
Glue  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Cut open the grocery bags so it lays flat. Cut out a tree trunk and branch shapes. Use colored paper and cut out leaf shapes. Have children write what they are thankful for on the leaves and hang them on the tree.

## Christmas

### Waterless Snow Globe

#### Materials:

A plastic bubble container that vending machine toys come in  
A can of Spray snow  
1/2 to 1 inch Christmas ornament  
Hot glue gun  
Black spray paint  
Paper cup  
Tooth pick  
Ribbon, optional

#### Instructions:

1. First separate the top and bottom of the plastic container.
2. Spray paint the top (the smallest piece) with black paint.
3. Let dry.
4. Spray snow in paper cup - dip tooth pick into snow mixture and place drops of snow inside the bottom portion of the clear bubble. **Note: You can not spray snow directly into bubble - it will not work!**
5. Hot glue ornament on the top of the lid.
6. Hot glue the lid inverted to the plastic bubble.
7. You may wish to glue ribbon around the bottom of the globe to add that extra touch!

### Easy Snowman Decoration

#### Materials:

2" Styrofoam ball (Note: or use 3 balls in incremental sizes)  
2 1/2" Styrofoam ball  
3" Styrofoam ball  
4 Toothpicks  
Mini black pom poms  
Orange chenille stem (regular or bumpy)  
Wire cutters  
Tacky glue  
Piece of ribbon or felt  
Butter knife

#### Instructions:

1. Take a butter knife and even off the bottom of the largest Styrofoam ball. This will allow the snowman to stand up.
2. Push a toothpick halfway into the top of the largest Styrofoam ball (make sure the flat bottom is on the table).
3. Push the medium-sized Styrofoam ball onto the toothpick.
4. Push a toothpick a little more than halfway into the top of the medium-sized Styrofoam ball. (Note: You don't want the toothpick sticking out the top of the head!)
5. Push the smallest Styrofoam ball on top of the toothpick. This is the head.
6. Cut a short piece of orange chenille stem off for the nose. (Parents please do this step)
7. Push the nose into the middle of the (front) of the smallest Styrofoam ball.
8. Glue on pom pom eyes, mouth, and buttons.
9. Cut a strip of felt or ribbon for the scarf. Glue where the scarf crosses both to the Styrofoam ball and to the other piece of scarf.
10. Stick 2 toothpicks in the middle-sized Styrofoam ball for the arms.
11. How fun! Your own non-melting snowman!

## Reindeer Placemat

### Materials:

Tan construction paper  
Black construction paper  
Red construction paper  
Scissors  
Pencil  
White Glue (like Elmer's)  
Con-Tact paper

### Instructions:

1. Trace the child's foot on tan paper. Cut out.
2. Trace both hands on black paper. Cut out.
3. Cut eyes and nose out of black paper. Cut out.
4. Glue all pieces on background of red paper.
5. Cover both sides with Con-Tact paper.
6. Trim edges with scissors, if needed.
7. You now have a Christmas placemat you can use year after year!

## Season Greetings Blocks

### Materials:

Wooden blocks (1")  
White craft paint  
Paint brush  
Paper  
Pen or pencil  
Alphabet stencil  
Small holiday stencils  
Paint pens or permanent markers  
Hot glue or wood glue

### Instructions:

1. Base coat blocks with white paint. Let dry. This may take 2-3 coats to cover blocks completely.
2. Write down the holidays that you wish to use on paper. Count the letters to find out how many blocks you will need for the longest holiday "name".
3. Using hot glue or wood glue, adhere the number of blocks required for the longest holiday "name". Let dry.
4. Using the stencils and paint pens or markers, add your holiday greetings to the blocks. Note: When your holiday name is shorter than the number of blocks that you have glued together, use holiday "decorations" to dress up the blank blocks.
5. Stack your blocks or put them side-by-side and rotate them as the holidays change.

## Nutcracker Decoration

### Materials:

Empty Pringles Potato Chip Can or Pillsbury Sugar Cookie 'Can'  
Felt  
Craft fur or cotton for hair, optional  
Tacky craft glue or low temp hot glue  
Rubber bands to help hold things in place  
Yarn, ribbons, braids, trims, feathers, buttons, fabric paint, etc., optional  
Thin cardboard to extend the hat beyond the top of the can, cereal boxes do well, optional

## Instructions:

### Project Research

Collect pictures of nutcrackers. You will find them in books, magazines, and so on. Look at all the different styles of nutcrackers. If possible, hang pictures of different nutcrackers around the room while working on the project. You can also read the story of Clara and her Nutcracker, and play the music from the ballet while making them.

#### Step 1 - Cover the Can

Cover the can with bands of felt for the shoes/boots, pants, jacket, face, and hat. If necessary, glue an extra tube of cardboard to the top of the can (overlap it an inch) if you want to make your nutcracker taller. Use rubber bands, if necessary, to hold the felt on while the glue is drying.

#### Step 2 - Add Details

If you are going to use fabric paint for some of the details, add it last, so that it won't get smudged.

Make a line down the center of the legs with yarn or a thin strip of felt.

Arms and hands can be made of rolled tubes of felt. If you are adding trim on the jacket, put the trim on before adding the arms.

Felt, craft fur, fiberfill or cotton can be used for the hair.

Cut a rectangle out of skin-tone felt for the nutcracker's mouth.

Braid, ribbons, or strips of felt can be used to decorate the nutcracker, along with buttons, feathers, beads, etc. Look at the pictures of nutcrackers for ideas as to where you can put trim - our illustration is a very simple one. Your imagination is the limit. How about 'nutcracker' boys, girls, kings, queens, or even a Santa?

## Tips

This project can also be done with paper towel rolls and construction paper, if necessary. Design the nutcracker from the feet up, and then cut off the excess paper towel roll from the top.

## Light-Up White Christmas Tree

### Materials:

FloraCraft's 'The Stak Tree'

**White** string of miniature Christmas **white/clear** tree lights (50 light count)

White garland

Gumdrops on a string (or other decorative string)

Miniature ornaments (flat sided ornaments are easy to glue on)

Star for the top of the tree (You may want to glue 2 stars together **ONLY** at the peak)

2" wide gathered lace

Cardboard

Clear strapping or packing tape

Scissors

Hot glue gun

Pen

Stuffing, if desired

### Instructions:

1. Remove the "tree" from the box.
2. Set aside the 2 top pieces from the tree IF your lights have a plug at both ends.
3. Set aside the square piece as well. You will not be using it.
4. Assemble your tree according to the directions on the box.
5. Take a strip of packing tape and double over (sticky side out). Place near the top of the tree.
6. Insert your 'beginning' string of lights (the plug) down inside the top of the tree.
7. Anchor the string of lights using the packing tape you have applied.

8. Adjust the string so the first light is at the top of the tree.
9. Begin winding the string of lights around the tree.
10. Use packing tape between every 4 lights or so to hold the string of lights in place. Add more tape as needed.
11. Use hot glue to adhere the white garland to the tree. Start at the top and wind around the tree to the base.
12. **Note: As you are attaching the garland to the tree, be sure to pull the lights up so they will be seen between the rows of garland.**
13. Use hot glue to adhere the gumdrops string to the tree. This only needs to be anchored occasionally and does not need very much glue.
14. Attach the ornaments around the tree using hot glue.
15. Draw a circle around the base of the tree onto the cardboard using the pen.
16. Cut out the cardboard circle.
17. Hot glue (watch your fingers!) the lace around the outside edge of the cardboard.
18. Optional: We stuffed the interior of the tree to give it more stability over the years.
19. Run hot glue around the top of the lace that is attached to the cardboard.
20. Sit the tree on top of the cardboard. Make sure it sits firmly and straight.
21. Add a star to the top of the tree over the top light.
22. Plug in and enjoy your beautiful tree!

### Tips

This tree does not have to be done in white. It could also be done in green. We just liked how it looked in white.

### Countdown to Christmas Chalkboard

#### Materials:

Small chalkboard with wooden frame around it

Piece of chalk

Thin, small ribbon (green or red are best)

Decorating: holiday stencils, paint, ribbons, bows, and whatever else you think would make it look good!

#### Instructions:

1. Take colored chalk or paint pen and draw a straight line about an inch from the top of the chalkboard. Then after that write "Days 'til Christmas"
2. Cut a piece of ribbon about a foot to a foot in a half long (long enough so it can be used to hang the chalkboard up). Then glue one end to each of the top sides of the board
3. Cut another piece of ribbon and glue it to the top right hand side. Tie a piece of chalk to other end
4. Now you may decorate it any way you want to make it look special.

### Coat Hanger Christmas Tree

#### Materials:

6 plastic (or wire) coat hangers

Christmas mini-lights (one string of 35 works great)

Garland, any color ( I like to use the 25 ft. length)

Tape ( I like to use electrical tape-it's cheap)

**Instructions:**

1. To begin select 2 hangers. Lay one hanger on the other with the hanging part (C-shape) pointing in down position.
2. Tape the two hangers together at one end. Make three sets of two hangers.
3. Put one set of hangers through the opening of first hanger, then put the other set through the two to form a cone (tree).
4. Tape all three together. Set up. It will stand up by itself.
5. Next wrap light on tree and secure with tape. Next wrap with garland.

**Christmas Floral Arrangement****Materials:**

Large basket (that sits flat)  
Styrofoam  
Knife (to cut Styrofoam)  
Pine branches  
Poinsettias, other large flowers  
Baby's breath, or other fillers  
Decorative wrapping paper, optional  
Fake moss, optional  
Ribbon for bow, optional  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Cut the Styrofoam to fit the basket. Note: The Styrofoam has to fit the basket tightly and you need to cut smaller pieces and wedge them in to the spaces around the original rectangle. That gives a tight solid base to stick the arrangement in.

Order of adding flowers:

Large filler (pine branches) that forms the base of the arrangement.

Large flowers (poinsettias here), small number carefully positioned.

Small filler comes last and fills in the gaps in the arrangement.

If any of the foam shows, you should cover it with fake moss or crepe paper or something.

Work from top down but lift it and look at it from different angles as you work to see the effect. Don't be afraid to take flowers out and move them around till you're happy with the effect. Pick the ones you want to use carefully at the beginning to get a good color and texture combination. Have fun doing it, it's great to do in a group as you can give each other advice and trade flowers.

Add decorative wrapping paper and tie with a bow if you desire.

**Tips**

This can be done in all sorts of sizes and combinations and you need to think about both big flowers and filler like the baby's breath. You probably need an artistic eye too!

**Christmas Arrangement****Materials:**

Empty tuna fish, salmon, or cat food can (clean and dry)  
Gold spray paint  
Floral foam  
Variety of Christmas picks in holly, baby's breath, poinsettias, etc.  
Star picks or other fun shapes  
Moss or shredded tissue paper  
Ribbon  
Glue

**Instructions:**

1. Spray paint can and let dry.
2. Place the floral foam inside the can.
3. Tie a ribbon around the can and tie in a bow.
4. Stick the various Christmas picks and other fun shaped picks in the floral foam until you have an arrangement that you like.
5. Tuck some moss (or shredded tissue paper) around the base of the flowers to hide the foam.
6. Makes a great table decoration for your table or to use as a gift.

**Candy Tree****Materials:**

Green chenille stem  
Chocolate candy (Reese's Cup, Dove mini bar, etc.)  
Pencil, optional  
Yellow construction paper, optional  
Scissors, optional  
Glue, optional

**Instructions:**

1. Wind the chenille stem around a pencil or your finger.
2. Bend one end down and press firmly into chocolate candy.
3. Position chenille stem to stand upright. Spread "branches" if desired.
4. Optional: Cut out a little star out of construction paper and glue to the top of the tree.

**Candy Cane Candle****Materials:**

1 small, round candle  
Candy canes (as many as you need to go around the candle) at the height of the candle  
Masking tape or Elmer's glue (suggest the glue)  
Red or green ribbon

**Instructions:**

1. If you are using masking tape, put the sticky side up around the candle. Make sure the ends are long enough so that they overlap each other. (The tape must be the width of the candle.)
2. Put the candy canes all around the candle. Glue them on if you are using glue, stick them on if you are using the masking tape.
3. Once you have finished that, tie the ribbon around the candle, and finish with a bow.
4. You are done!!

**Baby Food Jar Christmas Tree****Materials:**

33 (4 oz.) Baby food jars with lids  
2 strings of gold star wire garland (used to decorate packages)  
Strand of 35 miniature Christmas tree lights  
Gold or green spray paint  
Hot glue gun  
Hot glue (dries clear not white)  
Wire clippers  
Sturdy box cutter

**Instructions:**

Spray paint outside of baby food jar lids. Let dry.

Using the wire clippers, cut 33 pieces of the gold star garland in about a 7" length.

Wind each piece of garland in a circle to fit inside the jars. Place in the bottom of each jar.

Take each baby food jar lid and make a large "V" cut using the box knife.

**Note: Please be careful! The jar lids are now very sharp!**

Screw on all the lids onto the jars.

Place the first light on the string of lights through the cut in the lid of the top jar.

Place the remaining lights in the jars, weaving back and forth for the rows.

When you get to the last row of the tree (before the tree trunk), you will need to double up 2 lights in 2 jars in order to get the lights into the tree trunk.

Plug in your tree and enjoy the beautiful lights!

**Tips**

You may want to find a way to prop your tree on a table in front of an exterior window. It makes for a very beautiful display! Enjoy! Merry Christmas!

**Airplane Ornament****Materials:**

2 Tongue depressors or Popsicle sticks

Small Santa figure and/or small toys

3 Buttons or Bingo chips

1 Sunburst black bead

Silver or gold string

Tacky glue

Scissors

**Instructions:**

1. Use tacky glue to adhere all parts together.
2. Use tongue depressors and/or ice cream sticks to build a plane.
3. Add small Santa and/or toys as cargo.
4. Use buttons or bingo chips for wheels, and a black propeller bead for the propeller.
5. Use silver or gold string for hanger.

**Tips**

Tacky Glue is better for crafts than hot glue, which boys can easily get hurt using; it's thicker and tackier than Elmer's Glue and dries quickly.

**Airplane Ornament****Materials:**

1 stick of flat (Wrigley's) gum

1 package of Smarties candies

2 Life Savers

Rubber band

**Instructions:**

Place the gum (wings) perpendicular on the "Smarties" (plane body).

Use a rubber band to loop through one lifesaver (wheel) over the gum, through another lifesaver (wheel) and under the "Smarties."

## Angel Ornament

### Materials:

20" of 4" wide gathered lace  
10" of 1" wide gathered lace  
7/8" round wood bead or turning  
Craft hair  
1 square of white felt  
Paint - brown or blue for eyes, red for lips  
Craft wire  
Braided cord  
10" Fishing line or heavy duty clear thread  
Hot glue gun

### Instructions:

1. Gather 20" piece of 4" wide lace on wire and twist wire together for dress.
2. Hot glue wood bead on top of gathered lace.
3. Gather 10" piece of 1" wide lace on wire for collar, twist closed around base of head.
4. Make wings out of felt in shape of a butterfly. Trim with braided cord around edge.
5. Glue craft hair on the top of the bead.
6. Cut a piece of braided cord to fit top of head (as halo) and glue ends together. Glue on top of hair.
7. Knot piece of fishing line together. Lay on top of wings with the loop above the wings (to use an hanger).
8. Generously glue wings to the back of angel.
9. Paint eyes and mouth on wood bead for face.

## Bead Garland

### Materials:

An assortment of plastic beads  
Plastic cording  
Scissors  
Tacky glue

### Instructions:

1. Cut the plastic cording to the length desired for the garland.
2. String on the first bead.
3. Tie a knot around the first bead to keep the other beads from sliding off.
4. Place a few dots of glue on the knot to hold it.
5. String on as many beads as you want.
6. Knot the string around the last bead on the string.
7. Place a few dots of glue on the knot to hold it.
8. Let the glue dry.
9. Place the garland on your tree and enjoy!

### Tips

This is a great way to use up odds and ends of beads. All look great on the garland, so bring out a good variety of colors and styles.

## Holiday Placemats

### Materials:

Old Christmas cards  
Clear contact paper

**Instructions:**

Arrange cards onto place mat sized stiff paper, construction paper etc. cover with clear contact paper. These can be wiped cleaned easily and should last for many Christmases to come. A set for a favorite relative would also make a nice Christmas gift.

**Cinnamon Logs****Materials:**

Cinnamon sticks  
Ribbon  
Berries, bells and leaves to embellish.

**Instructions:**

Glue three (short) cinnamon sticks into a stack (so that they look like a stack of logs). Tie a ribbon around the stack and tie a bow on top. Embellish with berries, leaves and whatever you desire. Attach a thread for hanging, or use as parcel fancies. These look cute using ribbon and attaching little jingle bells to the bow.

**Quick Ornaments****Materials:**

Frozen juice lids  
Ribbon  
Old magazines  
Glue

**Instructions:**

We use frozen juice, and save the metal tops. Then the kids cut pictures out of magazines to paste to the tops. A quick hole made by a drill gives a place for a ribbon, and we have Christmas ornaments.

**Paper Plate Wreath****Materials:**

Paper plates  
Construction paper  
Glue

**Instructions:**

This one is quick and easy. Cut a circle out of the centre of a paper plate. Decorate the outer circle with cut out holly leaves from green construction paper. Add small circles of red construction paper for berries. Hang by a string.

**Napkin Rings****Materials:**

Paper towel tubes  
Old Christmas cards  
Ribbon  
Felt  
Sequins  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Cut paper towel tube into widths to match the width of Christmas ribbon. Wrap ribbon (or felt) around tube and glue in place. Add smaller ribbon trim (strung sequins or ¼" solid ribbon) to outside edges, or a Christmas card cutout to center of felt.

## Personalized Christmas Cards

### Materials:

Christmas cards and envelopes  
Rubber stamps  
Stamp pad

### Instructions:

Personalizing Christmas cards is a great family project. With stamps, kids and parents can make individual cards for everyone on their card list and use the same stamps to match the envelope to the card and make their greetings stand-out from the rest of the mail in the box.

## Clothespin Reindeer

### Materials:

Clothespins  
Glue  
Wiggly eyes  
Small pompoms  
Ribbon

### Instructions:

Use three clothespin pieces: two pointing down (4 legs); the third pointing up (ears). Add "eyes", a small red pompom nose, a ribbon on the neck, and a pompom tail.

## Birdseed Hearts

### Materials:

Package of ready-to-bake breadsticks  
Egg  
Birdseed

### Instructions:

Get a package of ready-to-bake breadsticks at the supermarket. Open the package and separate the breadsticks, form them into the shape of hearts and pinch the ends to seal. Brush lightly beaten egg or egg white over the surface and sprinkle on birdseed. Bake as directed on package. When cool, tie a festive ribbon around them and hang them from the trees outside.

## Angel Clothespin

### Materials:

1 Small Baby Clothes Pin (available from most craft supply stores)  
2 Medium Tear Drop wooden shapes OR 1 medium heart shaped wood  
1 Yellow circle about the size of a penny  
1 pipe cleaner 2 ½ inches long  
1 pipe cleaner 1 inch long  
3 small pieces of lace cut into triangular shapes

### Instructions:

1. Draw two eyes and a mouth on the top of the clothespin.
2. Bend the tips of the pipe cleaner into small hands (a pair of flat tweezers is good for this).
3. Wrap the pipe cleaner around the body of the pin just above the legs (the pins I'm using have a natural spot for this)
4. Glue the pipe cleaner to the clothespin.

5. If you use teardrops, position the tear drops so that they form wings by placing the two points together and glue them. Skip this step if you are using hearts
6. Take the yellow circle and glue it to the back of the clothes pin at the top to form a halo
7. Now glue the clothespin to the teardrop shapes or the heart so that they form wings.
8. Once the glue has dried, take the lace pieces and glue them to the legs to form a three layer skirt
9. Take the 1-inch pipe cleaner and form a small circle at one end. Glue this to the back to form a hanger.

### **Christmas Wreath**

#### **Materials:**

Green construction paper  
Felt pen or pencil to trace hands  
Glue  
Glitter  
Sequins  
Ribbons  
Other decorations for finishing

#### **Instructions:**

Trace child's open hand onto paper. (8-10 tracings for a small child) Cut out tracings. Glue tracings together at wrists with fingers pointed out. Decorate with glitter, sequins, ribbons. Write your name, age, and date made on back.

### **Christmas Place Mats**

#### **Materials:**

Scrap material (you sew together) to the size of a place mat  
Permanent magic markers  
Fabric paint  
Paint brushes  
Fabric glue  
Fabric to cut out  
Scissors  
Christmas shapes - could be cookie cutters - to trace  
Glitter, sequins, rickrack etc.

#### **Instructions:**

Use sturdy scrap material sewn double, preferably a solid color. Provide each child with the materials above and let them go to it.

### **Tooth Pick Ornament**

#### **Materials:**

1 box of rounded tooth picks  
Scissors  
Pencil  
White glue  
Old Christmas cards  
1 sheet of cardboard  
Spool of thread

**Instructions:**

1. Cut out a square of cardboard 2 1/4" x 2 1/4" - this will be your stencil pick out a favorite Christmas Card and position your stencil over the area you want to cut out.
2. Trace around the stencil cut out on the lines put a small amount of glue around the edges of the cutout Christmas card begin placing toothpicks by 3's or 2's, first on one edge then the next until all 4 sides make a frame. Place a "roof" at the top of the frame.  
Allow the glue to dry when glue is dry take a length of thread, double it and tie it to the top of the roof.
3. Make the loop long enough to fit on the branch of a Christmas tree.

**Candy Wreath****Materials:**

1 coat hanger  
30 pieces of assorted, wrapped hard candies, suckers, etc.  
30 pieces of colorful curling ribbon, cut into 8" pieces  
Wire cutters  
Pliers to bend the hanger  
Masking tape  
A dull pair of scissors to curl the ribbon  
Adult Supervision

**Instructions:**

1. Unbend the hanger and cut it in half (this will be enough for 2 kids). Bend the 1/2 hanger into a circle leaving about 4" at the top to make a hook. Twist the end to make it look like a circle with a hook on it.
2. Cut your curling ribbon into 8" pieces. Fold your ribbon in half. In the middle of that ribbon tie one piece of candy. Tie it on the end of the candy where the paper twists. Now tie the candy with 2 knots tightly on to the hanger. Tie the candy right next to the wire to help cover it up. Use the scissors to curl the ribbon on each end. Repeat the process for all your candy pieces.
3. It might take a few more or less than 30 depending on the size of each candy. Suckers should be tied close to the head. You may add a ribbon on the top to cover the hook if you want. **Tip:** Tie on a pair of small scissors so people can eat the candy when they visit.

**Jeweled Ornament****Materials:**

3" Frosted ball  
Ornament jewels (one side flat) of different sizes and shapes  
Tacky glue

**Instructions:**

Apply glue to the back of the jewels and apply to the ornament. You may need to hold in place for a minute or two depending on the type of glue used. Let dry. NOTE: You can use sparkle glue or glitter fabric paint to attach the jewels. Use lots of glue to make sure the jewels will stay put.

**Popcorn Wreaths****Materials:**

Cardboard wreaths  
Plastic knives  
Peanut butter  
Birdseed  
Popcorn

**Instructions:**

Cut wreath shapes out of cardboard. Give each child a wreath and a plastic knife. Let children spread peanut butter over wreath. Pour birdseed over peanut-covered wreath. Use spots of peanut butter to "glue" pieces of popcorn onto the wreath in a bow shape. Hang the wreaths outside where children can see them. Birds will love it!!

**Puzzle Tree Ornament****Materials:**

15 Old Jigsaw Puzzle Pieces  
Green Paint  
Misc bits of glitter, beads etc  
Ribbon  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Paint all the puzzle pieces green. For variety, you can use a few different shades of green! Let the puzzle pieces dry completely. Once all your pieces are dry, you are going to glue them together to form a triangle shape. Experiment with overlapping different pieces to get the special look you want. Once your tree is formed, cut a six inch length of ribbon, tie it into a circle and glue the tied section to the back of the top of your puzzle tree.

Use miscellaneous supplies to decorate your tree so it looks like a miniature Christmas tree. Bits of rickrack, glitter, beads, small buttons, etc.

**Reindeer Bell Ornament****Materials:**

3/4 or 1 Inch Brass Round Bell  
1/8 or 1/4 Inch Red Pompom  
1 Brown Chenille Stem  
1 Small Red Bow  
Gold Cord (8 Inches Long)  
2 - 1/8" Wiggle Eyes

**Instructions:**

Cut the brown chenille stem into 3 pieces. Take one chenille stem piece, twist another piece about 1" from the end then slip it through the loop on the bell, bending it upward and give it a twist (just once). Do the same to the other end with the last piece of chenille stem. These are the antlers.

Next, using hot glue, attach the eyes and the pompom nose to the front. Put the cord through the loop on the bell, knotting the end for the hanger. Glue the bow on at the base of the antlers and you're done. This is a very quick and easy project, which does require a hot glue gun, therefore Adult Supervision is needed.

**Santa Lollipops****Materials:**

Lollipop (the kind wrapped in plastic)  
White and red paper  
Hole punch  
Glue  
Red pompon  
Wiggly eyes

Cotton balls  
Thread and tape

**Instructions:**

First, turn your lollipop upside down, then decorate one side of it as Santa's face. Here, we glued on a white paper beard (with a punched hole for Santa's mouth), a red pompon nose and two wiggly eyes.

To make the hat, cut a red paper semicircle, roll it up, and tape it to form a cone (you may need to experiment to get the right size). Glue cotton ball trim around the hat's bottom.

Tape a loop of thread to the lollipop stick, then pull the thread through the top of the hat so that it sits on Santa's head. Add a bit of cotton for a pompon.

**Paper Angels**

**Materials:**

1" diameter wooden ball or bead  
Fleshtone acrylic paint  
Paintbrush  
12" Chenille stem  
11" length of paper twist  
4" length of metallic foil paper twist  
3" length of mini star garland or lightweight gold wire  
Spanish moss or excelsior  
Spring clamp clothespin  
Low temp glue gun and glue sticks or tacky glue

**Instructions:**

1. Paint ball of bead fleshtone and allow to dry. Open out both lengths of paper twist. Cut wing shape from the metallic paper twist.
2. Fold the 11" length of paper twist in half, matching the short ends. With the fold at the bottom, fold each short top end out to form the collar. Lift the folded collar up and hand gather the paper twist just beneath the folds. Secure the gathers using a piece of chenille stem or wire, then fold the collar back down in front and back.
3. Glue the wooden ball or bead to the top of the collar for the head. Glue bits of Spanish moss or excelsior to head for hair. Twist the piece of star garland or wire into a halo and glue on top of hair. Gather the wings in the center and secure with chenille stem or wire. Glue wings onto the back of the angel, then glue the clothespin vertically with the mouth end down onto back of angel and wings. This allows the angel to be pinned onto a package ribbon, tree branch, garland or wreath.

**Bakers' Clay Christmas Ornament**

**Materials:**

1/3 cup water  
1/2 cup salt  
1 cup flour  
a baking sheet  
tin foil  
a sharpened pencil  
acrylic paints  
paintbrushes  
shellac or varnish  
yarn or ribbon  
newspaper

**Instructions:**

Spread newspaper out on your work area. Mix the salt, water, and flour in a bowl with your hands to form the clay. Take bits of the clay and make different shapes. Place each shape on a baking sheet covered with foil. Make a hole at the top of each shape with the point of the pencil before baking.

Set the oven at 275 degrees F and bake for one hour until brown. Let the shapes cool and then paint them. When the paint is dry, coat the shapes with shellac or varnish. When the ornaments are dry string the ornaments with yarn or ribbon and hang on your Christmas tree.

### Easy Christmas Tree Decorations

**Materials:**

1 White bread loaf  
Cookie cutters  
Straws  
Paintbrushes  
Paints  
Glue  
Gold string  
Glitter  
Sequins, beads, etc.

**Instructions:**

1. Use a cookie cutter to cut shapes into white bread. Use the end of a straw to make a hole near the top of the shape. Leave shapes to harden overnight.
2. Paint in bright colors using either poster paints or powder paints with a little household glue added. 3. Leave ornaments to dry. After ornaments have dried, turn them over and paint the other side. When dry, add beads, glitter, etc. Loop gold string through hole. Hang on Christmas tree.

### Christmas Angels

**Materials:**

Brown paper lunch bag (5-1/4 x 3-1/8 x 10-3/4 inches)  
Piece of cardboard cut to fit base of bag  
Shredded newspaper to fill bag  
3/4" full Elastic band  
Small paper doily (about 3-1/2 inches)  
Spanish moss  
1 yard of 1-1/4" to 1-1/2" wide paper ribbon, any color  
1 yard of 2-1/2" to 2-3/4" wide paper ribbon, any color  
3-inch diameter Styrofoam ball  
Piece of flesh-colored nylon stocking  
Needle and thread  
1/8" beads for eyes  
1-1/2" gold foil bow or 9" of gold 1/4" ribbon  
Hot glue gun and glue sticks  
Scissors  
Adult Supervision

**Instructions:**

Put cardboard inside bag as a base. Fill the bag 3/4 full with shredded newspaper. Close bag and tie with elastic band, leaving about 2-1/2 inches of bag at top to make the angel's collar. Fold top of bag outwards and downward all around to shape the collar.

Center the doily on top of the collar and glue in place. Cut a square from the nylon stocking large enough to fit over the Styrofoam ball. Pull the stocking tight, gather the excess and stitch through the gathers to secure. Cut off excess stocking. Glue this head to the centre of the doily, with gathers at the back of the head.

Take a handful of Spanish moss and fit around face and back of head to form the hair. Glue into place. Fill in any bare spots with more Spanish moss. Twist an 18-inch length of narrower paper ribbon and form into a halo, knotting the ends together. Trim ends at an angle and glue halo to top of angel's head, with the knot at the back.

Make angel wings by tying a bow from the wider paper ribbon. Flatten wings slightly, centre and glue to angel's back. Glue a band of narrower ribbon around the base of the bag, with the ends in the back. Glue flat beads to front of angel's face for eyes, or push round beads into the Styrofoam and glue in place. Glue foil bow or bow tied from gold ribbon to the left side of the collar.

### Cinnamon Ornaments

#### Materials:

1 cup Cinnamon  
1 tb Cloves  
1 tb Nutmeg  
3/4 c Applesauce  
2 tb White glue  
1 Drinking straw  
Ribbon

#### Instructions:

In medium bowl, stir dry ingredients to combine. Add applesauce & glue. Work mixture with hands for 2 to 3 min or until dough is smooth and ingredients are mixed. Divide into 4 portions. Roll out each to 1/4in thickness.

Cut dough with cookie cutters or into desired shapes. Using straw, make a small hole in top of each ornament. Dry on racks for several days turning over once a day. {you could use a dehydrator} Insert ribbon through hole tie with a knot or bow. **DO NOT EAT!**

### Holiday Candles

#### Materials:

Large saucepan  
Metal canning jar lid rim  
Coffee can  
Paraffin wax  
Crayons  
Paint stirrer  
Candlesticks (one for each jar)  
Thick wide mouth glass jars  
Metal tongs  
Plastic beads  
Tacky glue

#### Instructions:

Step 1:

Set up a double boiler to melt the paraffin. Fill the bottom of the saucepan with 4 to 5 inches of water and drop in the canning jar lid rim. Then pack chunks of paraffin into the coffee can, setting it on the jar rim so that it doesn't directly touch the bottom of the pot.

Step 2:

Melt the wax over medium-high heat, carefully adding more chunks until the can is about two-thirds filled. To color the melted wax, break half of a peeled crayon into pieces. Add them to the wax and slowly mix with a paint stirrer, then turn off the heat and let the paraffin cool for about 10 minutes (this will help minimize shrinkage when the wax hardens).

Step 3:

Using a sharp knife, cut the candlesticks 1/2 inch shorter than the jar heights (adults only). Now, heat the jars by running warm water on the outsides but not the insides (this will help prevent cracking when you pour in the hot wax).

Step 4:

With metal tongs, dip the bottom of each candlestick into the melted wax and stick it to the inner jar bottom. When the candlestick ends have hardened enough to hold, carefully pour enough wax into the jars to cover the candlestick tops but not the wicks.

Step 5:

Once the candles cool completely, your kids can glue beads to the outside of the jar, arranging them in a border around the rim, perhaps, or creating a multicolor pattern all the way around.

### Miniature Christmas Tree

#### Materials:

Styrofoam cone  
Miniature ornaments  
Cotton balls  
Glue

#### Instructions:

Take a Styrofoam cone about 10 inches tall and glue cotton balls all over. Then glue on miniature glass ball ornaments.

### Ribbon Ornament

#### Materials:

Newspaper  
9-inch round helium-quality balloon  
2 plastic cups or yogurt containers  
Scissors  
3 to 3 1/2 yards of 1/4- to 5/8-inch-wide satin or similar-weight ribbon (no curling or sheer ribbon)  
Measuring cup, water  
White glue, such as Elmer's (regular, not washable)  
Craft stick or paint stirrer  
String or yarn

#### Instructions:

Step 1:

Have your crafter cover her work area with newspaper, then inflate a balloon to 3 or 4 inches in diameter, tie it closed, and set the balloon on an upright cup or yogurt container.

Step 2:

Help your child cut 8 to 10 ribbons (the wider the ribbon, the fewer she'll need), each one long enough to wrap completely around the balloon with 1 inch of overlap.

Step 3:

In the second plastic cup or container, use the craft stick to mix together 1/2 cup of glue with 1/4 cup of water. Help your child dip the ribbons, one at a time, into the glue mixture, squeezing any excess back into the cup. Starting at the top, she should snugly wrap each ribbon completely around the balloon, avoiding the balloon's knot and smoothing out any wrinkles. Have her wrap the last ribbon around the middle of the balloon, equator style.

Step 4:

Set the ornament on the container and allow it to dry completely, turning it every 1 to 2 hours. When it has dried, help your elf carefully poke at the balloon with a pencil eraser to separate it from the ribbons, then pop the balloon with a pin and remove it. Tie a piece of string or yarn to the top of the ornament for a hanger. To add a bow, thread a length of ribbon through the bottom of the ornament. Tie the ribbon into a bow, dip it into the glue mixture, and hang the ornament over newspaper to dry.

### Cone Ornament

**Materials:**

Paper  
Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Take a fan-shaped piece of paper, and fasten with tape down one side to make a cone (experiment to get the fan the right shape). Then take a piece of ribbon/thread/strip of paper, and use to make a loop for hanging on the tree. The cone will take a couple of small sweeties, or bubble baths, or other small gifts.

### Peppermint Tree

**Materials:**

Double-sided foam tape  
9- by 4-inch Styrofoam cones (sold in most craft stores)  
Three 10-ounce bags of individually wrapped green striped mints  
Small bag of individually wrapped multicolored sour balls or jawbreakers  
Yellow paper  
Yellow lollipop  
Decorative candle stand

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

Apply strips of double-sided foam tape to the Styrofoam cone, as shown at left, until virtually the entire surface is covered.

Step 2:

Now your child can attach the wrapped mints to the exposed tape, starting with one row around the bottom and working his way up. For the best coverage and color, he should stick each mint to the tree by the rounded edge rather than with the flat surface facing out. Encourage him to mix in a few multicolored sourball or jawbreaker lights as he goes.

Step 3:

For a tree topper, cut a star out of the yellow paper, tape the lollipop to it, and then push the lollipop stick straight down into the cone. Finally, set the tree on the decorative candle stand.

## Box Corner Christmas Tree

### Materials:

Green construction paper  
Large wiggly eyes  
Glue  
Red marker  
Scissors  
Pencil  
4 12-in green glitter stems  
Large cereal box  
Large red pompom  
Sequins  
Cellophane tape  
Christmas card with written greeting inside

### Instructions:

1. Cut the corner from the bottom of the cereal box so that the side of the box is the same length as the bottom of the box. The open side will produce a triangle and will be the bottom of the tree.
2. Use a pencil to trace around one side of the tree on the green paper. Cut around the tracing, leaving an extra inch of paper on each long side. Cut a second piece of paper of the same size to cover the other side of the triangle tree.
3. Cover the entire outside edge of the triangle tree with glue. Glue green paper over each side, folding the extra paper down over the sides of the box. Trim away the extra paper.
4. Glue a triangle of green paper to the front and back of the tree.
5. Glue the wiggly eyes to one side of the tree. Glue a pompom nose below the eyes. Use a red marker to draw a smile under the nose. Glue sequins all over the front of the tree to decorate it.
6. Poke a hole in each side of the tree and put an end of a sparkle stem through each hole to make arms. Secure the ends of the stems inside the box with cellophane tape.
7. Cut a greeting from the inside of a Christmas card and tape the ends of the two arms together behind the greeting to look like the tree is holding the greeting.
8. Tape two ends of the two stems inside the bottom of the triangle tree. Bend the two stems out to form legs. Bend the stems in the middle to form knees, then forward at the ends to shape feet to look like it is sitting.

## Magic Reindeer Food

Help Santa find his way to your house! On Christmas Eve, make sure you leave out some magical reindeer food for the reindeer. That way you can be sure they will stop at your house.

### Materials:

1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 cup instant oatmeal  
2 tbsp of glitter

**Instructions:**

Sprinkle this mixture on your lawn. The reindeer will smell the oatmeal and stop at your house!

**Gift Pin****Materials:**

Corrugated cardboard  
Tacky glue  
Gift wrap and tape  
Thin curling ribbon  
Mini bows  
Adhesive pinbacks

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

For each pin, cut out three small rectangular or square pieces of corrugated cardboard and glue them together in a stack (about 1 1/2 inches square).

Step 2:

Gift-wrap the stack, then decorate it with ribbon and a bow.

Step 3:

Stick the pinback to the underside of the package, and the pin is ready to wear.

**Christmas Magnet****Materials:**

Used Christmas Cards  
Magazines  
Small Magnet  
Glue  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

Take used Christmas cards or pictures from magazines and glue onto an index card. Write a poem or something like, Merry Christmas, below picture and glue magnet on back. Keep on fridge.

**Bead Wreath****Materials:**

16- to 20-gauge silver-colored craft wire  
Wire cutters  
Translucent plastic beads (with center holes large enough to thread the wire through)  
Ribbon  
Fishing line or monofilament

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

Cut the wire to a length that will form a loop the size of the wreath you plan to make plus 6 inches (16-gauge wire works best for larger wreaths).

Step 2:

Curl one end to keep the beads from sliding off, then thread on the beads from the opposite end.

Step 3:

Twist the wire ends together to close the circle and wrap the loose ends around the wire between the beads.

Step 4:

Tie on a ribbon and a loop of fishing line or monofilament for a hanger.

### Jingle Bell Gloves

**Materials:**

Children's Glove  
5 Little Jingle Bells

**Instructions:**

Take an old or new children's glove, the stretchy kind is best, then you sew a jingle bell to the end of each finger. You can get the jingle bells in different sizes or you can do them all the same size.

### Wired Star

**Materials:**

3-foot length of 18-gauge gold-colored craft wire  
Pencil  
Star-shaped cookie cutter  
Wire cutters  
20-to 24-gauge colored lightweight wire  
Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

To make an ornament like the one here, wrap one end of a 3-foot length of 18-gauge gold-colored craft wire around a pencil to form a hanging loop. With the loop at the top of a star cookie cutter, press the wire twice around the perimeter of the cookie cutter to form a star shape, twisting it around the hanging loop and using wire cutters (a parent's job) to snip off any excess. Remove the cutter.

Step 2:

Now your child can complete the ornament by wrapping the wire outline with lengths of 20-to 24-gauge colored lightweight wire, securing the ends in place by wrapping them around the cookie cutter outline.

Step 3:

Finally, tie a hanging ribbon to the loop, and your ornament is ready for display.

### Postage Stamp

**Materials:**

Family photo  
Copy service  
8 1/2 by 11-inch sheet of card stock  
Decorative scissors  
Tacky glue  
Acetate  
Scissors  
Hole puncher  
Eyelet setter and eyelets

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

Take a family photo to a copy shop to have it shrunk to 1 1/4 by 2 inches and copied seven to a page.

Step 2:

Cut an 8 1/2 by 11-inch sheet of card stock in half, then fold each piece in half to make two cards.

Step 3:

Cut out each picture with decorative scissors for a postage-stamp effect, tacky-glue it to a piece of card stock cut to fit, then glue the picture to the front of the card.

Step 4:

Cut a piece of acetate to fit, cut holes through the acetate and the card with an "anywhere" hole puncher, and secure the eyelets to the card with an eyelet setter.

**Snowman Ornament****Materials:**

1 Blue ornament ball (preferably plastic - red or green work too)

White acrylic paint

Black Sharpie marker or paint pen

**Instructions:**

Paint child's hand with white paint. Place ornament in palm of hand and have child hold the ornament like a baseball, so all parts of palm/fingers are on the ornament. Let dry. Add snowman features to each fingerprint, i.e., hat on tip of finger, eyes, nose, mouth, buttons, on finger. Looking from the side view you see the snowman. Looking from the bottom you can see the handprint. Include the following poem:

*These aren't just 5 snowmen,  
As anyone can see.  
I made them with my hand,  
Which is a part of me.  
Now each year when you trim your tree,  
You'll look back and recall  
Christmas of 20\_\_\_\_.  
When my hand was just this small!*

**Pretzel Wreath****Materials:**

Little Pretzels

Glue

Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Glue pretzels together so they form a circle -like a wreath. Glue a second layer on top of that making sure the pretzels on this layer meet in the center of a pretzel on the bottom layer. Hang with a ribbon.

**Gift Wrapped Kids****Materials:**

Camera and color print film

Gift-wrapped boxes

Copy services

Rubber cement

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

Have your child decorate big boxes with shiny gift-wrap. Pose them for an outdoor photo and order 100 prints.

Step 2:

Have your child create doodles for the border of the card, which you then glue to a master template.

Step 3:

Make copies of the card template at a print shop, then glue the pictures to the cards using rubber cement.

**Tips:**

Glue the photo to your template before copying. Your card won't look quite as elegant, but you won't have to glue copies of the photo to each card.

**Christmas Puppets****Materials:**

Little Paper Bags

Glue

Crayons

Construction Paper

Miscellaneous craft items - such as fabric scraps, beads, etc.

**Instructions:**

Get creative and make all sorts of Christmas characters. Make Santa Claus; make eyes, ears, and then use cotton balls or felt for the hair and beard. Don't forget the hat and red nose - like a cherry. You can also make Rudolph, Mrs. Claus, elves, etc.

**Candy Cane Reindeer****Materials:**

Candy Cane

Glue

Brown Pipe Cleaners

Small Wiggle eyes

Small Red Pompom

Thin Ribbon - optional

Small Bell - optional

**Instructions:**

Bring pipe cleaner under curve -neck- of candy cane and then twist to tighten into a V shape. Bend into a Z shape to look like antlers. Glue on two small wiggle eyes and the small pompom for a nose. String the bell through the ribbon and attach it to the candy cane. You may need to use a hot glue gun - with adult help.

**Lollipop Mice****Materials:**

Red construction paper

Pink construction paper

Scissors

Glue

Marker

Lollipops

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

Cut a heart shape from red construction paper (it should measure about five inches at the widest point).

Step 2:

Fold the heart in half to form the mouse's body, then glue together the edges from the tip of the nose to the top of the back, but leave the tail end open.

Step 3:

For ears, cut out a pair of small pink paper hearts, fold them in half, and then glue them onto the body. Draw on eyes with a colored marker.

Step 4:

Lastly, tuck a lollipop into the body, so that the stick becomes the mouse's tail.

**Shredded Wheat Wreath****Materials:**

Cool Whip Type Lids  
Shredded Wheat  
Glue  
Green Food Color  
Red Hots

**Instructions:**

Crumble up shredded wheat and mix with enough glue and green food coloring to coat. Put it onto the cool whip lid and shape it to look like a wreath. Press in the red hots for the berries and let dry overnight.

**Simple Wreath****Materials:**

Paper Plate or Cereal Box, etc.  
Glue  
Crayons  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - such as fabric scraps, beads, etc.

**Instructions:**

If you are using cardboard, cut it into a circle about the size of a paper plate. Cut the center out of the paper plate or cardboard to make a wreath shape. Use various craft supplies to decorate.

**Reindeer Magnet****Materials:**

Small Dog Biscuit  
Hot Glue - adults only  
Small wiggle eyes  
Small Red Pompom  
Brown Chenille - cut into 2 - 2-3 inch strips  
Magnet Strip

**Instructions:**

Work on the dog biscuit vertically. Hot glue the red pompom onto the bottom -where the dog biscuit indents- for the nose. Hot glue the wiggle eyes into the middle of the biscuit. Bend the chenille into antlers and hot glue them to the top, back of the biscuit. Glue the magnet onto the back.

## Christmas Card Holder

### Materials:

Gallon Milk Jug  
Brown Paper - can use paper grocery bags  
Glue  
Crayons  
Large Red Pompom - optional

### Instructions:

Take the gallon milk jug and cut off the top section, just below the handle. Cover with brown paper. Trace the child's hand on another piece of brown paper, cut them out, and glue on as antlers. Draw eyes and mouth, and attach the big red pompom for the nose.

## Christmas Reindeer Craft

### Materials:

Large Craft Stick - or Popsicle stick  
Pipe Cleaner  
Glue or Hot Glue Gun  
Markers  
Wiggle Eyes  
Small Red Pompom  
Thin Red Ribbon or a Magnetic Strip

### Instructions:

Make a reindeer by shaping the pipe cleaner into a V shape and gluing it to the top, back of the stick; glue on wiggle eyes and nose, and draw a mouth. You can make this a gift tag by writing To: and From: on it; you can use the ribbon and make it an ornament; or you can make it a magnet.

## Christmas Trees

### Materials:

Green Construction Paper  
Glue  
Red Paint  
Miscellaneous Collage Materials

### Instructions:

Cut out Christmas tree shapes. Decorate the Christmas tree: you can dip a finger in red paint and make fingerprint ornaments, you can use various collage materials, such as glitter, buttons, fabric scraps, to decorate as desired. You can also make wreaths.

## Pasta Christmas Wreaths

### Materials:

Small Paper Plates  
A Variety of Different Shaped Pasta  
Craft Glue  
Silver or Gold Spray Paint  
Tinsel Bow

### Instructions:

Cut center out of the paper plate. Glue pasta noodles around the outer ring. Try to completely cover the paper plate. Let glue dry and then spray paint the desired color. Embellish with a bow of tinsel.

## Egg Carton Tree

### Materials:

Two Egg Cartons  
Large Piece of Paper  
Glue  
Paint  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - such as fabric scraps, beads, etc.

### Instructions:

Cup the egg cartons so you have one row of 6 cups, one row of 5 cups, and so on to 1 cup. Paint the outside of the egg cup green. When the paint is dry, glue them on a large sheet of paper as follows: Glue the 6 cup row on the bottom of the paper, just above that glue the 5 cup row, and so on until you have used all the cups. It should look like a triangle when you are done. Decorate with misc. craft items.

## Away In A Manger

### Materials:

Paper plate  
Wet wipes  
Glue  
Pretzel sticks  
Spanish moss  
Circus peanuts

### Instructions:

Have children take two pretzel sticks and glue them to the paper plate to make an "X" for the legs of the manger. Have the children glue Spanish moss above the pretzel sticks to represent the hay. Have the children glue a Circus peanut so that it lies on the hay to represent the baby Jesus lying in the manger.

## Baby Jar Christmas Tree

### Materials:

12 baby food jars  
Hot glue gun  
Short string of Christmas lights (multi colored)  
Metal punch

### Instructions:

1. Hot glue 10 of the jars into the shape of a pyramid, have the opened side in the back so that the bottoms of the jars are in the front. Glue sides that touch. Use the 2 remaining jars, with lids on, glue the lids to the bottom of the row of 4 lids to make the tree trunk.
2. Punch holes in the center of the lids of the jars in the top 10 jars, put Christmas lights through the back of the jar.
3. For more colors and brightness, punch several holes in the lids, put more than one color of light into each baby jar.

## Styrofoam Ball Ornament

### Materials:

Styrofoam Ball - about 2-1/2 inches  
Glue  
Paper Clips  
Paint  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - glitter, jewels, ribbons, etc.

**Instructions:**

Put some glue on one end of a paper clip and push it into the ball, this will be the hanger. Paint and decorate as desired.

**Triangle Reindeer****Materials:**

Popsicle Sticks  
Wiggly eyes  
Glue  
Red Pompom

**Instructions:**

Put 3 popsicle sticks together to make a triangle. With the point facing down, the top stick should be placed lower to make antlers, glue together. Glue red pompom on the point for a nose, and glue the eyes on the sticks about half way up from the point.

**Glue Ornaments****Materials:**

Glue  
Glitter  
Paper  
Wax Paper  
Tape

**Instructions:**

Draw a Christmas shape -such as a bell- onto the paper; tape the paper onto the table. Lay wax paper over the design, and tape it to the table. Trace design with glue, you will want it to be kind of thick. Sprinkle glitter over glue. Allow to dry over night and then peel off of wax paper.

**Pipe Cleaner Ornaments****Materials:**

Pipe Cleaners  
Tri-cornered beads  
Ribbon - optional

**Instructions:**

Thread the beads onto a pipe cleaner so they nest together. You can bend to shape a candy cane, a wreath or a star. You can also punch holes in ribbon and weave it onto the pipe cleaner, between each bead.

**CD Wreath****Materials:**

An old, scratched, bad or AOL CD  
Mylar confetti (most stationary stores carry this) or holographic stickers  
"Reflective" Mylar ribbon  
White glue  
Glitter  
Velcro with self adhesive on the back

**Instructions:**

Glue star, tree or whatever shape Mylar confetti you want to the "shiny" backside of the CD. Swirl patterns and dots of white glue and sprinkle with glitter. Tie a bow out of reflective Mylar ribbon and glue to the CD. Use a piece of self adhesive Velcro to attach the CD Christmas wreath to a computer, door, or where ever!

**Borax Snowflake****Materials:**

String  
wide mouth pint jar  
white pipe cleaners  
blue food coloring (optional)  
boiling water (with adult help)  
borax (available at grocery stores in the laundry soap section, such as 20 Mule Team Borax Laundry Booster - NOT Boraxo soap)  
pencil

**Instructions:**

1. With a little kitchen science you can create long lasting snowflakes as sparkly as the real ones. Cut a white pipe cleaner into 3 equal sections. Twist the sections together in the center so that you have a "six-sided" star shape.
2. If your points are not even, trim the pipe-cleaner sections to the same length. Now attach string along the outer edges to form a snowflake pattern. Attach a piece of string to the top of one of the pipe cleaners and tie the other end to a pencil (this is to hang it from). Fill a wide-mouth jar with boiling water. Mix borax into the water one tablespoon at a time. Use 3 tablespoons of borax per cup of water. Stir until dissolved, (don't worry if there is powder settling on the bottom of the jar). If you want you can add a little blue food coloring now to give the snowflake a bluish hue. Insert your pipe cleaner snowflake into the jar so that the pencil is resting on the lip of the jar and the snowflake is freely suspended in the borax solution. Wait overnight and by morning the snowflake will be covered with shiny crystals. Hang in a window as a sun-catcher or use as a wintertime decoration.

**Christmas Necklace****Materials:**

Cling Wrap  
Christmas Candy - about the size of a quarter  
Curling Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Cut 2-3 feet of cling wrap and lay flat on table. Starting on one end, place candy in the center of the cling wrap. Do this the whole length of the cling wrap, leaving 2-3 inches between each candy. Fold the cling wrap over a few times -the long way- to seal the candy. Tie a piece of curling ribbon around the cling wrap in between each piece of candy. Tie the ends together to make a necklace.

**Days Till Christmas Bell****Materials:**

Paper Bowl  
Paint  
Construction Paper  
Glue  
Pipe Cleaner  
Miscellaneous Craft Supplies – optional

**Instructions:**

Turn the bowl upside down and paint, allow it to dry. Cut striped of paper to make a paper chain for however many days there are left until Christmas; reserve on strip to attach chain to the bowl. Place dried bowl upside down on the table and poke a small hole in the center bottom. Bring two ends of a pipe cleaner together; stick ends down through the hole in the bowl until half of the pipe cleaner is through. To keep the pipe cleaner in place, twist it on each side of the bottom of the bowl, and put some glue on it. Add the paper chain to the top of the bell, and tear off on chain link each day until Christmas. You can also use misc. supplies to decorate the bell.

**Gingerbread Man****Materials:**

Paper Grocery Bag  
Glue  
Crayons  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - such as fabric scraps, beads

**Instructions:**

Cut a gingerbread man shape out of the grocery bag. Color or decorate as desired.

**Jigsaw Ornament****Materials:**

Popsicle Sticks  
Glue  
Jigsaw Puzzle Pieces  
Child's Picture  
Light Weight Cardboard  
Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Glue popsicle sticks together to form a triangle. Glue the puzzle pieces onto the triangle to make a frame. Glue the picture behind the frame, and then glue the cardboard behind the picture. Add a ribbon for hanging.

**Reindeer****Materials:**

Paper Grocery Bag  
Glue  
Crayons  
Red Pompom  
Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Trace child's shoe and both hands onto the paper bag. Cut them out. The shoe is the reindeer's head, and glue on the hands to be the antlers. Glue on the pompom and ribbon, and decorate as desired.

**Plaster Ornaments****Materials:**

Faster Plaster  
Christmas Candy Molds  
Paint or Markers

**Instructions:**

Use the Faster Plaster and Christmas candy molds to make ornaments. Decorate them with paint or markers. Attach a hanger, pin backs, or magnets to the plaster mold.

**Christmas Placemats****Materials:**

Paper  
Used Christmas Cards  
Glue  
Crayons, Markers, or Paint  
Clear Contact Paper

**Instructions:**

Cut the pictures from cards. Draw a picture on a piece of paper and this was the back. Then glue on the card pictures. Cover both sides with contact paper.

**Glitter Bells****Materials:**

Cereal Box  
Glue  
Glitter  
Ribbon or Yarn  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - such as fabric scraps, beads

**Instructions:**

Cut bell shapes out of lightweight cardboard. Put the glitter in a plastic sandwich bag. Paint the bell shape with glue, put it in the bag with the glitter and shake until it is coated. Make as many as you want. Let the bells dry. Poke a hole in the top and tie bells together, letting each one hang down about 5-6 inches. You can also decorate with miscellaneous craft items.

**Christmas Tree****Materials:**

Green Tag board - the bigger the better  
Paint  
Shaped Sponges

**Instructions:**

Cut out a big green tree out of giant tag board and sponge paint ornaments on it.

**Christmas Ornaments****Materials:**

Wax Paper  
Glue  
Glitter  
Yarn - various colors

**Instructions:**

Cut yarn into various lengths. Dip yarn in glue and lay on wax paper, over lapping each piece. Let dry. Pull yarn off wax paper, attach a string to the top, apply glue and add glitter. Hang to dry.

## Christmas Stockings

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Glue  
Cotton Balls  
Old Toy Catalogs, magazines

### Instructions:

Trace a picture of a stocking on construction paper and cut. Use cotton balls to trim the stocking on the top. Use catalogs and cut out pictures of what you want for Christmas, and glue to the stocking.

## Christmas Trees

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Glue  
Colored Cellophane  
Crayons

### Instructions:

Cut out trees made of construction paper. Punch out holes in the tree. Have children glue colored pieces of colored cellophane or construction paper to the back to cover the holes. This makes it look like lights on the tree. Turn over and decorate the tree with whatever they wish (crayons, construction paper bits, etc).

## Gingerbread Handprints

### Materials:

1 Cup shortening  
1 Cup sugar  
½ tsp salt  
1 egg  
1 Cup molasses  
2 Tbl vinegar  
5 Cups sifted flour  
1 1/2 tsp baking soda  
1 tsp each: ground ginger, cinnamon and cloves  
1 package "red hots" candy  
1 jar silver ball candy decorations

### Instructions:

Thoroughly cream shortening, sugar, and salt. Add egg, molasses, and vinegar; mix well. Sift together dry ingredients. Add to molasses mixture, mix well. Chill about 3 hours. Roll out, 1/4 in. thick, on lightly floured surface. Trace children's hands onto paper and cut out with scissors. Place paper hand on dough and cut around with a knife. Place on greased cookie sheet and let children decorate their own hands. Use "red hots" for fingernails, silver balls for rings, etc. Bake at 375 degrees for 6-8 minutes, cool on wire rack, makes about 15 hands.

## 5 Sense Bear

### Materials:

Brown construction paper Bear  
Red ribbon with small bell  
Candy cane  
Cinnamon  
Glue

### Instructions:

1. Have the children put glue on the bear's body and sprinkle cinnamon on the glue.
2. After Bear is dry, tie the red ribbon with bell around the neck.
3. Hole punch a hole on each hand and put the candy cane in the holes so the bear is holding the candy cane.
4. This is great to put on the Christmas tree.

## Hand Print Wreath

### Materials:

Thick, White Fabric - cloth napkins work well  
Red and Green Paint  
Wooden Dowel  
Ribbon or Yarn

### Instructions:

Lay fabric flat on some newspapers. Using one hand to dip in paint, form a circle on the material to look like a wreath. Let the green dry. Dip one finger in the red paint and make holly berries on the wreath. Fold over the top of the material to form an opening to slide the dowel through. Tie the ribbon or yard onto the ends of the dowel to hang it from.

## Drum Ornament

### Materials:

Toilet Paper Rolls  
Red and White Contact Paper, Felt, or Paint  
Glue  
Gold Metallic Yarn  
Toothpicks

### Instructions:

Cut the roll in thirds. Cover with red paper, felt, Contac, or even paint or markers, just so it is covered. Glue 2 circles of white felt, paper or fabric just big enough to go over each end and glue around the edge about 1/8". Using gold metallic yarn (like the plastic canvas stuff), anchor one end to the top edge of the covered roll, then glue to the other edge going down and at an angle, then angle back up to the top and continue around in the fashion. Glue a couple of round toothpicks to the top, add a string for hanging.

## Santa Hat

### Materials:

Red Construction Paper  
Glue  
Cotton Balls

**Instructions:**

Cut out a large triangle out of red construction paper. Glue on the cotton balls to make a white ball on one of the triangle tips, and glue cotton balls along the bottom edge to form the brim. You can also cut out two triangles and tape or staple them together to make a hat to fit the child's head.

**Ice Cream Cone Christmas Trees****Materials:**

Ice Cream Cones - Sugar Cones  
Green Frosting  
Misc Candy Items

**Instructions:**

Take a sugar cone, turn it upside down and slather with thick, green frosting and stick \*whatever\* on to decorate it.

**Pine Cone Christmas Tree****Materials:**

Pine Cones  
Green Paint  
Glue  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - such as Yarn, beads

**Instructions:**

Cover the work area with newspaper and paint the pinecone green. When the paint is dry, glue on yarn, beads, etc. for the decorations.

**Handprint Christmas Tree****Materials:**

Green, Red, and Yellow Construction Paper  
Crayons, Pencils, or Markers  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Cut ten hand prints on green paper, a yellow star, and ten red hearts small enough to fit on the hand print. Start gluing one handprint at the top of the page and with the fingers pointing down. This is the top of your tree. Use the rest of the handprints fanning out to make a Christmas tree. In the star write I love (someone's name), then in each heart let the kids pick special people...mommy, daddy, friends, grandparents, pets, dolls, etc. Glue star on the top and a heart on each hand.

**Christmas Tree****Materials:**

Roll of solid green foil wrapping paper  
Roll of wrapping paper with toys or ornaments on it  
Poster Board - full sheet (1 3/4' x 2 1/4')  
Brown construction paper  
Small piece of Gold foil wrapping paper  
Glue (tacky or Elmer's)

**Instructions:**

1. Cut the poster board into a large triangle. Parts cut off can be taped together to make a 2nd tree.
2. Cut brown construction paper for the trunk. Glue to base of triangle. I attached it to the backside.
3. Unroll the green wrapping paper face down. Use your and everyone else's hands. Trace around all hands. Be sure to spread your fingers apart a little and use both hands. Cut out the hands a row at a time.
4. Glue the hands, starting at the bottom of the tree. Glue fingers down. (The pinky side goes well on the edges.) Don't overlap, just put close together. The next row overlaps the first a little bit (Like shingles on a roof). Cover the poster board like this all the way to the top. If you have little bits of poster board peeking thru, use your scrap pieces to fill in.
5. Next cut a star from shirt board/poster board. Cover with the gold foil paper. Glue to top of tree.
6. Take the paper with toys/ornaments and cut the whole items from the paper. I only used about 2 full rows of items down the length of the roll. Glue these on the tree.
7. Now you have a fully decorated tree!

**Christmas Cards****Materials:**

Old Calendars - can also use old Greeting Cards  
Construction Paper  
Glue  
Crayons or Markers

**Instructions:**

Simply fold a piece of construction paper in half lengthwise for the card and cut out appropriate picture from one of the calendar months to glue on cover of card. If kids can't spell Merry Christmas on their own, write it out for them on separate piece of paper and have them try to duplicate the phrase in their own handwriting on the inside of the card.

**Paper Drops****Materials:**

Colored paper  
Stapler  
Ribbon or gold cord

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

ORNAMENT: Cut two 12-inch strips, two 10-inch strips, and one 8 3/4-inch strip. Line them up in this order: 12, 10, 8 3/4, 10, and 12, with one set of ends even. Staple this end. Line up the other ends evenly (bending the outer strips as needed) and staple.

Step 2:

HEART: Cut two 12-inch strips and two 9 1/2-inch strips. Line them up in this order: 9 1/2, 12, 12, and 9 1/2, with one set of ends even. Staple this end. Now bend the unstapled ends into a heart shape, so a small heart lies inside a larger heart. Align the ends and staple together.

Step 3:

TEARDROP: Cut two 12-inch strips, two 10 1/2-inch strips, and one 9-inch strip. Line them up in this order: 12, 10 1/2, 9, 10 1/2, and 12, with one set of ends even. Staple this end. Next, make a crease 1 inch from the unstapled ends of the 12- and 10 1/2-inch strips. Finally, align the ends of all the strips and staple them together.

Step 4:

Use the completed shapes to dress up a window or spin in midair from a light fixture or a ribbon. To hang each, knot the end of the gold cord and place it between the loose strips of paper at the top. Staple it all together.

## Advent Calendar

### Materials:

Construction paper  
Scissors  
25 small treats  
2-inch wide colored tape  
Puff paint  
Tape or glue  
Rickrack  
Pencil  
Colored yarn

### Instructions:

Step 1:

Gather 25 small treats, such as gumball machine prizes, wrapped candy and trinkets. Cut a 4 1/2-foot length of 2-inch wide colored tape. Lay the tape sticky side up and place the treats along the length of it, approximately 1 inch apart.

Step 2:

Next, tape together several pieces of construction paper or sections of a paper grocery bag to create a 6-foot long, 3-inch wide strip. Place it atop the treat-covered tape and press together the paper and tape around each treat. Trim off any excess paper.

Step 3:

Write the numbers 1 through 25 in puff paint on pieces of colored construction paper and cut them out. For extra fun, shape pieces into green trees, red Christmas balls and a yellow star. Starting at the bottom, tape or glue the numbers to the paper strip, one over each treat. Finally, glue rickrack along the edges of the paper and tape the top of the calendar to a pencil.

Step 4:

Tie a length of colored yarn to the ends of the pencil, and the Advent calendar is ready to hang.

## Elves

### Materials:

Colored cotton socks  
Dried beans or peas  
Jingle bells  
Needle and thread  
Buttons  
Small rubber band

**Instructions:****Step 1:**

To make each elf, simply fill a colored cotton sock three quarters of the way with peas or beans. An easy way to do this is to cut the bottom from a paper cup. Then insert the bottomless cup into the neck of the sock. Pour the beans through the makeshift funnel.

**Step 2:**

With a needle and thread, stitch closed the top of the sock. Use a few more stitches to gather and secure the sewn end into a point that resembles the tip of a stocking hat. Then sew a medium-size jingle bell to the tip.

**Step 3:**

To form the elf's nose (a fun job for kids), use your fingertips to grasp a small bunch of beans about halfway down from the top of the sock. Wrap a rubber band around the base of the bunch to secure it.

**Step 4:**

Finally, glue or sew on two button eyes.

**Candy Cane Reindeer****Materials:**

Candy canes  
Brown yarn  
Wiggly eyes  
Small red pompoms  
Hot glue gun

**Instructions:**

Place two candy canes back to back (one "hook" is going left, the other "hook" going right). Wrap both canes with the brown yarn beginning about half way up the "cane". Stop wrapping when you get to the "hook". Hot glue two eyes and one red "nose" onto the yarn. You have a candy cane reindeer.

**Christmas Tree Mobile****Materials:**

Green Construction Paper  
Glue  
Tape  
Crayons  
Yarn  
Miscellaneous Craft Items - such as fabric scraps, beads

**Instructions:**

Cut a large Christmas tree shape -triangle- out of green construction paper. Cut the triangle into 1-inch wide strips. Lay down the strips in the order you cut them out, with the strips laying about an inch apart. Tape a long piece of yarn onto the back of the strips. Use a scrap of brown construction paper to cut out a pot and tape it below the tree; cut off any excess yarn hanging below the pot. Decorate the tree as desired.

## HANNUKAH

### Bright Menorah Candles

#### Materials:

10 large wooden crafts spools  
10 small wooden crafts spools  
11 wooden wheels  
11 wooden beads with large center hole  
12 chenille sticks  
Crafts glue  
Disposable foam plate (optional)  
Acrylic paints, various colors  
Dimensional paints, various colors  
9 large metal washers  
9 birthday candles  
9 plastic candleholders

#### Instructions:

1. Paint all wooden beads, wheels, and spools with acrylic paints. Let them dry.
  2. Fold chenille stick in half and cover it with glue. (If desired, pour some glue onto a disposable plate and drag the stick through to cover it.)
  3. While glue is still wet, slip several painted shapes onto the stick. Let glue dry. Trim excess chenille from bottom of candlestick if necessary. Repeat this step for each candlestick.
  4. Make 2 candlesticks with 1 large spool topped with 1 small bead. Make 2 candlesticks with 1 large spool topped with 1 small spool, then 1 bead. Make 2 candlesticks with 1 large spool topped with 1 wheel, then 1 bead, then 2 more wheels, then another bead. Make 2 candlesticks with 1 large spool topped with 1 small spool, 1 wheel, 2 more small spools, then a bead. Make 1 candlestick with 2 large spools, 1 wheel, 1 small spool, another wheel, another small spool, another wheel, and a bead.
  5. Decorate the candlesticks with dimensional paints. Use the photo as inspiration, or create your own designs.
- Add candles. Slip a birthday candle into a plastic candleholder, and then slide the holder through a metal washer and into the hole of the top bead of the candlestick. Remind children never to light candles without adult supervision.

### Dreidel, Dreidel

#### Materials:

1 empty 8-ounce cardboard milk carton  
Stapler  
Pencil  
Black marker  
Tempera paint in several colors  
Colored tissue paper

#### Instructions:

1. Rinse out the milk carton and allow to dry. If you are decorating the dreidel to be used as a gift box, place the tissue paper inside the milk carton and tuck the gift in the paper.
2. Staple the spout of the milk carton shut.
3. Paint the carton with tempera paint. Let dry.
4. Decorate carton. Turn the carton upside down and write a different Hebrew letter (see below) on each side of the carton. Decorate the carton with markers or paints, and poke the pencil through the bottom of the carton.

## Menorah Candles

### Materials:

Yellow and orange tempera paint  
Paintbrush  
9 flat wooden craft spoons  
Craft knife  
14 9-ounce paper cups

### Instructions:

Step 1:

Have your child paint the wider ends of the wooden craft spoons (fronts and backs) to resemble yellow-orange flames.

Step 2:

Meanwhile, use the craft knife to cut a 3/4-inch slit in the bottoms of nine of the paper cups (a parent's job).

Step 3:

Cut the bottoms out of the remaining five cups and stack them rims down.

Step 4:

Line up the 9 cups in a horizontal row, placing the middle one atop the stack of 5. When it's time, your child can light the menorah by inserting the bottoms of the wooden flames in the holes in the candles.

## Dreidel Banner

### Materials:

Scissors  
Ruler  
Blue and silver trimming  
9 x 12 in piece of blue felt  
Cereal box  
2 silver sparkle stems  
Glue  
2 old neckties  
Large gold sequins

### Instructions:

1. Cut a 1-1/2 in wide strip of cardboard 9 in long to form a support for the top of the banner. Cut a piece of trim about 2 ft long and tie the ends together to form a hanger for the banner. Fold one 9-in side of the felt over the hanger and the cardboard support and glue them in place.
2. Measuring from the point of each necktie, cut a piece from the wide end to 4-1/2 in long. The two cut pieces will be the dreidels for the banner.
3. Cut a sparkle stem in half. Fold each piece in half to form a handle for each dreidel. Glue a handle between the front and back of the tie at the top of each dreidel shape. Glue the two dreidels on the blue banner.
4. Shape one of the Hebrew letters found on a real dreidel out of pieces of sparkle stem and glue a letter to the front of each dreidel.
5. Decorate the dreidels and the top and bottom of the banner by gluing on pretty trims.
6. Glue four sequins to each corner of the banner to look like gelt (money).

## Nature Menorah

### Materials:

A tree bough, 2 inches thick  
Smaller branches  
Nine bottle caps  
Glue  
Hanukkah candles  
Greenery

### Instructions:

Step 1:

First, find a tree bough, at least 2 inches thick, and several smaller branches to act as steadying arms for the main branch.

Step 2:

Next, glue the bottle caps on, upside down, along the top of the branch. One, the shamash, which is used to light the other candles, should be higher than the others. The remaining eight may be placed at one height or varying levels.

Step 3:

Decorate the menorah with greenery.

Step 4:

For the first night, you will need one candle for the shamash and one for the first candle on the right. Melt the wax on the bottom of each candle and stick it to the holder. Add a new candle for each night.

## Playdough Menorah

### Materials:

Play dough  
Birthday candles  
Large candles

### Instructions:

Roll out piece of play dough and press to form base. Place large candle in center and four small candles on each side of large.

## Wrapping Paper

### Materials:

Blue paint  
Large pieces of white paper  
Plastic margarine lids  
Small Hanukkah cookies cutters (or basic shapes)

### Instructions:

Pour small amount of paint into margarine lids. Dip a cookie cutter into paint, stamp on paper, and then let paint dry.

## Candle Puppets

### Materials:

Toilet paper rolls  
Popsicle sticks  
Foil  
Glue  
Scissors  
Markers  
Yellow construction paper

### Instructions:

Cover toilet paper roll with foil. Cut a flame shape out of paper and draw a face on it. Glue flame on end of the popsicle stick. Insert stick in roll, hold roll with one hand, make flame dance with other.

## Tasty Menorahs

### Materials:

Bread  
Cream cheese or butter  
Carrot sticks  
Pretzel sticks  
Raisins

### Instructions:

Spread bread with cream cheese or butter, arrange 8 pretzels as candles and carrot stick as large candle in center. Use raisins as flames at ends of carrot and pretzel sticks.

## Drediels

### Materials:

Pencils  
Glue  
Paint and paintbrushes  
Small milk cartons or boxes

### Instructions:

Fold tops of milk cartons down to make boxes. Mix a little glue with paint and let children paint boxes. Poke pencil through box from top downward so point is on bottom.

### Poem:

*I have a little dreidel,  
I made it out of clay.  
And when it's dry and ready,  
A dreidel game I'll play.*

## VALENTINE'S DAY

### Shaker Cards

#### Materials:

Craft Board - 1/8 - 1/4 inch thick lightweight foam with card stock-type cover on both sides  
Card Stock  
Clear, Heavy Plastic  
Glue  
Crayons or Markers  
Miscellaneous Craft Supplies

#### Instructions:

Begin by cutting the craft board with an Exacto knife to about 3 x 6 inch, or whatever size you want. Then get some plain card stock and cut 2 pieces the same size as the board. With the knife, cut out a heart, about 2x 2, in the center of one piece, laid it on top of the board and marked the heart, then cut it out of the board. Get a piece of clear plastic, like from a sheet protector, and cut a piece big enough to cover the cut-out with enough border for glue. Now it is ready for the kids. You should have a piece of card stock, plain; one piece of card stock with a cut-out; one piece of clear plastic; and one piece of board with a cut-out for each child. Let the kids decorate the 2 pieces of card stock with crayons, markers, stickers, lace, ribbon - whatever you have. When they are done, glue the plastic to the wrong side of the card stock with the cut-out, then glue the 2 cut-out pieces together, lining up the cut-outs. Put a small handful of metallic confetti - this one had multi-colored hearts - or anything else you might think of in the "window". Glue the back piece on to seal it in, and trim the edges if needed.

### Beanie Valentine's

#### Materials:

Old Beanie Baby Magazine to cut up (such as Marybeth's Bean Bag World)  
Scissors  
Glue  
Markers, Crayons or Colored Pencils  
White construction paper or 3x5 cards  
Envelopes, optional  
Valentines stickers, optional  
Small paper doilies, optional

#### Instructions:

1. Cut out some pictures of your favorite stuffed animals. Price list pages and the ads throughout the magazine are all good places to find pictures. Clipart is a good idea, too.
2. Use a 3x5 card to make little postcards, or use construction paper to make large or small cards as you desire.
3. Be creative - combine your cutouts with stickers or draw your own background or decorations around them. Be sure to let the glue dry all the way before flipping the card over to write on the back.

### Heart Animals

#### Materials:

Construction paper in red, white, pink  
Scissors  
Markers  
Heart shaped stickers, optional  
Fabric to cut into heart shapes, optional  
Yarn, buttons or other trims; optional

Heart shaped patterns, optional  
Pre-cut hearts (recommended for younger kids), optional

**Instructions:**

1. You can let the children draw their own hearts on paper and then add the details to make animals, let them cut hearts out of paper or cloth, have an assortment of pre-cut hearts (good for younger children). You can also use simple heart shaped stickers for some of the smaller hearts.
2. The simplest version of the project is to make a drawing of an animal drawing hearts or on paper, or arrange pre-cut hearts on paper. For a more complex project, children can cut their own hearts.

**Tips:**

Make heart-shaped patterns for the children in a variety of sizes and proportions for them to cut out their own. Show them to fold the paper in half to make a symmetrical heart.

**Heart Frames**

**Materials:**

Cardboard or cover stock  
Scissors  
Markers to color frame  
Plastic magnetic picture frames

**Instructions:**

Cut out cardboard frames for children in the size of the plastic magnetic holder. Then, have or help children color the frames and write: "I (picture of a heart) (Name of relative, i.e. "Grandma"), then simply put the frame into a magnetic plastic picture frame holder and you have a great gift!

**Picture Card**

**Materials:**

Construction Paper  
Glue  
Picture of Child  
Paper Doily  
Pen, Pencil, or Crayon

**Instructions:**

Take your construction paper, try not to fold and cut it into a heart shape, take a Polaroid picture or a 1 hour photo shot of each child, take a paper lace doily and glue the picture to the doily with the lace around the picture, have the child write a cute verse, or you can write it and let them sign their name. Here are a few verses, or make up your own!

*Roses are red  
Violets are blue  
I hope you like this picture  
of me to you.  
Roses are red  
Violets are blue  
I made this  
Just for you.*

**Puffy Valentine Hearts Wreath**

**Materials:**

Paper bag  
Fibre fill or Kleenex or fabric scraps  
Miscellaneous fabric scraps, ribbon, stickers, glitter, sequins

**Instructions:**

Cut out hearts from a paper bag. Cut two of each, and have the kids glue them together, leaving a small opening. Stuff the heart with fiberfill or Kleenex or fabric scraps, then glue the opening shut (don't stuff too much). Decorate with fabric scraps, old lace pieces, cutouts from doilies, ribbon, stickers, glitter, sequins, etc. Make enough of these, and not too big, then hot glue them to a cheap wreath and make a valentines wreath! Add a bow, some ribbon or raffia, and some Valentine's Day pictures to finish the look.

**Valentine Sun Catcher**

**Materials:**

Construction paper  
Clear contact paper  
Various colored tissue paper  
Glue  
Yarn

**Instructions:**

Fold over a sheet of construction paper. Trace your child's hand with fingers outspread & cut out (you will have two hands). Place first hand on a square of clear contact paper. Have your child stick small squares of various colored tissue paper all around the hand print (even between the fingers). Be sure the paper is well covered for best color. Glue the second hand on top of the first matching up finger to finger (this ensures that the sun catcher is two-sided). Top with a second square of clear contact paper. Cut into a heart shape with the hand at the center. Punch a hole in the top & insert a yarn hanger.

**Valentine's Soap Balls and Bubble Bath**

**Materials:**

4 cups of soap flakes  
1 cup water, divided in two  
1/2 tsp. food coloring  
Mixing bowl measuring cups and spoons, large spoon  
Cookie sheet  
Foil wrap  
1/2 cup shampoo  
Baby oil

**Instructions:**

**Soap Balls:**

1. Measure the soap flakes and put them in the mixing bowl.
2. Add food coloring to the soap.
3. Add small amounts of water. Stir until the soap pulls away from the sides of the bowl. It will form a ball. The mixture should be thick, not sticky.
4. Roll small amounts of the soap mixture into balls. Use your hands to do this.
5. Place the finished soap balls on a foil-covered cookie sheet.
6. Allow the soap balls to dry for a week.

**Bath Oil:**

1. Combine 6 teaspoons of baby oil, 1/2 cup shampoo, and 1/2 cup water in a container.
2. Put a lid on the container and shake it.
3. Write Directions: on a note to go with the bubble bath. It should read, "Add a few tablespoons of bubble bath to warm bath water."

### Easy Accordion Valentine Hearts

**Materials:**

Heavy construction paper  
Paper doilies  
Wrapping paper  
Photographs  
Glue  
Colored markers or paints

**Instructions:**

To start, cut a long narrow rectangle from heavy paper, then fold it into four equal squares, accordion-style. Then glue down a different heart for each square, using photographs, wrapping paper or other paper. If desired, a border can be created with a thin line from various markers or watercolors that have been unevenly mixed so that they form a changing, rainbow border.

### Easy Valentine Photo Frame

**Materials:**

1- plain wooden photo frame  
Several boxes of candy hearts (different sizes)  
Glue  
Gloss finish spray

**Instructions:**

Glue the candy hearts onto the wood, all around the photo frame. Spray all with gloss finish. Place your favorite Valentine photo or poem inside the frame.

### Easy Craft Valentine Place Mats

**Materials:**

Tissue or other fine paper (9"x12")  
Red construction paper  
Glue  
Clear self-adhesive plastic

**Instructions:**

Begin with a rectangle of tissue or other fine paper, 9" x 12". Fold it 3 or 4 times, keeping the edges together as perfectly as possible. Cut pieces from each side as you would cut a snowflake, but make a number of half-heart shaped cuts.

Each child can make 3 or 4 and then choose the favorite. Glue it to a larger piece of red construction paper. Cover both sides of finished mat with clear, self-adhesive plastic.

### Amazing Sparkling Valentine Heart

**Materials:**

Heavy paper  
Red, pink or white paint  
Table salt

**Instructions:**

Paint a large heart with red, pink or white paint. While the paint is still damp, sprinkle some salt over the painting. The heart will sparkle when it dries.

## Valentine Cards

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Glue  
Pen, Pencil, or Crayon  
Gum

### Instructions:

Cut out heart shapes from paper. On the Heart, tape a piece of gum and write this poem...

*I love you,  
I love you,  
I love you divine,  
Please give me your bubble gum,  
Cuz you're SITTING ON MINE!*

## Eatible Valentines

### Materials:

Graham Crackers or Construction Paper  
Glue or Frosting  
Candy Conversation Hearts

### Instructions:

Cut out hearts from construction paper (or use graham crackers for the base of the card), and glue the candy conversation hearts on them.

## Magic Valentines

### Materials:

Crayons  
Paper Clips  
2 Sheets of White Paper  
Various Sizes of Paper Hearts

### Instructions:

Put hearts on 1 sheet of paper and place other sheet on top, paper clip together to keep them from slipping, rub the side of the crayon over the surface of the paper. Hearts will appear like "magic".

## Heart Puzzles

### Materials:

Scissors  
Marking Pens  
Various Sizes of Paper Hearts

### Instructions:

Cut hearts in half leaving a zig-zagged edge. Number both sides of the heart with the same number or letter. Let children match heart halves.

## Laced Hearts

### Materials:

Hole Puncher  
Hearts cut out of Cardboard

Shoelaces or Ribbons

**Instructions:**

Punch holes around outside edge of heart. Let children weave shoelaces or ribbons through holes. Tie ends in a bow.

**Bee-Mine Valentine**

**Materials:**

Black and yellow pipe cleaners  
Glue  
Wiggly eyes  
Yellow tissue paper  
Scissors  
Colored card stock  
Hole punch  
Marker  
Lollipops

**Instructions:**

Step 1:

Fold one 6-inch black pipe cleaner into a V shape.

Step 2:

Holding the other black piece alongside the yellow pipe cleaner, wrap both stems together around the V. Use the stems' entire length and be sure to leave a small gap at the folded end, where you'll slide in the lollipop stick. Bend back the ends of the V to form antennae.

Step 3:

Glue on wiggly eyes and yellow tissue paper wings.

Step 4:

Cut a heart shape from colored card stock. Punch two holes about an inch apart in the heart, then write "Mine" on it, plus any other message on the back. Then slide the bee onto the lollipop and slip the lollipop stick through the holes.

**Tips:**

For two gifts in one, add a magnetic strip to the back of the bee so he can stick around after the lollipop is gone.

**Heart Candy Holder**

**Materials:**

Poster board  
Vinyl  
Hole puncher  
Yarn

**Instructions:**

Cut a heart out of pink or red poster board, about 4-5 inches at its broadest part. Cut an identical sized heart out of clear plastic vinyl, such as that which you can find at fabric stores near the tablecloth plastic rolls. Punch matching holes in the cardboard and the plastic with a hole puncher. Use yarn to sew around the edges through the punched holes. Leave an opening at the top, and fill with candy, like conversation hearts. Sew up the opening with the yarn.

## Valentine Fan

### Materials:

Heavy construction paper  
Glue  
Scissors  
Brass paper fastener

### Instructions:

Step 1:

To start a fanned-out message, cut two shapes from sturdy paper: a five-inch rectangular shape, one inch wide at one end and 2 1/2 inches at the other, and a three-inch wide heart. Then use these templates to trace and cut eight rectangles and eight hearts.

Step 2:

Glue the hearts to the wide ends of the rectangles.

Step 3:

Then write a letter on each heart ("I LOVE YOU") and punch a hole in the middle of the narrow end. Put the rectangles in order and fasten with a brass paper fastener.

## Sweet-Nothings Box

### Materials:

Old valentine cards  
Wrapping paper  
Scissors  
Bric-a-brac  
Cardboard box  
Glue

### Instructions:

Step 1:

Begin by carefully cutting tiny angels, cupids, and hearts from the old valentine cards and wrapping paper.

Step 2:

Glue the cut-outs and bric-a-brac, such as colored macaroni, doilies, buttons, and notions, over the outside of a small cardboard box (jewelry boxes for earrings are perfect).

Step 3:

Fill the boxes with sweet nothings, such as bath oil beads, candies, small seashells, or colorful bows.

### Tips:

Kids can easily create several boxes for giving to teachers, grandmothers, and other favorite valentines.

## Heart Potpourri

### Materials:

Material (fabric)  
Lacey material  
Potpourri

### Instructions:

Sew two hearts together, one from ordinary material and the other from lacey material. Fill this with potpourri and put a little bow at the top.

### Heart Caterpillars

**Materials:**

Construction Paper  
Glue  
Crayons

**Instructions:**

Cut out hearts for the length of the body (as many hearts and different colors as you like) and glue them together. You can decorate the body with little hearts or stickers. For the antenna cut a little heart and glued them on, and the eyes can be little hearts too.

### Mail Boxes

**Materials:**

Shoe Box  
Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Glue  
Miscellaneous Crafts Supplies

**Instructions:**

Cover the shoebox with red construction paper, and cut a mail slot in the top. Decorate the box with paper scraps, material scraps, stickers, what ever you want.

### Mosaic Hearts

**Materials:**

Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Glue  
Crepe Paper or Tissue Paper

**Instructions:**

Cut out a large heart. Cut up small pieces of construction paper (either pink or red but not the same color as the heart) and glue them all over the heart. You can also use pieces of crepe paper, which are crumbled up.

### Heart People

**Materials:**

Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Cut out a heart (large) and glue on hearts for eyes, nose & mouth. Attach paper strips, folded accordion style, for arms and legs and trace child's hands and feet and attach to the accordion strips.

## Valentines Collages

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Glue  
Miscellaneous Craft Supplies

### Instructions:

Cut out hearts of different colors and sizes, and use extra things like pink or red feathers, arrows, etc. and just paste away on a large sheet of construction paper.

## Valentines Gift

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Red Tempera Paint  
Glue  
Miscellaneous Craft Supplies

### Instructions:

Cut various shaped hearts from white and pink construction paper. Using red tempera paint, decorate the hearts with children's thumbprints. Set hearts aside to dry. On a 4 1/2 by 8 1/2 inch paper write out "Thumb-body Loves You", and tape the paper to an empty 12oz juice can. Glue a painted heart to the can, then glue the remaining hearts to popsicle sticks. Press a small amount of clay into the bottom of the can, then tuck a small amount of red tissue into the can, and then insert the sticks through the paper and into the clay.

## Candy Rose

### Materials:

Two Hershey's Kisses  
25 inches of floral tape  
Red cellophane wrap  
Artificial stem

### Instructions:

1. Hold the two Kisses flat sides together.
2. Smoothly and tightly wrap the pieces of cellophane over the tip of one of the kisses and down the other kiss. Twist the excess cellophane before the tip of the second kiss.
3. Lay the stem on top of the excess cellophane and hold snugly.
4. Start wrapping the floral tape around the stem and cellophane just beneath the kisses, inserting the artificial leaf near the top of the stem. Continue wrapping the tape down the stem, overlapping it and pulling it tight until you reach the bottom. Tear off excess tape.
5. Tie a bow from the ribbon just beneath the leaf.

## Valentine Rose Pen

### Materials:

Egg shaped Styrofoam ball  
Knife  
Small clay pot  
Bic ballpoint pen (any color)  
Scissors  
Artificial rose  
Glue gun  
25 inches of green floral tape  
Craft moss  
6 inches 1/8 inch thick of red ribbon

### Instructions:

1. Cut a small tip off the Styrofoam ball with the knife.
2. Push the Styrofoam ball into the clay pot, flat end down.
3. Push the pen into the Styrofoam ball, past the metal writing tip. At an angle rotate it a few times to make a hole slightly larger than the pen. Be careful not to make the hole too large, as the hole will serve to hold the upright pen later on. Remove the pen from the hole.
4. Use the scissors to force or cut the cap off the pen. Be careful not to cut into the ink barrel.

### Caution:

Aim the pen away from yourself and others! Pull the rose off its stem. Notice the small remaining stem underneath the rose. Insert the remaining stem into the top of the pen, and glue it into place. Keeping it taut, wrap the floral tape down the pen, starting just beneath the rose, until you get to the metal writing tip. Tear off excess tape. Insert your flower pen into the Styrofoam hole far enough to hold it upright. Be careful not to bunch up the tape. Place the moss inside the clay pot, covering the Styrofoam ball. Tie the red ribbon into a bow underneath the flower.

## Candy Magnet

### Materials:

Sticky-back magnet  
Glue  
Medium sized pink pompom  
Colored glue  
Brown pleated candy wrapper

### Instructions:

1. Glue the pompom to the bottom of the candy wrapper.
2. Decorate the pompom with colored glue.
3. Put a piece of sticky-back magnet on the bottom of the candy wrapper.

## Valentines Wreaths

### Materials:

Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Paper Plates  
Glue  
Yarn or Ribbon

**Instructions:**

Cut out different sized, smaller hearts from red and pink paper (a whole bunch of them). Then cut the middle out of a paper plate and glue the hearts all over the plate to make a valentine wreath. Make bows with some yarn or ribbon.

**Valentines Person****Materials:**

Paper  
Scissors  
Paint  
Glue

**Instructions:**

Paint the child's hand red and print it on paper twice to make a heart. Cut out eyes, mouth, arms and legs and let the child glue them on the heart.

**Modge Podge Hearts****Materials:**

Poster board  
Construction Paper  
Scissors  
Glue  
Modge Podge  
Picture of Child (optional)

**Instructions:**

Cut out heart shapes from heavy poster board, have kids glue red and pink (small) pieces of construction paper on hearts. If you have small pictures of kids, glue in the center of the heart. Using fingers, cover the entire heart with a thin coating of modge podge, it will dry clear and glossy. You can put magnet strips on the back.

**Valentine Bunny****Materials:**

Baby Food Jars  
Cotton Balls  
Construction Paper  
Glue  
Scissors  
Picture of Child (optional)

**Instructions:**

Fill baby jars with cotton balls. Cut out 1 large heart, which is just a little taller and wider than the front of the jar. Cut out a medium size heart which is about 1" larger than the base of the jar. Cut out 2 small hearts (about the size of a penny or dime). Glue large heart to the face of the jar so that the top of the heart extends beyond the top of the jar (gives the appearance of ears). Glue med. heart to the base of the jar so that the top of the heart extends beyond the front of the jar (top of heart sticking out from the base will look like feet). Glue small hearts on the sides of the jar in the middle (looks like hands). Glue a cotton ball to the back of the jar (looks like a cotton tail). \*\*Have the kids draw the face on the large heart before gluing.

## Valentine's Day Wreath

### Materials:

Red fun foam  
Glue  
Paper plates  
Red yarn or string

### Instructions:

Cut hearts out of fun foam. (A cookie cutter makes this easy). Cut out the middle of the paper plate so that you only have an outer ring. Glue on the hearts, overlapping and covering all of the plate. (Let the kids place them sporadically around, their creativeness makes this really cute.) Glue a loop of yarn or string to the back. You can also add some glitter ribbons and stickers to make it more fun!

## Valentine Placemat

### Materials:

Construction paper  
Paint  
Photograph of child  
Poem of your choice

### Instructions:

Use 1 large piece of construction paper for the placemat. From another piece of construction paper cut a heart. Paint one of the child's hands and have the child make a handprint on the heart shape. Glue this onto one side of the construction paper. In the center of the paper write the poem you have selected. On the other side you can glue a photograph of the child obtained from the parents or perhaps taken during class. Once complete the picture can be laminated or contact paper can be used to preserve it. If you would like you can have the child decorate the back of his/her placemat. Don't forget the date!

## Valentine Button Covers

### Materials:

Felt  
Scissors  
Wiggly eyes  
Glitter  
Glue

### Instructions:

Step 1:  
Cut felt into heart shapes (about 2 inches tall and 1 inch wide).

Step 2:  
Decorate with wiggly eyes, smaller felt hearts, glitter, or whatever else tickles your fancy.

Step 3:  
Snip a slit in the middle of the heart large enough to fit over the button, then slip it on.

## Smelly Valentines

### Materials:

Paper  
Glue or Stapler  
Cotton Balls  
Perfume

### Instructions:

Cut out 2 large hearts the same size; decorate as you wish. Spray perfume on cotton balls. Staple or glue around edges of hearts, leave an opening. Stuff the cotton balls inside. Seal the opening.

## Valentine Cone

### Materials:

Ice Cream Cone  
Pink Frosting  
Small Candies (see below)

### Instructions:

Cover an ice cream cone with pink frosting. Let the kids decorate with candy hearts, red hots, sprinkles, and other delicious candies!

## ST. PATRICK'S DAY

## Leprechaun Hat

### Materials:

Small paper plate  
Paper cup  
Green acrylic paint  
Paintbrushes  
White craft glue  
Hole punch  
Green yarn  
Construction paper (black and yellow)

### Instructions:

1. Paint the paper plate and the outside of the cup green. Once the paint is dry, glue the cup upside down in the center of the bottom of the paper plate.
2. Cut a piece of black construction paper 1 inch thick and long enough to wrap around the cup where it is glued onto the paper plate. This will be the band on the hat. Glue it into place. You can also cut out a small yellow buckle for the hat band if you like.
3. Using the hole punch make a hole on both sides of the "hat" so that you can attach the yarn to make a tie for the hat. After making the holes, measure yarn an appropriate length for the particular child. Run it through each hole and tie a knot on the end so it will stay in the hole. To wear the hat tie using the yarn ties under the child's chin.

## St. Patrick's Day Candles

### Materials:

Paraffin  
Coffee can  
Stickers, cutouts, confetti  
Pillar candle  
Green ribbon  
Terra cotta saucer  
Acrylic paints

### Instructions:

1. Melt some paraffin inside a can placed in a pan of hot water (on the stove).
2. Glue stickers, cutouts, shamrock shaped confetti, etc. to a pillar candle....brush the melted paraffin over these shapes.
3. Tie an appropriate ribbon around the middle of the candle.
4. Paint the saucer of a terra cotta pot white and decorate the saucer the same as you did the candle for the holder...remember to block the hole.

## Shamrock Friend

### Materials:

Green construction paper  
Glue stick  
Crayons  
Scissors

### Instructions:

1. Draw a shamrock that is about 6 inches in diameter. This will be the face of your buddy.
2. Using crayons draw a face on the shamrock. Be creative. Have fun with it.
3. Cut 2 strips of green construction paper that are 1 inch in width and 4 inches in length. Also cut 2 strips that are 6 inches in length and 1 inch in width. These will be your buddy's arms and legs.
4. Fold each strip like a fan- folding forward and back. It should have an accordion look to it when you are done. Do this to each strip.
5. Attach the strips with the glue stick. The 4 inch strips are your buddy's arms and the 6 inch strips are the legs.

## Leprechaun Ladders

### Materials:

Green Construction Paper  
Straws  
Strings

### Instructions:

On St. Patrick's Day the leprechaun is very mischievous. He upsets chairs while children are outside playing, walks through the jello, and dyes the mashed potatoes light green. To help him keep out of mischief we make leprechaun ladders for him to play on. Stringing shamrocks alternately with snips of straws. Hang from ceiling or windows.

### Shamrock Men

**Materials:**

Construction Paper  
Glue  
Markers or Crayons

**Instructions:**

Let the children draw a face on the shamrock and add accordion fold arms and legs.

### Filter Paper Shamrocks

**Materials:**

Coffee Filters  
Food Coloring  
Eye Droppers or Straws

**Instructions:**

Precut shamrock shape out of coffee filters. Mix water and yellow food coloring and place mixture in a baby food jar. Do the same for blue. Let the children use eyedroppers to drip colors on the filter shape. The colors will run together and make beautiful shamrocks.

### Shamrock Prints

**Materials:**

Bell Pepper  
Paper  
Green Paint

**Instructions:**

Cut bell pepper in half and clean out the seeds. The children can dip the cross sections of the pepper into some green paint and press the shamrock print onto paper.

## FOURTH OF JULY

### Fourth of July Flag

**Materials:**

11 craft sticks  
Red and white poster paint  
Paint brush  
Blue construction paper  
White glue  
Silver glitter  
Scissors

**Instructions:**

1. Paint 4 craft sticks red and 3 craft sticks white. Allow to dry.
2. Arrange painted sticks with backsides up alternating red and white sticks.
3. Break two sticks to 2 3/4 inches. Glue to back as shown in fig. 1. Glue another stick to back to create a handle. Allow glue to dry completely.
4. Turn flag over. Cut a 1 1/2-inch square from the blue construction paper. Glue to top left corner of flag. Drip several dots of white glue on blue construction paper for the stars. Sprinkle with glitter and shake off.

### Miniature Rocket Experiment

Try this fun rocket made from recycled film canisters. It's a craft and science experiment wrapped into one, and it's a perfect Fourth of July backyard activity!

#### Materials:

Alka Seltzer tablets, or store brand equivalent  
Fuji empty film canisters with lids-the clear white ones  
Paper, markers, tape and scissors  
Water

#### Instructions:

1. The first step is having your child decorate his "rocket". All tape must be away from the lid area, so the top won't be obstructed in any way. Work with the cap or top of the canister at the BOTTOM. He or she can make a cone to put on the top of the canister, so it looks like a rocket. Decorate the cone before taping onto the canister, then tape in place. Another option is to cut little "fins" for each side of the rocket and tape in place also.
2. When the canister is decorated you will be ready to add the "fuel". This is where the science experiment comes in. You will need to add water and a part of the Alka Seltzer tablet to the canister and seal it with the lid. But how much? Have each person guess what amounts may work. What happens? (The correct amount that usually works the best is 1/4 tablet added to the canister 1/4 filled with water.)
3. Add the tablet and water, put the lid on and place the rocket CAP DOWN on the ground. Now wait- in a couple of minutes the rocket will shoot up in the air from the pressure of the tablet creating gas in the canister and it becomes a rocket! You can do this experiment over and over, though your paper may need to be replaced after awhile.

### Independence Day Collage

#### Materials:

Poster board  
Old magazines, catalogs  
Glue sticks  
Scissors

#### Instructions:

1. A nice way to kick off this project is either to read a story about Independence Day or have a discussion about what Independence Day means. This lays a foundation for the kids to build on.
2. The children can look through the magazines for pictures that represent independence and America. After cutting these out it is a good idea to lay them on the poster board to see how they look.
3. Once you have decided the location of the pictures, use the glue stick to attach them to the board. A nice added touch may be red, white and blue streamers to decorate the perimeter of the completed board.

### Patriotic Pot

#### Materials:

Small terra cotta pot  
Oil based crayons  
Small piece of Styrofoam  
Flags on sticks  
Spanish moss

**Instructions:**

1. Brush off your pot to make sure it doesn't have any dirt or dust on it. Then using the oil based crayons draw symbols of the United States- the flag, stars, stripes, the Statue of Liberty etc.
2. Place the Styrofoam in the bottom of the decorated flowerpot. Place the flags into the Styrofoam. Using the Spanish moss cover the base of the sticks so that the Styrofoam is covered.

**A Patriotic Paper Windsock****Materials:**

One rounded oatmeal or cornmeal box  
Blue, red and white construction paper  
Red and blue markers  
Star shaped cookie cutter, stamp or stencil  
Glue  
Scissors  
hole punch  
String or fishing line  
Steamers-red and white crepe paper, or strips of paper

**Instructions:**

**Step 1.** Cut off the bottom of your rounded box. (parents can do this easily by running a knife around the bottom, instead of actually cutting a section off.) Cover the entire box with blue paper-glue on securely (you can staple too if you wish). Any size rounded container works well-the large oatmeal containers make a nice big tube with room for more stars and adding "Happy 4th of July!".

**Step 2.** Using the cookie cutter, stencil or stamp of a star as a pattern draw 6-12 stars (depending on how big your tube is) on the white paper and carefully cut them out. Glue on to your blue box-spacing them around the entire thing.

**Step 3.** For your streamers you will need some type of red and white paper strips. You can use shredded paper from a paper shredder (parents must do this part), or crepe paper that is cut in half lengthwise, or other paper that has been cut into strips. Be creative with what you have around the house! Cut them fairly long-12 inches or so. Staple or tape them to the bottom of your box-spacing evenly so they hang off the tube. Lastly, punch four holes in the top of your box-be very careful to punch one hole on each side and space them evenly so it will hang correctly. Cut two 12 inch pieces of string-tie each one through two holes and tie in a knot, so you now have two "loops" on each side. Take another 12-inch string and tie it through both loops. This string is the one you will attach to your porch, so it waves around in the breeze!

**A Fourth of July Hat****Materials:**

White poster board  
Red and blue markers, crayons or paint

Optional:

Glitter paint

Stickers

Red and blue construction paper

**Instructions:**

**Step 1:** You will need to cut a piece of poster board for each hat about 6-8 inches wide, with the length measuring just enough to fit around the person's head with a little room to spare. (Use a measuring tape, paper or ribbon to put around their head and mark the length you will need)

**Step 2:** Now you will decorate your hat BEFORE stapling it together. This is where you have many options! Each person can paint or color stars around the surface of their hat or write on phrases such as:

*I love the red, white and blue!  
Happy Fourth of July!  
Celebrate Our Independence Day!  
I love America!*

You can also add paint, glitter, or cut shapes that can be placed around the top of the hat. You could even use patriotic stickers from the store, or attach a small pinwheel to your hat!

**Step 3:** Once your hat is decorated and dry, secure it together with several staples to fasten together the two edges. Place it on your head and celebrate!

### **Beaded Necklace & Bracelets**

#### **Materials & Instructions:**

Using any type of bead (bigger beads work better for young children), have your child string red, white, and blue beads on a piece of string, ribbon, or yarn. Tie into a circle and instantly your child has a wonderful necklace or bracelet to wear.

### **4th of July Flag for Preschoolers**

#### **Materials & Instructions:**

This is a perfect art project for preschool aged children. The key is to allow them to place their stripes and stars where ever they wish, but you may want to let them see a sample flag if they ask.

Give each child one piece of white construction paper and have them place it sideways on the table. Then give each child several strips of red paper, one blue square, and several star stickers. Have each child glue down the strips, blue square and stars however they wish, creating their own version of the US flag.

### **Uncle Sam's Pencil Cup**

#### **Materials:**

Empty Peanut Can  
Different Sized Paper Plates  
Colored Construction Paper  
Star Stickers  
Crayons  
Scissors  
Glue

#### **Instructions:**

1. Cut red construction paper into 1" wide strips.
2. Cut a piece of white paper big enough to fit around the peanut can. Glue the red strips of paper evenly around the container. Use a large paper plate to trace a blue circle bigger than your can. Glue the container in the center of the blue circle. Decorate the blue paper with stars. This can be used to hold pencils.

### **USA Flag**

#### **Materials:**

Red, blue and white construction paper  
Blue marker  
Glue  
Craft stick

**Instructions:**

Fold a piece of white construction paper in half. Place a craft stick in the middle and glue two sides together. Cut several strips of red construction paper to make the stripes, and glue to both sides of white paper. Cut a small blue square and glue in left top corner. Draw stars on blue square of paper. Write "God Bless The USA" on craft stick.