



Girlguiding Birmingham Arts Team

Crafty ideas for all sections all year round

Arts Team



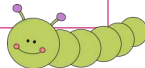
This is a compilation of the ideas from some of our past newsletters and activity days which we hope you will find useful.

There are seasonal and themed ideas as well as twists on some unit meeting activities and skill builder challenges.
Have fun!

As spring approaches, the Arts Team have been inspired by all the mini-beasts our gardens and parks, so we've put together a selection of ideas for making some of your own.



Bookworm



Simply glue circles of coloured paper onto a strip of card and decorate ... you could colour sticky labels or use a painted bottle top, cork or finger to print the shapes.



Why not make lots of mini caterpillars from hole punchings?

Beaded caterpillar

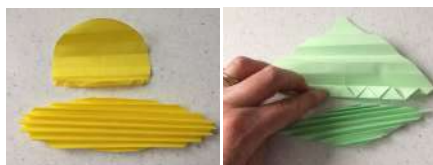
Use a pipe cleaner and coil a head shape. Thread beads on for the body. Cut off any excess pipe cleaner, folding the end to secure the last bead. Glue on eyes, tie on a piece of cord for antennae.



Two beautiful butterflies



Use two squares or circles of paper (2 different sizes works best). Accordion fold the paper (use the square diagonally). *Folding guidelines first, in the same way as for March's Fan-cy Creatures, makes this easier.*



Crease the centre of the folded strips and open up the pleats at the edges to form the wings. Fasten the two pairs of wings together with a little glue then twist the pipe-cleaner around.

Trim its ends to form antennae.



Add a paper or beaded body if you wish.



Take a square of paper, fold in half and open out, then fold in half the other way and open.

Turn the paper over. Fold diagonally, open, and then fold the other diagonal and open.

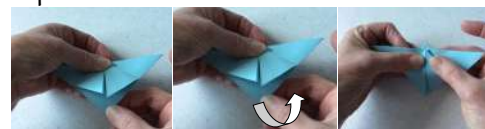
Carefully pinch the centres of the sides together and fold the paper into a triangle.



Place the open edges at the top with what was the centre of the square, towards you.

Take one of the top corners and bring it down to meet the bottom point.

Repeat on the other side.

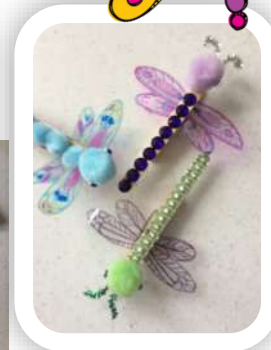


Now take the point that was the centre of the square backwards and fold the tip over to the front at the top of the wings to secure.

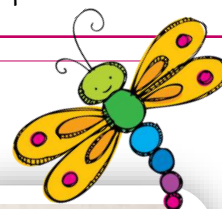
Fold the wings together slightly to shape.

Keep your wellies or your papers together with a dragonfly peg

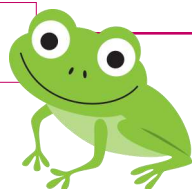
Use a lolly stick or strip of card for the body and cut wings from waste plastic. Decorate the body by sticking on pom-poms, jewels, sequins or beads. Use a pom-pom for a head and add eyes. Use permanent pens and colour the wings. Glue the wings (and antennae if you like) onto the back of the body, then glue the whole thing onto a wooden clothes peg.



Dragonfly clips



Tadpole to frog



Find out about the life cycle of a frog ...

Cut the frog shape from thin card. Carefully fold the arms to the back, repeat with the legs and finally the tail.

Cut two oval shapes, (slightly larger than the body of the frog) from bubble wrap or a plastic poly-pocket. Use strips of tape to fasten them together around the edges, leaving a gap big enough to put the frog body into the 'egg'. Insert the folded frog.



You can now 'hatch' the frog spawn into a tadpole, 'grow' the back legs and then the front ones. Finally fold the tail back and blu-tac it to give your final frog a good shape.



Fold the feet so that it stands.

Edible bugs

Start with a base: a piece of celery, a strip of bread, a piece of carrot, a cracker etc.

Trim to make sure it stands firmly

Add a soft, sticky layer:

cream cheese,
peanut butter, hummus,
etc.



Then get creative:

baby tomatoes, grapes,
blueberries and olives
all make good heads,

grapes, blueberries, raisins,
strips of carrot etc. make
good bodies



slices of round fruits or
cucumber make snail shells,

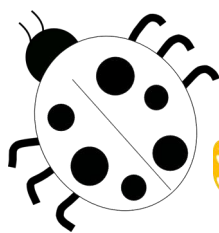
slices of cucumber or
strawberry, orange segments,



pretzels or crisps make wings
chives or cress can be antennae.



Add candy eyes or use cream
cheese and raisins/olives



Grab paper, pencils and dice
and enjoy a game of beetle
with your friends
or family.

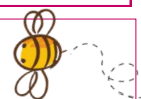


Take an Oreo-type biscuit (the ones with the thicker cream layer work best) and carefully open. Insert two white chocolate buttons for wings and close the biscuit, adding a little extra icing/chocolate spread if needed to hold the wings in place. Mix a little icing sugar with a few drops of water and some yellow colouring or use some writing icing to make stripes and to stick candy eyes or sweets in place. to complete your bee.

Biscuit bees



Make some 'bee' bunting or messages ... maybe 'bee happy', 'bee kind', 'bee yourself', 'bee the change', 'bee your best'. Add fingerprint bees and display where everyone will see them.

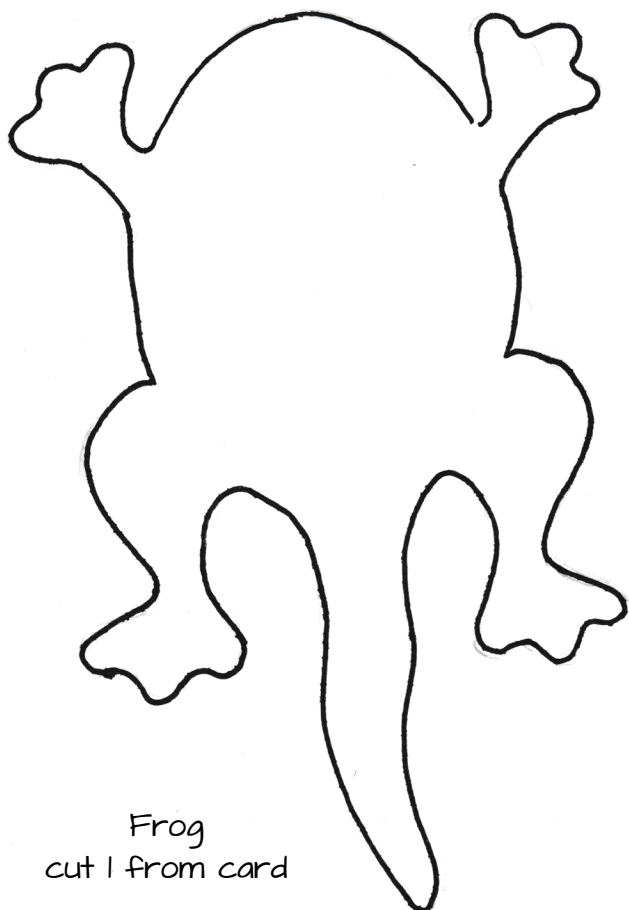


Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

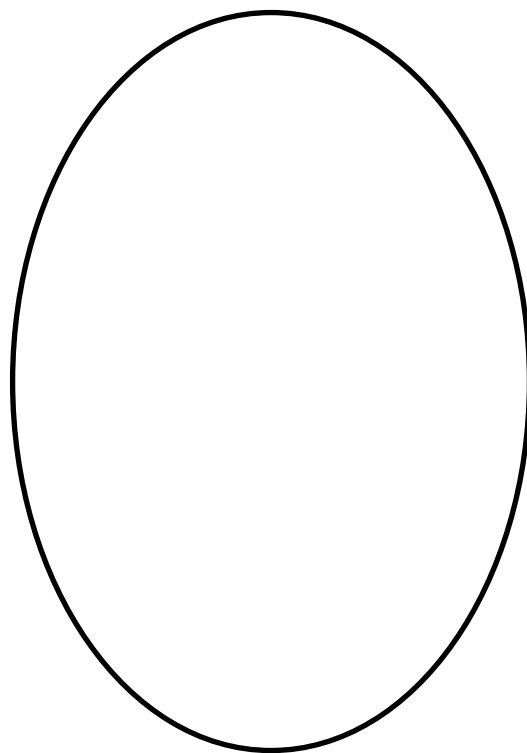
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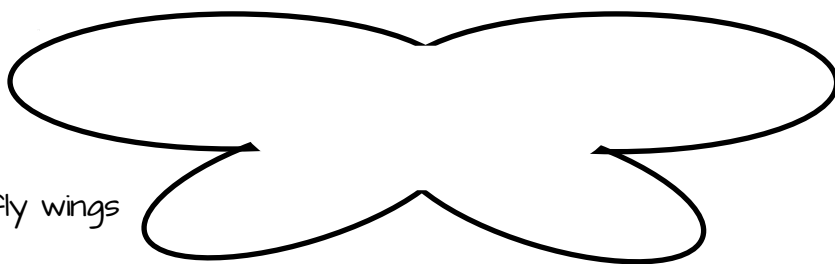
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Frog
cut 1 from card

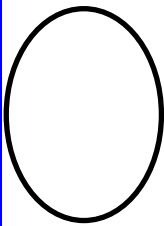


Egg-cut 2
from bubble-wrap or clear plastic



Dragonfly wings



					
Body	Head	Wings	Leg	Spot	Antennae
					
You must get this first	You need this before you can add antennae		You need 6 of these	You need 6 of these	You need 2 of these



Fairy gardens

Make a tiny garden that a fairy could enjoy ... do it outside though, as things can get a little messy!

Collect a range of materials
and get creative:

Raid the recycling
for containers.

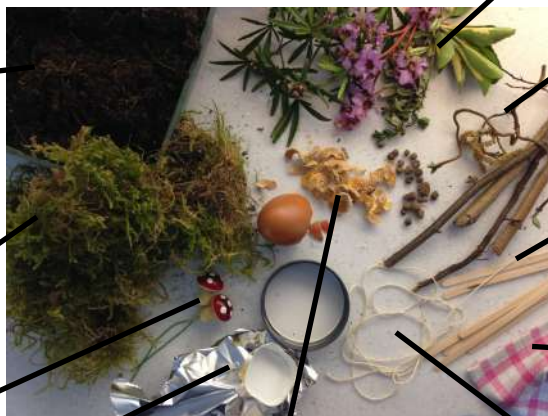


Add soil
or potting
compost

Moss is great for grass

Lego or plastic
figures/ornaments

Bottle tops, lids, bases of
plastic containers, foil to
make ponds



Small pieces of plants and
flowers (that you are
allowed to cut/collect)

Twigs for trees, fences
or rustic furniture

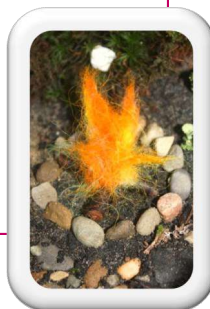
Lolly sticks or
coffee stirrers for
fences, signposts and
furniture
(you may need to add glue)

Fabric scraps to
make washing, tents,
bunting

Small stones, wood shavings,
crushed egg shells or sand
for paths

String for ropes
and washing lines

Missing being at camp? ... Create your own version!



Design a duck-pond

Use a coloured paper plate, paper, paperclip and a magnet to make an
indoor pond!

Cut a duck shape from coloured paper.

Open one piece of the paperclip and tape it to the back of the
duck so that your duck will stand up.

Cut some grass shaped strips of paper and stick them onto the
paper plate or piece of card (fold the bottom of the 'grass'
backwards in order to make it stand up.)

Add any other decorations to
your pond.

Move the magnet underneath
to make your duck swim
around.

If your magnet is small, stick it onto a
lolly stick or strip of stiff card - make
sure it is the right way up so that the
paperclip sticks to it!



Paper tulips



Try some origami and make a row of spring tulips - once you've mastered a couple of folds these are quite straight forward.

The video instructions are here: <https://youtube/DDUFNqFAvdlU>

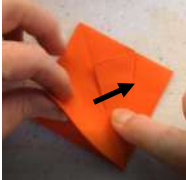
You will need two squares of paper, scissors, a pencil and a small coin or weight.



Make the flower first: fold the paper diagonally and open out, then fold the other diagonal and open again. Turn the paper over.

Fold in half, open and then fold in half the other way.

Carefully bring all the corners together.



Turn the paper so that the corners of the original square are all at the bottom. Fold the top layers at the right and left corners in to the centre line. Fold the top corner down, then open up. Carefully lift the bottom corner as far as it will go, allowing the sides to fold in.

Turn the paper over and repeat. Fold the top points back down.

Turn the paper so all the points are at the top, then fold a small section in on all except the top corners.



Open out the bottom fold and make a VERY SMALL snip in the base. Open out the flower shape, flatten the base, then curl the petals gently outwards with a pencil.

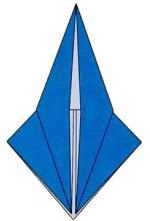
To make the stem and leaf, fold the green paper diagonally, open and bring the sides in to the centre line. Repeat.

Fold the short edges in to the centre line.

Fold the wide end part way up the stem and bend along the centre line.

Adjust to give an angle between the stem and leaf, then fold firmly.

Push the flower onto the top of the stem and add a weight (a coin works well) into the base to add stability.

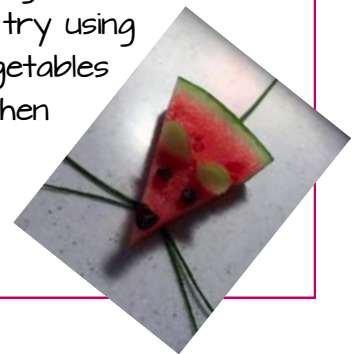


Create a collage

Collect a range of natural materials and make a collage - animals (real or imaginary ones) work well, or why not try to do a portrait?



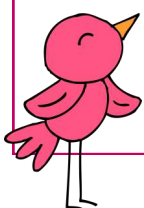
If you can't get outdoors to collect things, try using fruits and vegetables from the kitchen instead.



Singing and dancing in the rain!

Embrace the rain, go outdoors and have fun!

Put on waterproofs and wellies, go puddle jumping, play 'follow-my-leader', sing your favourite camp songs, make up a dance routine with an umbrella, blow bubbles, or even try some watery races and challenges.



Take it further lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!

Time for some spring cleaning of your craft stash? This month the Arts Team bring you a collection of ideas for easy ways to use up some of those odd bits. Of course junk models and collages are great final activities ... and then you won't feel so guilty throwing the very last bits away!

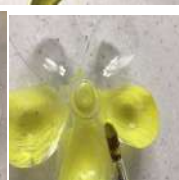


Spring wreaths

Use up odd bits of craft materials to make a cheerful spring wreath for your home or meeting place.

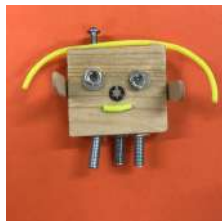
Start with a paper plate and cut out the centre. Cover the ring with strips of green paper/card/crepe/fabric. Wrap long lengths around, stapling the ends to secure, fold and tie or glue shorter pieces over the ring, trimming the ends to form leaves.

Next use pipe-cleaners, paper, egg cartons, plastic bottles, pom poms, buttons etc to make flowers and decorate your wreath. Glue or staple into place and add a hanging loop if desired.



Random robots

Tidy out the garage or shed and practice using hammers, screwdrivers, saws and drills!



Use scraps of wood and any odd washers, nails, screws etc to build a 'robot'. Make sure that you have adult instruction/supervision and a safe way to hold your wood, then get creative! Sand the block and fix the other items to create your 'bot'. Use screws, nails, PVA (or a glue gun if you aren't patient!) For younger girls the cutting and drilling could be pre-done.

Lanterns

Tissue paper scraps team up with glue, and glass jars to make great seasonal decorations.



Using PVA or decoupage glue, cover clean, empty



jars or the bases of plastic bottles with torn scraps of tissue paper, if you've left -over glitter stir that into the glue. Add a silhouette shape from black paper if you like. Finally tie on a string or wire handle decorated with any beads or charms then illuminate with an LED tealight.



Pots and planters

Transform cardboard tubes, tin cans, old containers, or plastic bottles



If using cans,, open with a tin opener that doesn't leave a sharp edge, or cover this with duct tape. Tape card circles over the base of tubes, trim plastic bottles, then paint if desired. Using any scraps, cover and/or decorate your containers.

Double sided tape (remember to tear rather than cut this)

or a cool melt glue gun are efficient ways to assemble everything..



CD fun



Old CDs look great decorated with all those odd jewels and sequins !

Make a hovercraft: seal a sports bottle top over the hole in the CD with blu-tac. Inflate a balloon and place over the end -open the top to make it move.



Suncatchers

Cut two frame shapes from paper or card (it is easiest if this is folded). Place one frame onto a piece of sticky back plastic, then fill in the centre with torn scraps of tissue paper, overlapping them slightly but making sure they are in contact with the sticky plastic too. Add a hanging string, then glue or staple the second frame over the top to neaten. Hang in the window.



Upcycled eggs

Fill the eggs with some rice or dried peas and tape closed to make shakers. If you want a handle, tape the egg between two disposable spoons.



Glue or blu-tac a stick into decorated egg halves to add a bit of quick magic to your pots or garden.



Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!

As April showers give way to May flowers, the Arts Team wanted to get in on the act and share some ideas for ways to brighten someone's day or add a touch of colour to your home.

Have fun and remember to share what you have done!

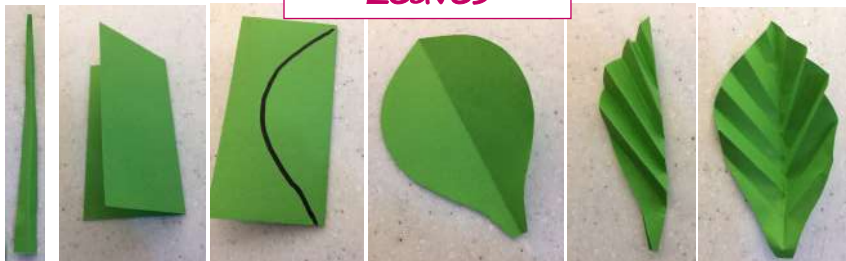


Stems



Rolled paper, straws, plant canes, lolly sticks, kebab skewers, pencils or pipe-cleaners will all work as stems if you need them.

Leaves



Cut leaf shapes from folded paper. To give wider leaves more structure, fold the folded leaf shape in a zig zag (fan) along the lines where the veins would be. Carefully open out. If you want to attach it to a stem, slit the base and wrap it around, gluing into position.



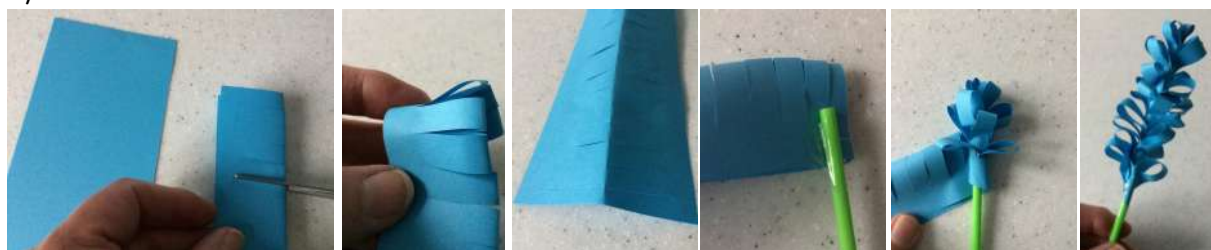
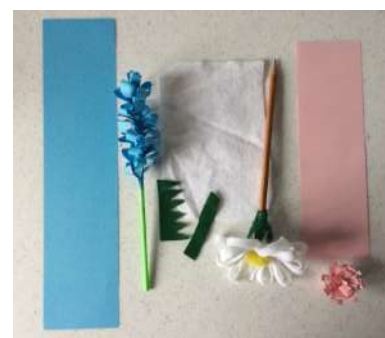
Basic flowers



We've shared lots of ways to make flowers from pipe-cleaners, strips of paper or cupcake liners in previous newsletters, so look back and maybe try those out too, but for something different: start with a square, a strip or a circle of paper or felt ... or even a paper cup.

Fringed flowers

Take a strip of paper and fold it in half lengthways. Make cuts from the folded edge towards, but not as far as, the cut edges, to make a looped fringe. Open out to remove any creases, then re-fold, gluing the cut edges together. Attach a stem to one end if required. Apply another line of glue to the cut edges and roll, either twisting it down the stem or forming a tight spiral. The size of the strip can be adjusted to get different effects. Try adding a pom-pom centre, or leaves and a calyx to the bottom.



Paper cup flowers Cut down the sides of a paper cup, going right to the base. Carefully fold back the strips to form 'petals'. Cut the ends into curves. Turn the cup so that the base is facing up and fill this circle with balls of tissue paper or something similar, gluing them into place. Attach a 'stem' to the back and add a leaf.

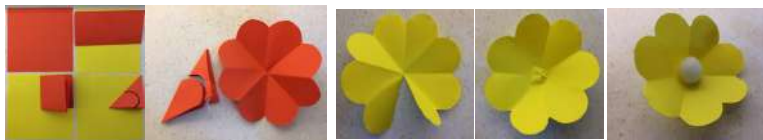


Rolled flowers Use a circle of paper and cut it into a spiral. Roll the spiral starting from the outside and working in towards the centre (a thin stick makes this easier). Allow the roll to open out slightly and then glue onto the centre.



Try attaching a pipe-cleaner before rolling, and twist this onto a pencil, forming the other end into a leaf.

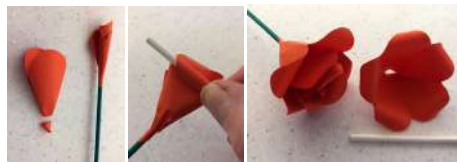
Folded flowers Fold a square into eighths, then cut a curve from the open edges.



Open out to give a flower shape. To give a bit more depth, cut in towards the centre and overlap one or two petals, gluing into place. Add a centre of tissue paper, pom-pom etc..



To make a rose, make a series of flowers with fewer and fewer petals. Pile up or thread onto



a stem, rolling the edges of the petals to give a more realistic shape.



Show them off!

Wear: stick a length of ribbon to a strip of card or paper and attach your blooms ... or make a complete crown from card. Try sticking them onto a badge back or hair-slide.

Decorate: use your flowers to make table decorations, garlands, hanging decorations, wreaths or add to



Bake a bouquet

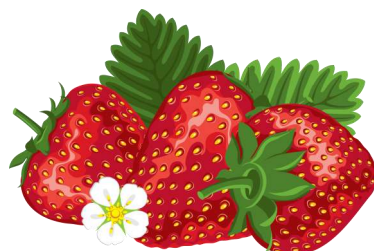
Cream together 40g sugar with 50g softened butter or margarine. Add a few drops of vanilla essence, then stir in 75g self raising flour to give a soft dough. Roll small, pea sized pieces of the dough into balls and arrange on a baking tray, lined with non-stick baking paper. Flatten slightly, then add a piece of cherry or a smartie as a centre. Bake 170°C, mk4 for 7-10 minutes or until just beginning to turn golden around the edges. If using chocolate button centres add these now. Cool.



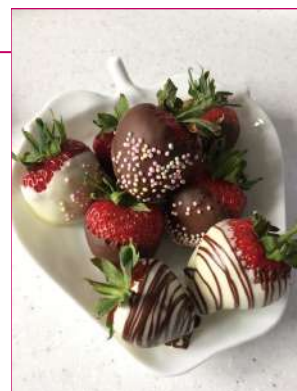
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Nothing says 'summer' quite like strawberries, so whether you want to cook, sew, craft or just eat them, the Arts Team have some seasonal suggestions. Have fun and remember to share what you have done!



Chocolate dipped



Wash the strawberries well in advance and then leave until they are absolutely dry, as any moisture will make your chocolate go thick.

A halved berry, piece of strawberry lace and chocolate drops or chips will make a mouse.



Melt the chocolate and hold the stem as you dip the berry. Allow excess chocolate to drain back into the bowl, add decorations as desired and place on baking paper in the fridge to set.



Uncooked kebabs

Thread a selection of fruits, brownie bites and/or marshmallows onto skewers. Why not drizzle with melted chocolate too?



Toasted treats

Upgrade s'mores: either roast a strawberry with your marshmallows or spread skewered strawberries with marshmallow fluff (bought or home-made) or meringue. Toast over a fire or barbecue.



Quick cookies

Use strawberry jam and make cookies worthy of the Queen of Hearts! Cream 175g block margarine or butter with 125g sugar.

Beat in an egg and stir in 225g plain flour. Chill.

Take teaspoonfuls of the mixture, roll into balls (wet hands may make this easier) and place onto a baking paper lined baking tray, leaving space for them to spread.



Use your knuckle, thumb or a small measuring spoon to make an indent in each and then carefully fill with strawberry jam. Bake at 170°C (mk 4) for 12-14 minutes or until lightly golden. Cool before removing from the tray.

Dust with icing sugar if desired.



Strawberry laces



It's much more fun to practise knots, lashings or try plaiting if the result is edible! Use strawberry laces and bread or pretzel sticks.

Paint a strawberry

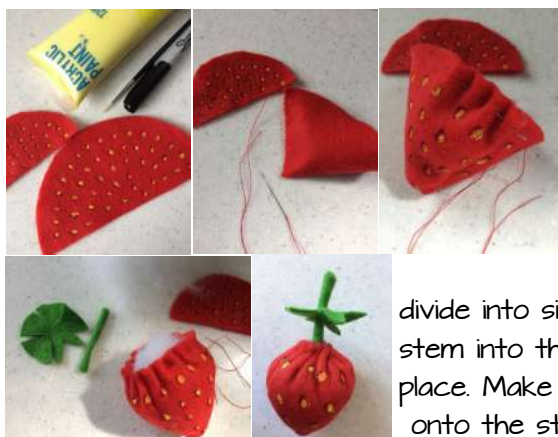


Collect some stones from the garden, wash them and then paint them red (it will take several coats!). Paint on some yellow seeds and add detail with a fine black marker. Cover with PVA or varnish to give a shine. Roll strips of glued felt (or use pipe-cleaners) for stems. Cut calyxes from circles of felt, poke the stems through and glue into place. Glue onto the stones.

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Sew a strawberry



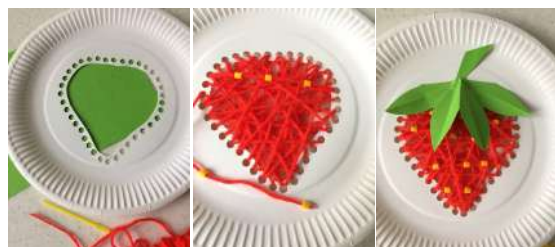
Cut semicircles of red felt or fabric. Add 'seeds' with yellow acrylic paint and finish with a fine black marker. Fold right-sides together and sew into a cone. Turn and stuff lightly. Sew running stitches along the top edge and pull tightly to gather. Place glue onto a piece of green felt and roll tightly to form a stem. Use a circle of felt for the calyx, snipping inwards to divide into sixths before trimming into shape. Insert the stem into the gathered top of the berry and stitch into place. Make a snip in the centre of the calyx and thread onto the stem. Glue into place.



Yarn berries



Wrap or thread red yarn for a larger-than-life strawberry! Cut a strawberry shape from card, tape the end of the yarn to the back and wrap around, covering the card. Thread some beads onto the top layer if you wish. Add a rolled paper stem and a paper calyx.



Alternatively cut a shaped hole in a paper plate and punch holes around this. Cut a length of yarn and either use a weaving needle or wrap tape around the end (shoe lace style). Tape the other end to the back of the plate and thread through the holes, adding more yarn and beads as required. Top with a paper calyx.



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In the hope that summer will soon be with us, the Arts Team have put together a selection of ideas for making the most of sunny days ... and if the sun doesn't shine there are indoor activities to try too!



Fruity fans



Keep yourself as cool as a cucumber this summer with a fruity folded fan! Glue one and a half pieces of A4 paper together to make one longer piece. Decorate this by colouring or by gluing on strips of paper as shown - the two long sides will be the outside of your fruit. Fold the strip in half lengthways to mark the centre, open out, then concertina-fold the paper along its length. Tie or place an elastic band around the centre then stick one side to form a semi-circle. Glue a lolly stick inside the folds of the remaining open edge, leaving a short handle sticking out. Bring the handles together to open your fan, fold them the other way to close, keeping them in place with a small elastic band.

Brilliant bubbles

Place bubble solution in a cup or a glass. With your fingers, spread a very thin layer onto a plate or over the work surface. Take a straw, dip it into the bubble mix and blow a bubble on the surface - keep the straw just above the surface. Dip your straw back in the bubble mix and carefully poke it just inside the first bubble. If it pops you need more bubble mix on your straw. Once you've successfully poked your straw just through the first bubble, gently blow a second bubble inside the first. Can you add even more bubbles inside?



Bubble snakes

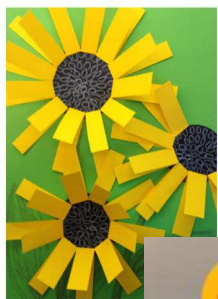


Cut the top section from a plastic bottle. Cover the cut end of this top section with a piece of absorbent fabric or an old sock, using an elastic band to keep it in place. Dip the fabric into the bubble solution and then blow through the top of the bottle to form your snake.



Home-made bubble solution:
Gently, but thoroughly, stir together
2tbsp washing up liquid
and about 200ml water.

*Adding 1 tbsp sugar or
glycerine makes the bubbles
last longer.*



Sunshine and sunflowers

Cut a circle of paper for the centre - dark for a sunflower or yellow for a sun, glue it onto your background. Add a face or seeds if required.



Take a strip of yellow paper, twice as wide as you want the petals/rays to be, and fold it almost-in-half lengthways. Cut off pieces to give you lots of folded strips. Glue the folded ends around the centres you have made. Add stems, leaves, clouds etc. to finish your pictures.



Ice cream

Use frozen fruit to make an almost-instant ice cream treat.

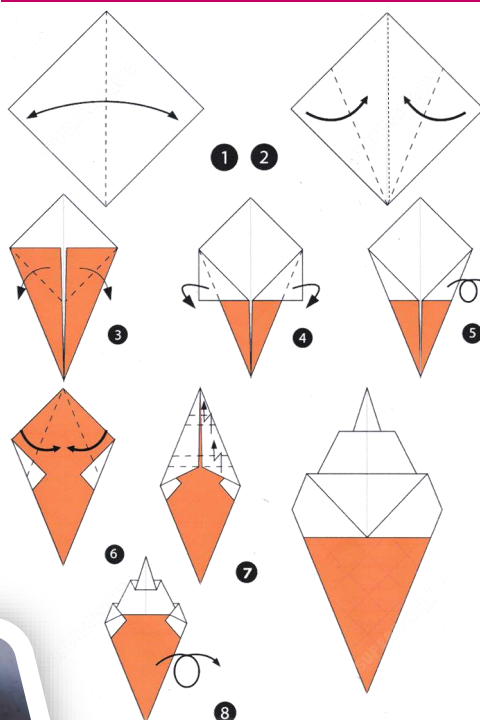


Place frozen fruit into a food processor and add an equal quantity of yogurt, cream, milk, or a mixture of any of them. Blend until smooth, add a little sugar or honey if needed, and serve straight away.

Some of our favourites are frozen strawberries, raspberries, bananas or mango.



Origami ice cream cones



Turn a square of paper into a dream ice cream cone!

Follow the instructions to fold it, then decorate with pens, scraps of paper, beads or any other craft materials.



Watch how to fold it here:
https://youtube/OZaj_2A2OBk

Lolly stick puzzles

Use two pieces of masking tape to join clean lolly sticks to make a rectangle. Draw and colour a design on the other side-make sure it fills the whole area.

Remove the tape and try to reassemble the picture. For a real challenge try adding a different design on the other side!



Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



Girlguiding
Birmingham county

Join the Arts Team in bringing the seaside to Birmingham
... well not the real sea, but some crafts to make you
believe you've been there! So, no need to pack, just
find out the paints and glue, collect your ingredients and
have some creative fun.



Build a boat

Try building a boat from a selection of materials that you can find around the house, see if it floats and then improve it!

These are some starting points:



Take a square of foil or a piece of plasticine and fold/scrunch/model it into a boat shape - now try floating it in a bowl of water. Add coins and see how much it will hold before sinking.

Would making it deeper or wider work better?

Use elastic bands to join three corks together firmly, then add a cocktail stick mast and a paper sail. Use a straw to blow onto the sail and make the boat move. Can you make it change direction and avoid obstacles? What happens if you use something else for the sail? Try holding a boat race! Practice those knots and lashings to make a raft.



Bake a beach



Transform cupcakes and buttercream into beach scenes.

Add a little blue colouring to some of the buttercream. This is the sea, so if you leave the colour slightly unevenly mixed it gives a nice watery effect.

Spread part of the top of the cake with the uncoloured buttercream then dip into brown sugar or biscuit crumbs to make the sand.

Carefully swirl the 'sea' over the other side.

Build a beach scene: sweets can make towels, swim rings, balls, etc. for mini gingerbread men, cocktail umbrellas make parasols etc.



Create a castle

Even if you can't build a real sandcastle you could try turning a sheet of



sandpaper into one! Cut the sandpaper into variously sized strips and then, with angled cuts, into bucket shaped pieces. You should have some big and some small ones. With the aid of a glue stick, create a castle. Add a flag and small stones or shells to complete the effect.



Paint a stone

Wash and dry your stone, then cover it in a base coat of acrylic paint. Once this is dry add another coat, allow to dry and then add the details.

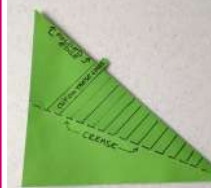


Try making a rock monster, a souvenir, a motivational message or even a cactus!

Fishy fun

Paper fish

Cut a square of paper, fold diagonally and open out.



Working from one of the corners that are on the folded diagonal, bring the adjoining cut edges of paper to the centre fold, creating a kite shape. Open out and then refold on the diagonal. Cut lines from the fold to the crease as shown, keeping them at 90° to the fold and working from the narrow end towards (but not up to) the wide end. Open out, position the two uncut triangles on top of each other to form a cone-type shape. Glue. Trim the open end to form the face shape and, if required, cut a small lower jaw from scrap paper. Cut fins and a tail from scrap paper, and glue everything into place.



Egg box fish

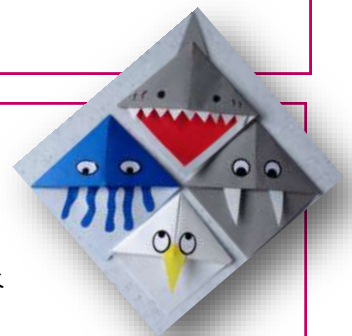


Cut some of the cups and two of the tall pointed bits from an empty egg box as shown (if the cup parts have slits in them, cover these with a glued on strip of paper). Trim the edges, shaping the pointed sections into a head and tail. Paint the egg box sections and allow to dry. Make a small hole in the centre of each of the pieces. Tie a bead to the end of the string and thread on the tail, add more beads onto the string then a cup section, a few more beads and the next section etc. Tie the string to fasten the head into place. Glue or stick on eyes.



Corner bookmarks

Cut a square of paper, fold diagonally. With the diagonal as the base fold the side points up to meet the top point—it will now be a square shape. Crease and open back out to a triangle, Take ONE of the top points and fold it down to the centre of the base, Now take the side points in turn and re-fold, but tuck the corner inside the shape. Decorate with pens and paper shapes.



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We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



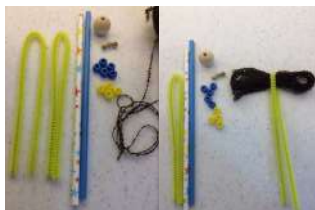
Girlguiding
Birmingham county

If you can get outside in the fine weather it's a good opportunity to hold your own sporting event, try some of the sports themed UMAs for your section and this month we've some crafty sports themed activities for you to try too!!

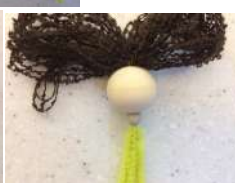
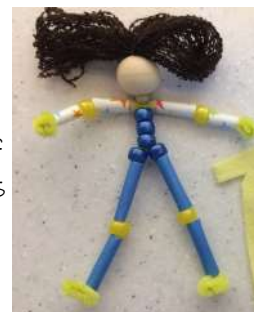


Athletes

Make your own team of athletes. Why not make props and pose them for photos, or make a stop animation film?



Bend 2 pipe cleaners in half. Use one to secure loops of wool for the hair, twist tightly then thread both ends through a large bead for the head and a small one for the neck. Open the ends and add a shoulder bead onto each.



Wrap the remaining pipe cleaner around the neck, then thread 3 beads onto both strands of it, to form the body.



Open up and add one more bead onto each (the hips). Fold the arm pipe-cleaners in half (back on themselves), thread 2 pieces of straw and a bead to form arms, bend the ends to make



hands and secure.

Thread a straw and bead onto the legs, fold the remaining pipe cleaner and add the straw. Fold up and shape the feet. Add features and glue the hair into place.

Cycle races



Draw or print out an outline for both sides of a cyclist on card—the pictures need to be slightly larger than a clothes peg. Colour and then cut out.

Cut a piece of cord at least 1m long. Thread one end through the centre of the peg's spring and tie firmly. Tie the other end to a piece of dowel or a pencil.

Tear a piece of double sided tape and cover one of the opening sides of the peg, line up one of the pictures (with the front of the cyclist facing the string and the bottom of the wheels level with the edge of the peg) and stick firmly. Repeat on the other side.

To race your cyclists line them up one side of a table with the string stretched out to the other side. Twist the stick in your fingers to roll up the string and move your bicycle.



Medals

Make your own medals and award them (for sports or for anything else!).

For edible ones use a biscuit or bread base topped with icing and sweets or even with cream cheese and vegetables.



Try foam shapes, cupcake liners and/or card shapes, even old jar lids or DVDs.

You could add foam letters/numbers, stickers, or even glue pasta on and then paint it.

For a really quick one just glue a chocolate coin to a ribbon!



For a truly metallic finish add extra layers of card or foam and glue string patterns onto the base shape before covering in foil. Use a soft cloth or brush to gently press the foil down and to reveal the pattern.

Sports and games

Dancing ribbons

Thread a piece of string through the spring of a clothes peg and tie firmly. Cut a strip from the end of a pack of crepe paper (or use a long ribbon), wrap around the bottom part of the peg so that it is held firmly.

Go outside, hold the string and twirl your ribbon!

Alternatively just tie one or two lengths of ribbon onto a hair elastic, place onto your wrist and dance!



Paper plate frisbees

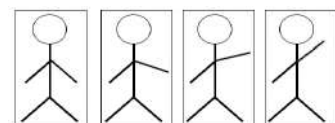
Cut a circle out of the centre of each of two firm paper plates.

Decorate the under side if you wish. Invert one plate onto the other and staple together around the edge.



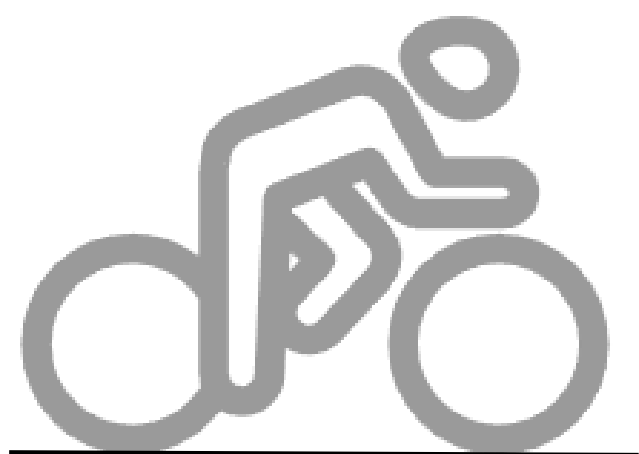
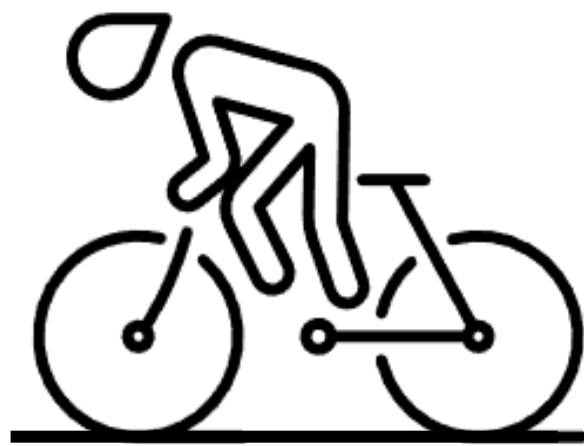
Flip books

Use a notebook or pad of post-it notes and create some action. Start at the back of the pad and draw a figure near the corner of the pad. Re-draw the figure with a slight change on each page working towards the front of the pad. Flick the pages to create the motion.



Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

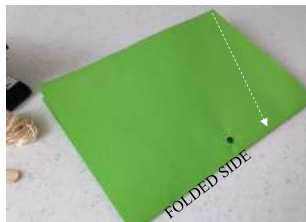
We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



Autumn has arrived. A gusty wind and all those fallen leaves have inspired the Arts Team to come up with a selection of ideas for you to try. Explore the out of doors, go for a walk, collect some natural materials and enjoy getting creative.



Let's go fly a kite ...



Use a sheet of A4 paper and fold it in half. Punch a hole in the centre of the folded side (this is where you will attach your string later).

Take one of the corners of the paper and bring it down to the fold, halfway between the hole and the edge of the paper. Don't crease this, just hold it in place and repeat on the back.

Where the two corners meet the folded edge, staple to keep them in place - you have now created the wings.

From coloured paper, cut a triangle for a beak and a shape for a tail. Staple these into place. Add eyes.

Wind some lightweight string or thread around a lolly stick and tie the loose end securely through the punched hole.

Take your bird kite outside and let it fly!



Autumn hairstyles



Start with an outline face shape drawn in the centre of a landscape A4 sheet of paper.

Collect a selection of fallen leaves and then simply glue them into place to create your hairstyle and complete the picture.

Why not also try adding leaf 'feathers' onto an owl or leafy 'spikes' onto a hedgehog outline?



Decorate a leaf



Drawing on leaves is much more fun than drawing on paper!

Collect a selection of largish, dry, firm leaves and use metallic markers, chalk markers, acrylic paint pens or Sharpies to transform them into works of art.

Why not also try adding eyes and other features to make creatures or even stick puppets?



Leaf printing

Smoke prints



With cotton-wool, smear a very small amount of oil over the base of a foil container and then put it into a candle flame to get smoky and blackened.



Use a cotton-wool ball to remove the soot and rub it over the back of a leaf.



Firmly press the sooty side of the leaf down onto paper to make your print.



You can get a good reverse print pattern too!

Felt pen prints



Use water soluble pens to colour over the back of some leaves. Spray thick paper or card very lightly with some water (the paper should be barely damp or the print will smudge).



Arrange the leaves coloured side down, cover with a sheet of paper and press to transfer the design.

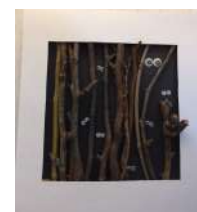
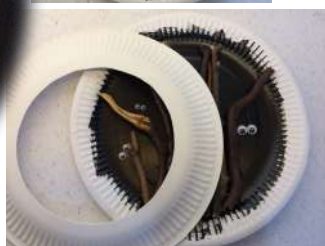


A second print may be even clearer.

In the deep, dark wood ...



Paint a paper plate black and allow to dry. Arrange some twigs and googly eyes on the base of the plate and glue into place. Allow the glue to dry. Cut the centre from a second paper plate and invert this over the first to form a frame. Glue or staple into place.



Alternatively use tape to secure the ends of the sticks to black card and cut a frame to fit.

Leaf creatures ...

Collect leaves (press them if you want your pictures to last for more than a day or so).



Glue the leaves onto paper and let your imagination run riot - add googly eyes and features with pen to create real or imaginary creatures.

Alternatively glue onto lolly sticks to make puppets.

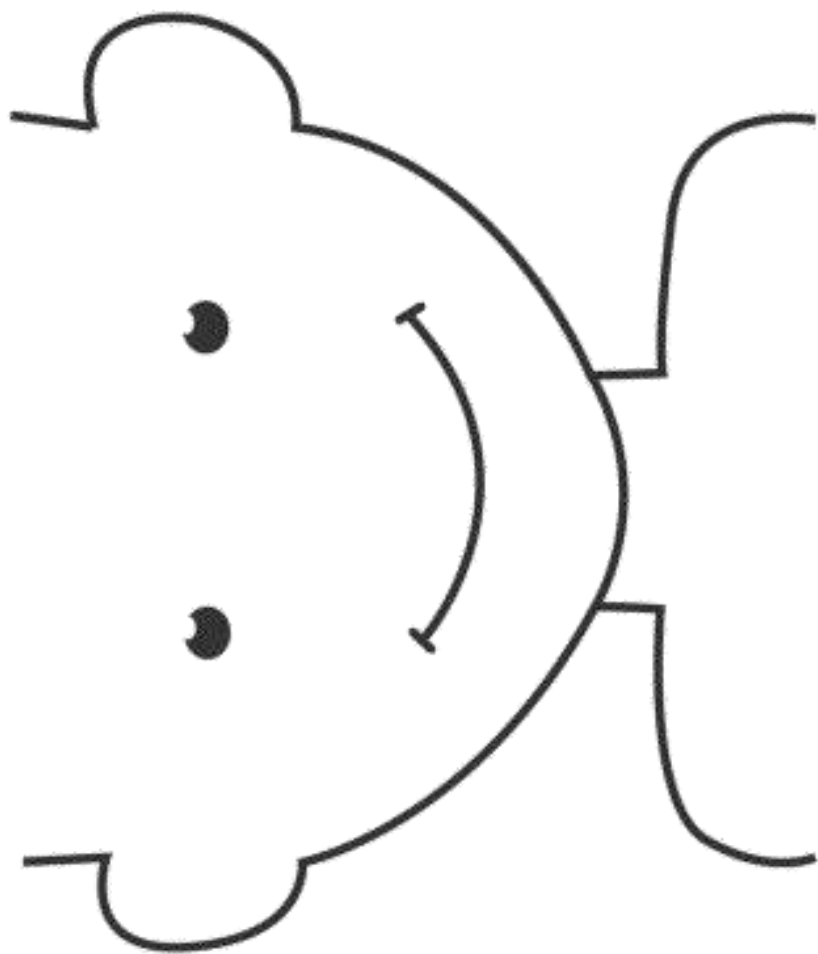


Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



Girlguiding
Birmingham county



Christmas is coming, so whether you are planning a festive sleepover, seasonal meetings or some time at home, we've a selection of quick and easy crafts to brighten someone's day, your home and your tree!



Deck the halls

... with strings of trees!



Cut some triangles of green card, add 'baubles' of sequins, stickers, pom-poms or paint and simply peg onto string.

Make a reindeer

Attach pegs to a strip of card as shown. Add a tuft of string for a tail and pipe-cleaner antlers. Stick on eyes, nose and a bow, tie a bell round his neck. If desired, glue everything into place and add a loop to hang.

(Or you can remove the springs and just glue it all together)



Trim the tree

Curtain ring creations.

Take a curtain ring and either wrap it in wool or paint it. Then use your imagination and a few craft materials to transform it into a decoration for your tree.

Wrap in green wool and add a belt made from a pipe cleaner, ribbon or paper, threaded onto a ring pull for the buckle.

(also good done in red for Santa)

Wrap in multicolour wool or use several different colours together. Hang a pom-pom in the centre.



Wrap in brown wool and add a layer of white over the top (a boucle wool looks great!). Add a couple of holly leaves cut from a scrap of ribbon or card and some mini pom-pom or bead berries

Wrap in black wool. Thread a pom-pom onto a length of thread, using a needle, tie so it hangs in the centre. Add googly eyes and a card or felt beak (use brown wool and a red centre for a robin)

Use a needle to insert a hanging thread into the pom pom.

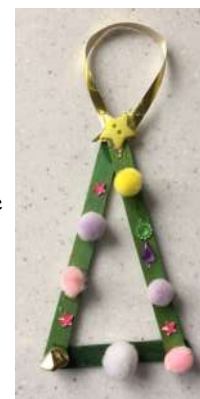


Lolly stick trees

Use two standard lolly sticks and one short one (or use strips of card).

Colour these green with paint or permanent markers, then decorate with pom-poms, 'jewels', beads or sequins.

Add a star to the top and a ribbon or thread to hang.



Pom pom fun

Cut two circles from scrap card and cut out the centres. Wrap wool over the discs until the centre hole is full - to make it easier cut a small section out of the circle.

Cut the wool around the outside, between the discs. Wrap a piece of wool around the bundle between the discs and tie tightly. Remove the card and decorate.



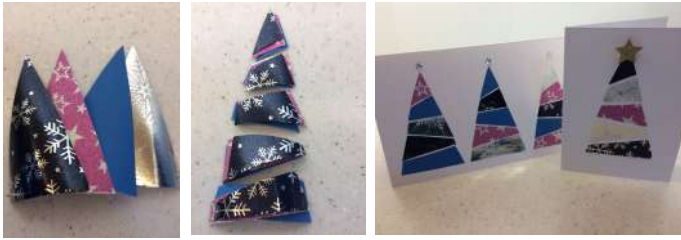
Dress up a bauble

Take an old plastic bauble and give it a new lease of life. Ask an adult to make two small holes with a skewer and insert pipe-cleaner antlers, eyes and a red button or pom-pom nose to turn it into Rudolph. Felt antlers could be glued onto the pipe-cleaner for a more substantial antler. Alternatively cover in 'jewels', paint on a design or add a belt and buckle to a red or green bauble.

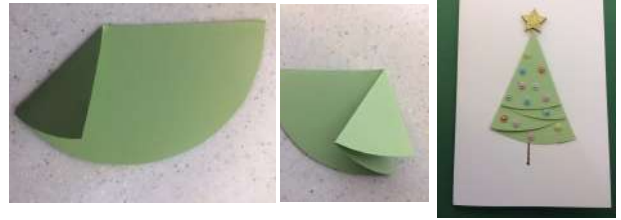


Create a card

Cut identical triangles from different papers. Pile up and cut them all into pieces. Reassemble.



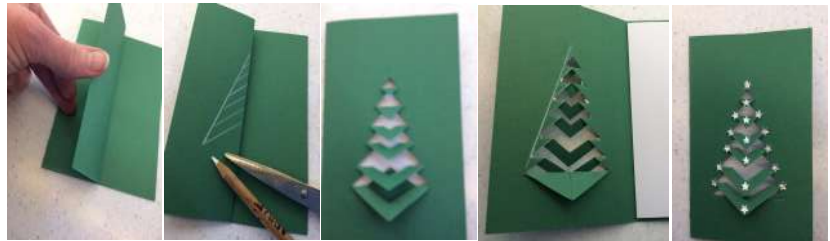
Cut a semicircle of paper and starting off centre, fold into triangles. Draw a trunk onto card, glue tree into place and decorate.



Fold the front section of card in half and mark the side of the tree. Cut angled lines as shown, Open the card and fold the shapes downwards.

Fold the final triangle inwards and insert a folded paper centre into the card.

Decorate the tree.



Use a cotton wool ball to paint clouds onto the card. Colour and cut out a balloon and snowman. Tie the cord onto the balloon and tape the end on the back. Glue the balloon into place. Tape a small coin onto the back of the snowman, then slip the end of the cord into the slit in his hand. Tape to secure.

Just for fun ...

Jumping elf

Cut out a body, arms, legs and feet. Concertina fold the legs (the easiest way to do this is to fold the strip in half, in half again and then once more, before opening out and refolding), fold the hat over and then colour/decorate, Tape the arms and legs to the body. Add the feet.



Thread a string through the two pieces of straw and tie a bead onto each end, Tape the straws to the back of the body with the loose ends of string hanging down.

Hang the loop of string over a door knob and pull the ends of the string away from each other to make the elf jump.

If he doesn't fall back down add a coin for weight



'Gingerbread' house

Use 3 rectangular biscuits, some sweets/sprinkles and glaze icing.

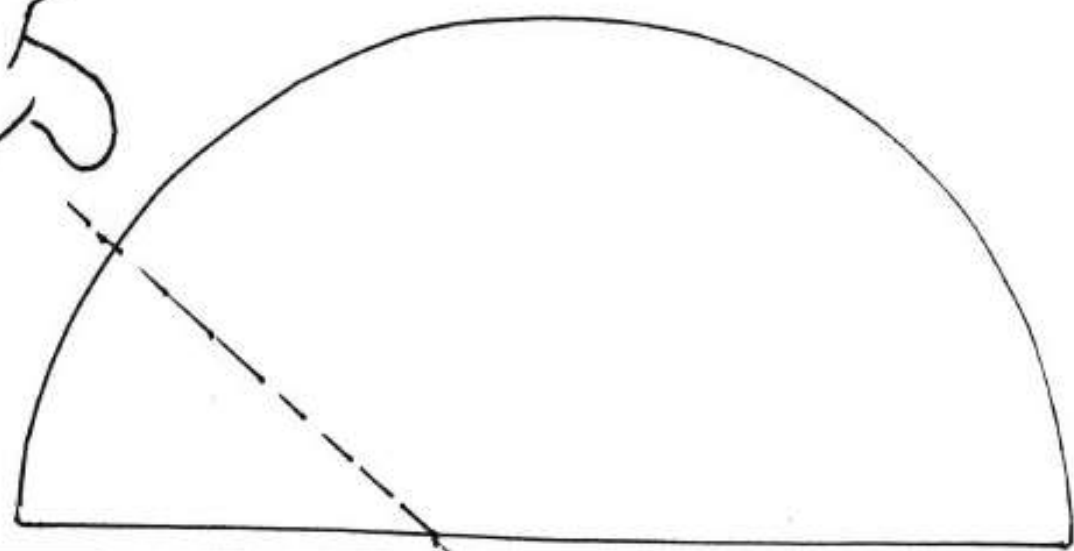
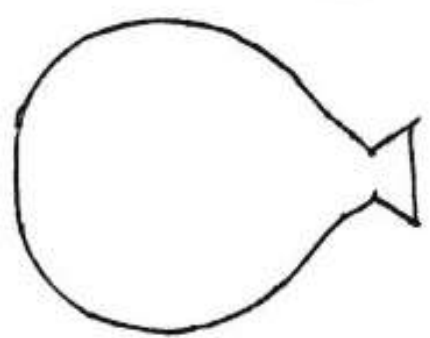
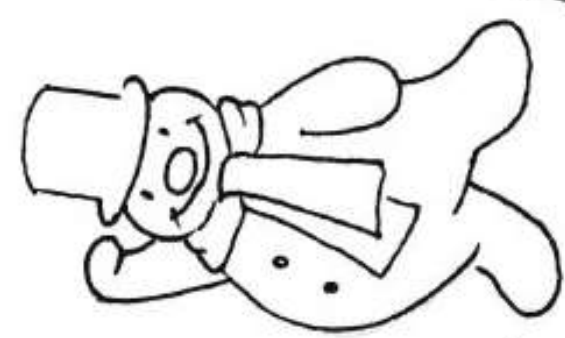
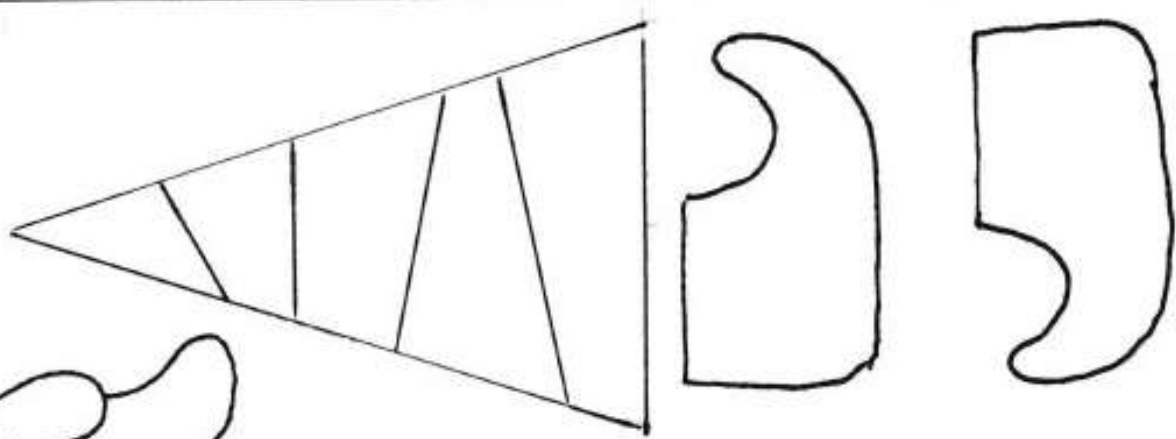
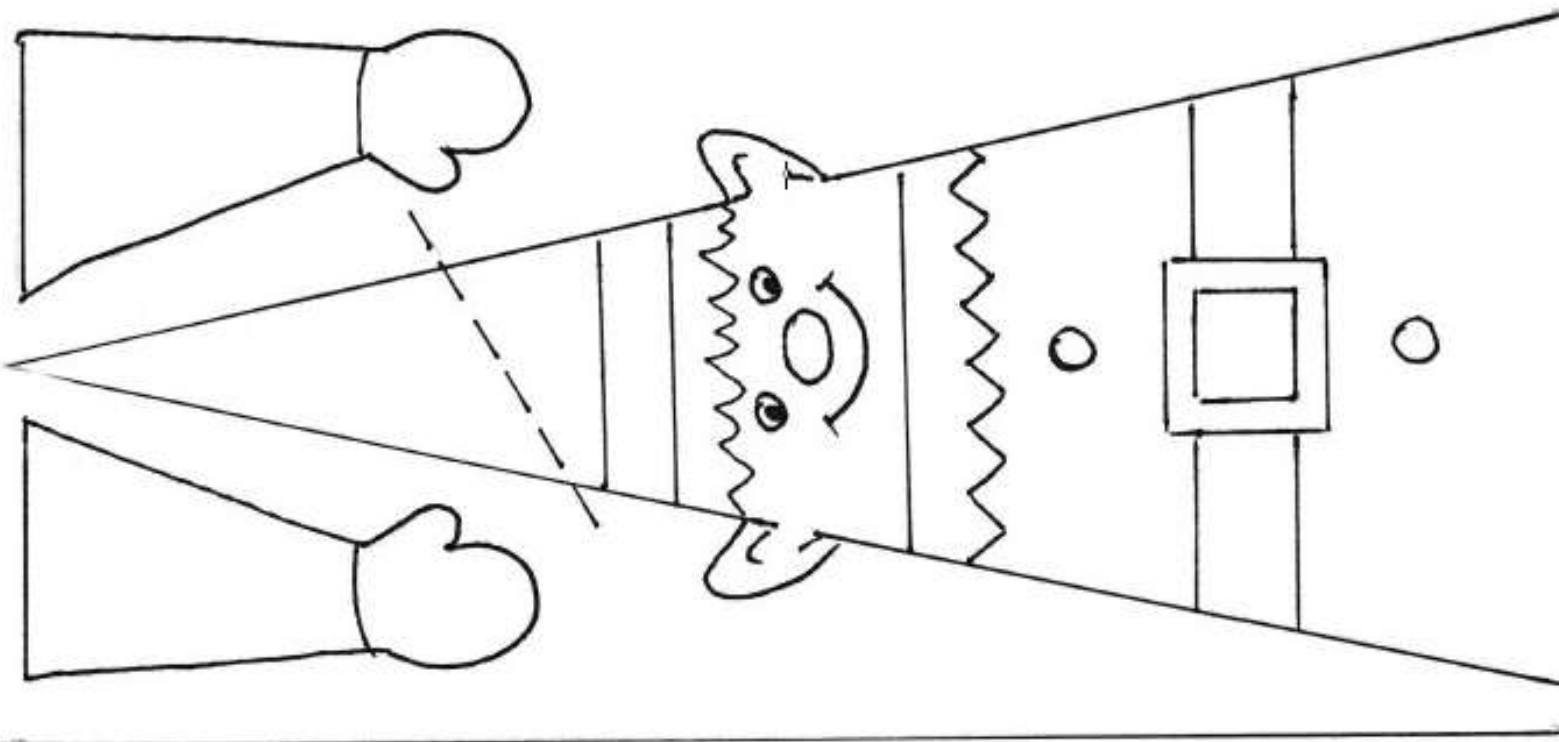


Mix icing sugar with water to give a **stiff** paste. Spread onto one biscuit. Spread along the short side of the other biscuits, dribbling a little down the plain side. Position these onto the base biscuit to form a triangle shape (adding a sweet inside such as a Rolo or marshmallow with a little icing on the sides, makes this easier). Use the remaining icing to add sweets and decorations to complete your house.



Take it further lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



Christmas is almost upon us, so if you are in need of some quick and easy crafts, the Arts team have collected together some of their favourites for you to try. These all need minimal preparation and use items you've probably either already got or can buy easily ... have fun!



Candy cane reindeer



Cut a pipe cleaner in half, then cut one piece in half again.

Wrap the longer piece around a wrapped candy cane and twist tightly to secure. Twist the smaller pieces around to form antlers. Glue on eyes and a pom-pom nose.

Add a hanging loop if desired.

Wonderfully easy wreaths



Trim the centre from a paper plate to leave a ring. Cut a strip from the end of a pack of crepe paper. Staple the end of the strip to the plate and then wrap it around to cover the card.



Staple the end to secure, then staple on a piece of tinsel. Wrap this around in a similar way, allowing the crepe to show through (we used half a strip of tinsel for a large plate).

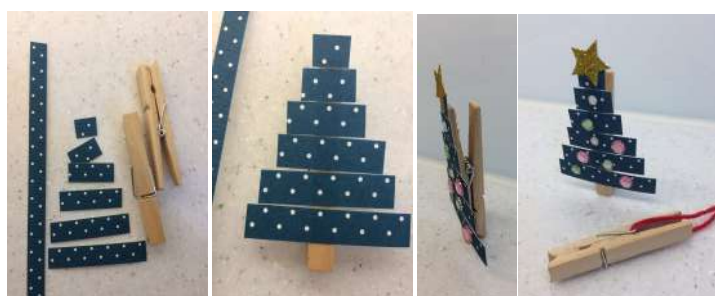
Punch a hole near the edge of the plate and thread a ribbon through to form a hanging loop.

Use glue dots to add a bow and any other decorations, or punch another hole and hang them from the bottom.



Mini trees

Cut a 1cm wide strip from card, then divide into 5 or 6 graduated length pieces. Use glue or double sided tape to stick these onto a wooden clothes peg. Decorate with sequins or jewels if you like. Stand up on a shelf or thread a hanging cord through the spring.



Christmas biscuits

Decorate digestive biscuits to make seasonal treats. Mix icing sugar with enough water to make a **thick** paste (for the robin add cocoa or use chocolate frosting or melted chocolate). Carefully spread the icing over the biscuit, working from the centre outwards. Tap or shake the biscuit slightly to level the icing. For the fairy lights, use some piping icing to make the strings, then press Smartie-type sweets sideways into the icing for the bulbs.



For the robin, use roll out icing to make a red breast, beak and wings as shown. Place onto the wet icing and add candy, icing, or chocolate chip eyes.

Tied trees

Use twigs, cinnamon sticks or even lolly sticks and tie on strips of fabric (get a friend to help). Trim the strips to give a tree shape, then tie a hanging thread to the top and glue on a star or button.



German Christmas Spiders

A legend says that spiders decorated a poor family's tree with glittering webs on Christmas Eve and that you should keep a spider on your tree to bring luck. Using two plastic Christmas baubles, make your own spider decoration.

Remove the tops from the baubles and glue a dowel or straw into the body section, leaving the end protruding. Tie a hanging thread around this. Twist together 4 halved pipe cleaners, then twist one of them around the dowel to secure. Bend into leg shapes. Apply some strong glue and press the head into position. Decorate with jewels if wished, then hang in your tree.



For a challenge try making a foil spider:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2_PXtx-Y8I



Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



Girlguiding
Birmingham county

No craft materials, no problem ... the Arts Team have collected together some quick and easy activities needing little more than paper, pens, scissors and glue/tape/staples.
Have fun!



Paper chains

Simply strips of paper—join the first one into a ring, thread the next strip through and then join that one. Why not see who can make the longest one or link them together virtually across and around your zoom meeting? Use them to record the ways you've helped others and kept your promise. You could get creative and add heads and tails ... draw and cut out a head with an extra long neck then thread it through in the same way.

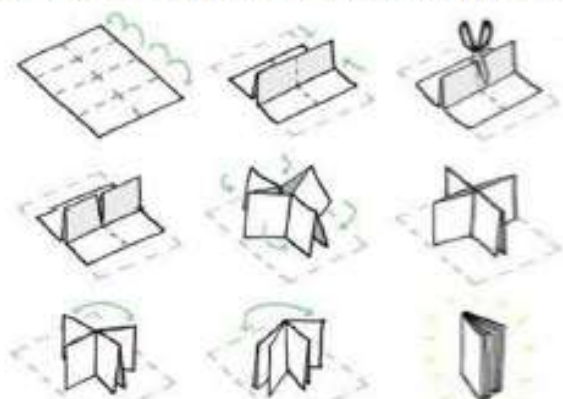
Accordion fold chains

Simply long strips of paper folded together. Take two strips of paper and glue the ends at right angles. Fold the long ends over in turn, joining additional strips as required. Glue the ends together to finish. Add a head to make an effective snake, or join into a ring which you can keep turning.



A mini notebook

Fold an A4 piece of paper into 8 and, following the diagrams, cut along the centre folds. Opening these out, refold the remaining creases to form a book.



Paper hearts

Simply strips of paper—fold them in half and staple close to the fold. Open out the ends and bring them round to form the bottom of the heart, staple together.

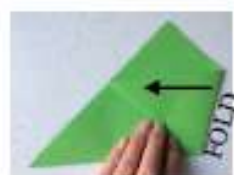
If you staple another folded strip over the ends you can make a chain of hearts.

If you have several lengths of paper strips and fold them together with the longest one in the centre you will end up with several layers to your hearts.

Add some cord and hang them in the window



Paper cup creatures



Fold a square of paper into a triangle. Keeping the folded edge at the bottom, take the bottom right corner and fold it to meet the left side, keeping the two horizontal lines parallel.

Repeat with the bottom left corner. Fold one top triangle in each direction to form a cup.

Tuck the one on the plain side inside the cup so it is easier to decorate. Pinch the top to form ears if required and add extra paper shapes for tails etc.



Paper doll chain

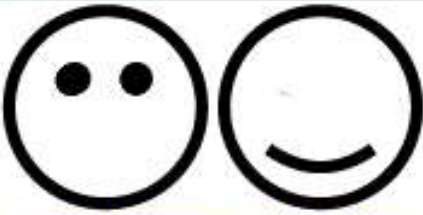
Accordion (zig-zag) fold a strip of paper, then draw your figures with the arms touching the fold. Cut out without cutting through these.

Decorate your dolls in section uniforms or as family members. Could you try to do a special good turn for each of them?



A thaumatrope

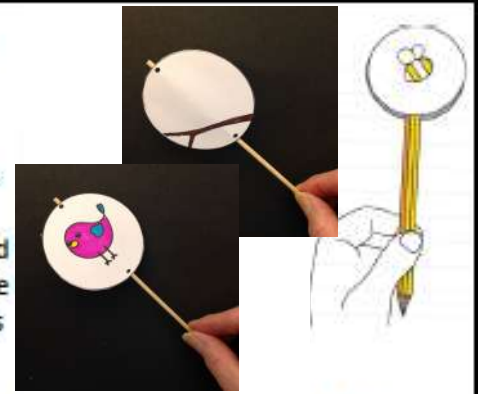
Thaumatropes are a type of optical illusion. An illusion is when your brain sees something that isn't true. When you spin your thaumatrope, the two pictures are moving so fast that your eyes and brain can't separate them, so they look like one.



For something simple try an emoji ... eyes on one side and the mouth on the other.

Fold a strip of paper in half and cut out a circle shape (about 7cm across). This should give you two identical pieces.

On one draw part of a picture and on the other draw the rest of it. You could draw a bee on one side and a flower on the other, or a fish on one side and some waterweed or bubbles on the other.

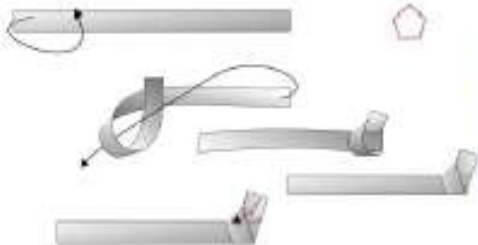


Now sellotape the back of one circle onto the top of a pencil or straw. Then, making sure you've got it the right way up tape the second circle onto the other side of the pencil. Add some pieces of tape over the edges to keep it firmly in place.

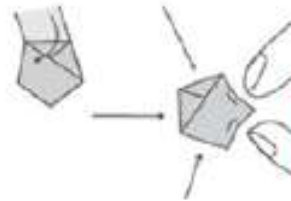
Hold the pencil between your palms and rub them so that it twists quickly ... you should see the whole picture!

Paper stars

Cut a 1cm strip from the long side of an A4 piece of paper. Tie a 'knot' in one end and gently wiggle it to get it even.



Tuck the short end under a fold to secure it and then carefully wrap the long end around the pentagon shape (don't press the folds too much).



Tuck the end into a fold to secure it and then pinch the points to form a star shape.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ih6alfcYcmk>

A bunch of flowers

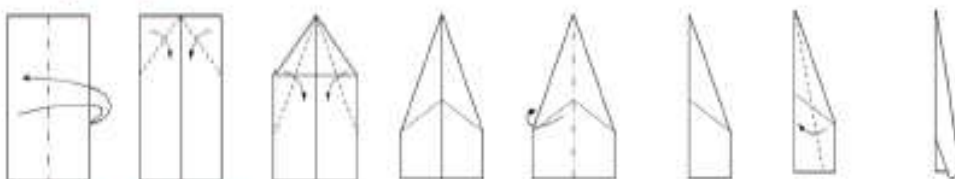
Use a sheet of paper (green if possible), gently bend it in half lengthways and cut about 1cm strips from the fold towards the open edges. Unfold any creases and then glue the open edges together.

Gently curl it up (it is easiest to wrap it around a tube to do this) and tape in place. Cut some of the loops to form longer leaves and then stick on lots of paper flowers. You could draw these and then cut them out or you could cut them from folded squares. Why not add bees and butterflies too?



Paper planes

An opportunity to experiment with design. Try different types of paper, different designs or



try adding paperclips to add weight to the wings, tail or nose.

Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!

Art, science, magic, or just fun?
Most of the things you will need for these activities are probably already in your kitchen cupboards, so read on for some Arts Team ideas for quick and easy ways to add some creativity into your programme!



Tattoo a banana

Use a banana to spread a message or display your art! Use a just ripe banana (so that the skin is nice and yellow), then with a safety pin or cocktail stick prick/scratch your design into the skin. If you want some guidelines, draw your design onto paper first, then sellotape it round the banana and prick through the paper and tape layer. Once the outline is in place, remove the paper and add detail. The design will darken over time, but the banana inside is still fine to eat!



pH painting

Explore the effects of acids and alkalis to create art or write secret messages.



Mix the turmeric powder with water and, using a cotton wool ball, 'paint' a sheet of paper yellow (fairly thick paper is easiest).

Use a cotton bud dipped in an alkaline solution to create your design. We found that a bar of soap in a dish of water worked well but you could also use bicarbonate of soda and water, or try washing powder. The areas you have painted will change colour.



Now try using lemon juice or vinegar to reverse the colour change.



Try writing in soap/bicarb. first and then reveal it with the turmeric, or write on the yellow paper with candlewax and paint the soap/bicarb. over to reveal.

Magic colouring



Fold a piece of kitchen paper in half.

Working on some scrap material to protect your table, draw the outline of your picture in permanent marker on the top layer.

Open up the kitchen paper and you should see the outline of your design on the bottom section. Colour this in with washable pens.

Refold the kitchen paper, then place it into water or onto wet kitchen paper to watch the design magically colour.



The wonders of water...

Refraction will make a picture appear to turn round when viewed through a glass of water.

Draw two arrows or two coloured bars and prop the paper up a little way behind a glass. Look through the glass as you fill it with water so you can see the magic!



Oobleck

*A little messy, but always fun! Is it solid or liquid?
Explore the properties of non-Newtonian fluids
simply by mixing cornflour and water.*

Cover your area with a plastic cloth, then mix cornflour into some water in a dish to form a thick paste. When you apply pressure it becomes firm, but will then drip through your fingers.

Just enjoy playing with it!



Create with cornflour

Super-simple dough



To make a soft play-dough, mix cornflour with conditioner or moisturising lotion. You will need to use about one quantity of lotion to two quantities of cornflour. Mix the two together to give a stiff mixture, then knead to make it smooth, adjust the consistency with more lotion or cornflour as needed.



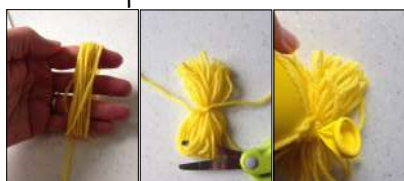
Fiddle friends

Make a stress ball from a balloon and flour.



Inflate the balloon to stretch it, then let the air escape. Stretch the end of

the balloon over a funnel or the neck of a cut-down plastic bottle. Place about 4tbsp (100g) flour into the funnel and fill the balloon. You will need to poke it in a bit with a chopstick or straw. As the neck of the balloon begins to fill, stretch it a bit and press the flour down firmly into the balloon. Remove the funnel, make sure you've removed all the air, then tie the top. To make hair: wind wool around your fingers 10-12 times, slip off and tie in the centre. Cut the loops and tie the 'hair' just below the knot of the balloon. Add a face with a permanent marker.

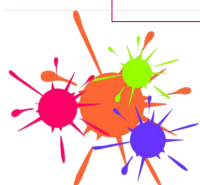


Chocolate art

Melt some dark, white, and milk chocolate in plastic bags or disposable piping bags by sealing the tops and standing them in a bowl of hot water. Once melted, dry the bags, snip the corners, then create your artwork on a piece of acetate or baking paper. Chill to set.



You can start with the background but why not try making the design with two colours and then covering with the third one? Allow to set and peel off the paper/acetate to reveal - your final design will then be a mirror image. Alternatively swirl the chocolate with a cocktail stick or add sprinkles.



Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you

Whether or not you plan on going down to the woods today,
it's an ideal time for some bear themed fun !

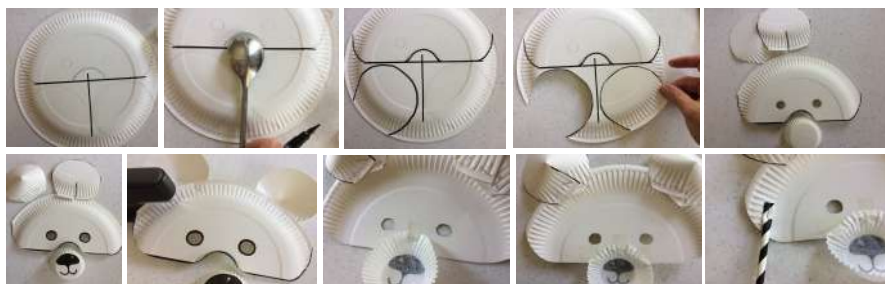
Let's paws
for some
craft



Make a bear mask

Use a paper plate, a cupcake case and a straw to disguise yourself as a bear!

The top half of the plate makes the main mask, with a curve cut from the centre for your nose. Cut 2 matching ears and with adult help make holes for your eyes. Shape the ears by overlapping the slits and staple into place. Draw a nose on the cake case and tape in place as a snout. Staple a straw as a handle and paint or decorate as you wish.



Can anyone see through your disguise?



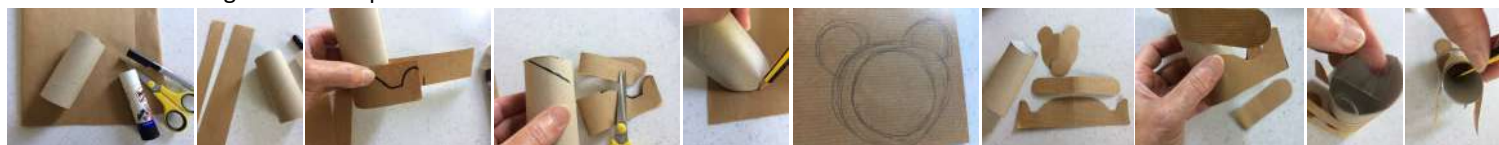
Turn a cardboard roll into a bear

Use a toilet roll sized tube and some brown paper to make a new friend ... maybe you could make a whole family!

Cut strips of paper long enough to wrap round the tube and stick out to make the arms and legs. Cut to shape.

With adult help cut one end of the tube at an angle. Draw around this end onto the paper and draw your bear's head slightly larger. Cut this out.

Glue the legs into place, add the arms, cutting the strip if needed in order to angle them. Put tape into the top of the tube, sticky side out and attach the head, pressing into place. Now decorate.



Give a bear hug!

Use some brown paper and send some love!

Draw a bear with long arms, cut around the shape adding small slits as shown.

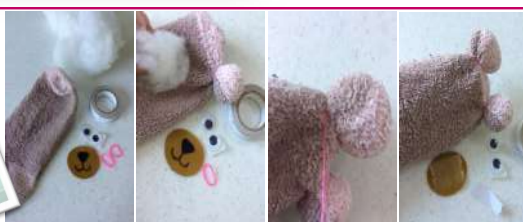
The arms will now interlock. Add a heart,

a message or a small gift.



Transform an odd sock into a puppet

Make ears by inserting some stuffing and wrapping with an elastic band. Add details cut from fabric or paper and attach. Use double sided tape if you need to wear your sock again!



Bear science-investigate osmosis

Place gummy bears in different solutions overnight and see what happens—try plain water first.

What happens in other solutions? Salt? Sugar?

Keep one bear as a control (not in any liquid).

What has happened? Can you find out why?

Don't eat the bears you have been experimenting with



Make a purse or folder

Keep your bear essentials safe in style



Use a piece of felt, fabric or paper as wide as you want your purse and 3 times as long. Cut as shown.



Sew or stick the ears on, then join the sides. Glue on details.

Bear food We never need an excuse to share some food, so whether it's a marmalade sandwich, a hunny loaf for elevenses, bear cakes or miniature food for a teddy bears' picnic, have some foody fun!

Paw print biscuits

80g butter or margarine
30g icing sugar
100g self raising flour
20g custard powder (or cornflour and vanilla essence)



Mix the butter and icing sugar.
Gently stir in the flour and custard powder to form a soft dough.

Divide into about 12 pieces and roll into egg shapes. Flatten slightly then make indentations with your fingers.

Either add a little jam into each now or fill

with melted chocolate/
chocolate spread after baking.

Cook at 170°C mk 4
for 10-15 minutes
until lightly golden.



Hunny (syrup) loaf cake

100g margarine
100g sugar
200g golden syrup
200g self raising flour
1 egg
150ml milk

Melt the syrup butter and sugar together then cool.

Mix all the ingredients to give a smooth, runny batter.

Pour into a greased and lined large (2lb) loaf tin.

Bake at 150°C, mk 3 for about 1 hour until golden and firm to the touch.

If possible store wrapped in foil for a couple of days before eating!



Chocolate bears Melt 100g chocolate and mix with 100g crushed malted wheat cereal.

Place 2 chocolate buttons on a parchment lined tray and top with a scoop of the chocolate mixture. Use cake decorations and sweets to make bear faces.

Put somewhere WARM for a FEW minutes to re-melt the chocolate slightly and stick it all together, then place in the fridge to set.



Decorate Cakes, biscuits, scones, toast or pizzas

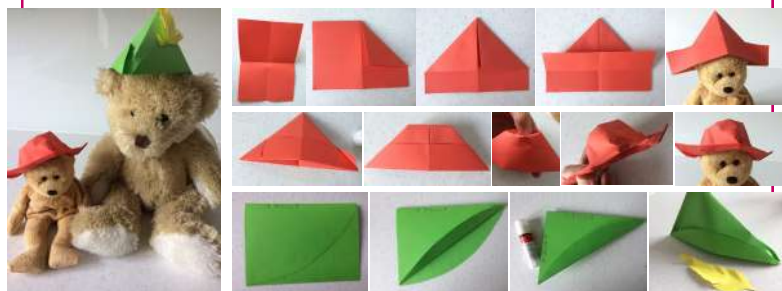
get creative and turn them into bear faces!

Why not decorate gingerbread bears?



Don't forget a hat! Take an A4 or A5 piece of paper and fold into a hat, then decorate! *If you are creasing the edges Paddington—style you will probably want to add some sellotape to strengthen the paper at the folds.*

What about a crown, a daisy chain or ...



Set the scene

Use an old box and perhaps a bin bag to make a bear cave. If your bear would prefer a house or a bed, try that. Can you collect all your bears and organise a picnic?



Adventure bear Bears like adventures too. **With adult permission/help** can you make him a parachute or a zip wire? Experiment with the materials that you can find and try to improve your design so that your bear has fun but stays safe!

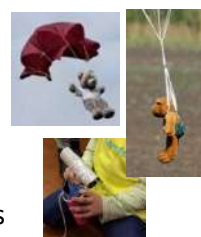


Photo challenge record your activities and your bear's adventures

Find an interesting place to photograph your bear and show his adventures. Could you add a caption, or speech bubble? Perhaps you could present his adventures as a comic strip.



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ROLL UP, ROLL UP and grab your ticket, it's **CIRCUS TIME**

We may not all be able to all actually go, but it's an ideal theme for some fun ... however old you are!

**FUN AND
GAMES FOR
ALL!**

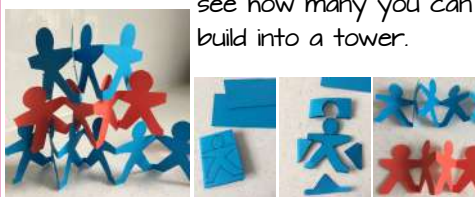


BIG TOP Recycle a container into your own Big Top

Cut or draw on a door shape, then paint your container either red or white. Glue on strips of paper to form the stripes. Cut a circle of card larger than the top of the container. Divide into segments and colour. Cut away one or two segments. Overlap the cut edges and adjust to fit your container. Glue into shape. Add a flag and characters.

BALANCING ACT

Cut an A4 piece of paper into 3 long strips. Concertina fold each into 6 and draw your acrobat onto the front (be sure to make the hands and feet touch the folds). Cut away the pieces you don't want, leaving the hands and feet joined at the folds. Unfold to give a string of people. Now see how many you can build into a tower.



TRAPEZE ARTIST

Make a trapeze by threading string or wool through a piece of a straw. Draw and cut some people from paper or thin card and decorate. Use glue to attach the first one onto the trapeze. Hang it up and see how many more you can add.



BALANCING SEAL - he will rock, but won't fall off!

Press some Blu-tac into a milk bottle top before taping another one to it. Cut a seal shape from thin card, colour in and then tape into place. Decorate the front of the bottle top.



BALANCING CLOWN

Carry him on your finger ... he will balance on his nose!

Cut the clown template from fairly firm card (a cereal box is fine).

Decorate him and then tape two coins as shown.



CONFETTI CANNON

Knot a balloon and then cut a piece from the rounded end. Stretch the balloon tightly over a cardboard tube and tape into place. Cover the tube in paper and decorate. Put some cut up paper 'confetti' into the open end. Stretch the knotted end of the balloon and release it to 'fire'.

REMEMBER TO CLEAR UP AFTERWARDS!



PAINT A FACE

Try face painting either on a face or a photo. You could print out a photo or use one from a magazine. With pens, paint and collage materials, transform your subject into a circus performer! Alternatively try doing this on the computer.



BE A CLOWN

Make a mini-mask from card and a lolly stick. Draw a curved line, then draw around this for the mouth. Cut out, add a card or pom-pom nose and glue onto the stick.



Why not make a hat too?



DEVELOP YOUR SKILLS

Learn to juggle. Start with thin floaty pieces of fabric, then try rolled up socks or make your own juggling balls.

Put a handful of rice into a plastic bag and tie the top. Cut the neck ends off several balloons and in turn stretch them tightly over the bag to cover it. You can try cutting little slits in the top layers to make an attractive pattern.

★ **Why not try:** hula hooping or acrobatics
tightrope walking (along a string on the ground)
stilt walking (get an adult to help you make some from empty cans and string) ★★

CREATE A CLOWN



Collect together collage materials and make a face on a paper plate or use biscuits, icing and sweets to make edible versions!



MAKE HIM ROCK OR ROLL

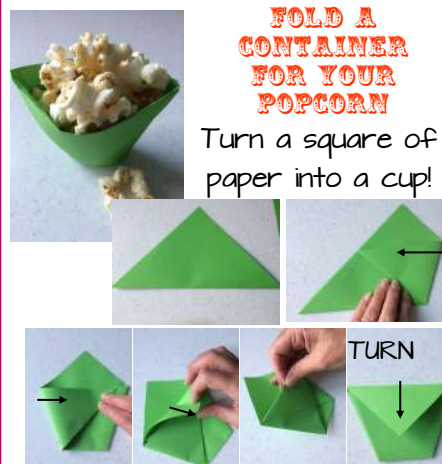
Cut a strip lengthways from a piece of A4 card (to roll) or cut out a circle (to rock). Use the clown from the template sheet, cut from thin card and colour. Join the strip into a circle and insert the clown using the folded back tabs to glue or tape.



Alternatively cut off the tabs and glue the figure to the front of a folded circle.

FOLD A CONTAINER FOR YOUR POPCORN

Turn a square of paper into a cup!



CHOCOLATE TREATS

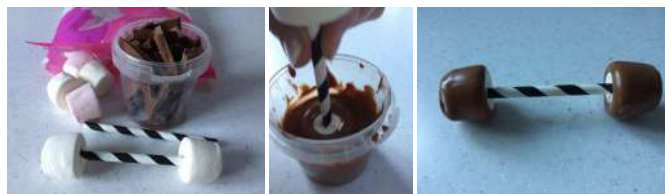
Make banana ice lollies!

Halve bananas and place onto sticks. Freeze. Melt chocolate in a small, deep container and add a little vegetable oil to give a runny consistency. Quickly dip the frozen bananas into the chocolate and then add sprinkles.

Enjoy straight away or freeze for later.



You could also try chocolate dipped apples or make dumbbells with marshmallows and straws.



CARNIVAL COOKIES

100g Self raising flour
50g Sugar
50g Butter or margarine
1 tbsp Milk
100s & 1000s



Place the flour and sugar into a bowl. Add the butter, cut into pieces and then rub in with your fingertips. Add the milk and bring together into a dough.



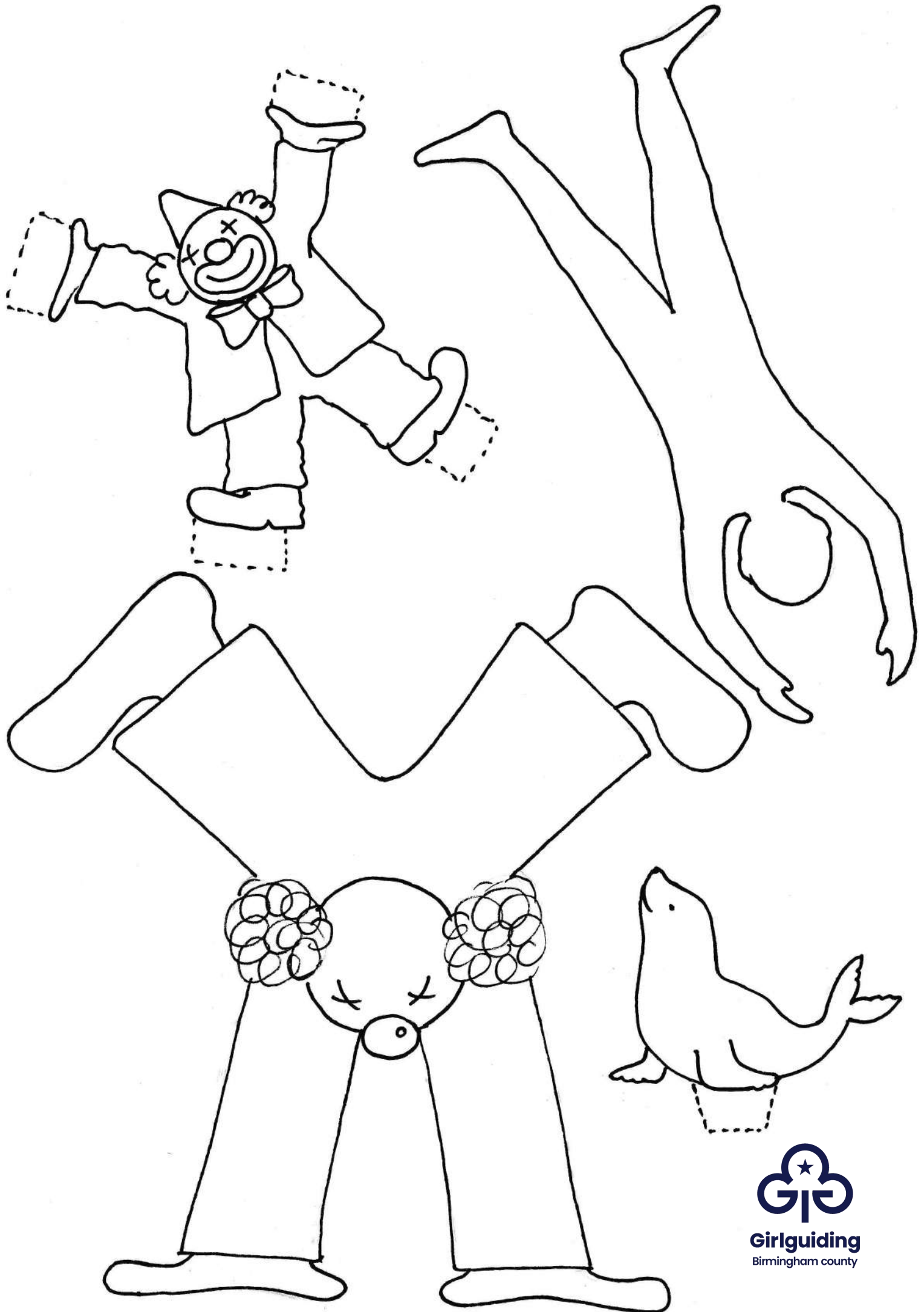
BALLOON MODELLING

Use modelling balloons to try creating animals, flowers or hats for your friends and family.



Take it further lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!



Girlguiding Birmingham County was formed in the early 1920's and so we are celebrating being over 100 with some fun activities linked to Birmingham past and present.



Spitfires ... fun with food

Birmingham has had an airport since the 1930's and many Spitfire planes were produced at Castle Bromwich.

Turn your snack into a plane.

First select your ingredients: thin biscuits or savoury crackers for wings, chocolate biscuits, cheese or celery for the body, mini marshmallows

or grapes for the undercarriage and fruit, vegetable or sweets for the propeller, tail and decorations.



Assemble with melted chocolate and/or cocktail sticks.

Anyone for spaghetti?

Spaghetti junction is a common famous Birmingham landmark.

Use dried spaghetti and mini marshmallows to build your own structure.

Challenge your friends to build something even taller, stronger or more beautiful.



Colour some pasta, by shaking in a plastic bag with a little paint and water/alcohol, spread out on baking parchment and leave to dry. Now get creative!

Use pasta as beads and create your own necklace by threading them onto cord, adding decorations with marker pens if required or thread and twist onto pipe cleaners for a modern sculpture.

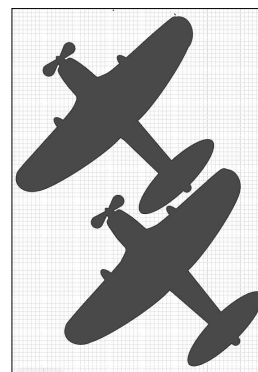


Stick together with liberal quantities of glue to make fridge magnets. **Be patient** while the glue dries!

Spitfires ... send a message



Cut a Spitfire silhouette from card. Punch a hole near the tail. Make flags from thin card, punch holes in the tops and add your own design. Wrap the end of a piece of ribbon tightly in Sellotape, to give a shoe-lace style end which will make threading easier. Arrange the flags and 'sew' them into place, sliding them right along the ribbon. Once you have completed one line, thread the ribbon through the plane and continue. Tie the ends in bows and trim. Hang your plane on the wall or put it in an envelope and send it to someone.



Theatre and music

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra has a 100-year tradition of making great music in the heart of Birmingham. The city is home to many theatres and art galleries, has a thriving music scene and is the home of many famous writers and comedians. Celebrate Birmingham past and present while also completing UMAs.

Story Dice ...

Take 3 cubes of wood or large dice and some appropriately sized sticky labels (cut to size if needed). Draw or write 6 different **characters** for the first die, **actions** for the second die and **places** for the third. Roll all three and make up a short story: Aim for an introduction, a problem and a solution.



Perfect your joke-telling skills
Make puppets
Try different styles of painting
Make stencils
Try ballet or tap
Use props creatively
Act or mime
Create a museum



Take a box and turn it into a theatre set.

Cereal boxes or Amazon packaging all work fine. Open up one of the large sides and tape the rest closed. Use paint, paper, card, twigs or stones from the garden and any other props that you can find to create your set. Add toy or paper characters to act out a scene.

Making music

The City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra has a 100-year tradition of making great music in the heart of Birmingham.

Make your own instruments and perform too! An empty can and the top of a balloon makes a drum. Empty containers and dried pulses or rice make shakers.



For a tambourine, tape some ribbons into a folded paper plate, punch holes around the edge and attach bells with pipe cleaners.



Bottle tops or buttons stuck onto folded card will make castanets.



Chocolate celebration



In the 1920's Cadbury launched their purple wrapper. Why not use the famous Birmingham delicacy to make your own celebratory bar?



Unwrap the chocolate bar and place on a piece of baking parchment, add some chocolate chips if you would like a marbled finish. Place in a warm oven (or even above a radiator) for a few minutes until soft.



Swirl the chocolate if

desired, then add your choice of decorations. Allow to cool and then enjoy.



Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!

Let's look back in time, do a bit of modern day upcycling and have some fun making toys and dolls ...

Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.



Make a toy



In the past, lots of toys would have been home-made. Brownies and Guides both had Toymaker badges too! Try making your own toy or game.

A man's handkerchief, duster or a piece of fabric can be turned into a doll.



Tie knots in two corners, add a ball of stuffing just below the arms, wrap the fabric to form the head, securing with an elastic band. Gather the fabric to form the waist, secure with an elastic band and then wrap ribbon to form a bodice.

For a bear, use a facecloth or piece of towelling.

Roll both sides of the fabric in towards the centre and twist the top section to the back.



Fold the top down to form the arms and head, unrolling the fabric slightly and securing the neck and ears with elastic bands. Tie a ribbon around the neck.



Recycling is nothing new. Try turning an odd sock into an owl or pussycat toy with some simple sewing.



Cut the sock as show. Use the toe end, stuff, stitch the top closed and add features.

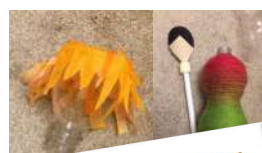


Stitch or use an elastic band to close the ankle end. Turn inside out, stuff and fold the remaining fabric down to form the head. Stitch or glue into place and add eyes and a beak.



In the past dolls may have been made from an old bottle or a block of wood, wrapped in fabric scraps.

Use plastic bottles as the bodies for your own characters,



Cut off bottles or wooden spoons will make good heads.

Stick everything together with double sided tape.





We hope you've found some of these ideas useful and have had fun with them.

If you've any comments, suggestions
or would like to be involved in Arts Team events,
please email:

arts@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk

