

# Family Fun Crafts

16 Craft  
Ideas for Kids



**Family Fun Crafts: 16 Craft Ideas for Kids**

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## Letter from the Editors

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Hello, Readers!

When the kids are home from school and it's a rainy day, what's a parent to do? Spend quality time with your kids and keep them from exclaiming "I'm bored!" with these ingenious craft ideas. You'll teach your children a new skill, and you may even learn something new yourself! Plus, starting a child's love of crafting at a young age will help foster a creative mindset throughout their lives. Spend time creating with your child using the ideas in this eBook and your kids will never be bored again!

You can find more craft projects, great activities for kids and decorating ideas at [www.FaveCrafts.com](http://www.FaveCrafts.com).

Our eBooks, like all of our craft projects, are absolutely FREE. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for free newsletters from FaveCrafts.com.

We hope you enjoy reading and creating!

Sincerely,

*The Editors of FaveCrafts*

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## Family Fun Crafts: 16 Craft Ideas for Kids eBook

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## Celebrate Nature

### Colorful Tissue Paper Suncatchers

By: ilovetocreate.com

Hang a colorful suncatcher in your window all year round! Get creative with different shapes and colors.



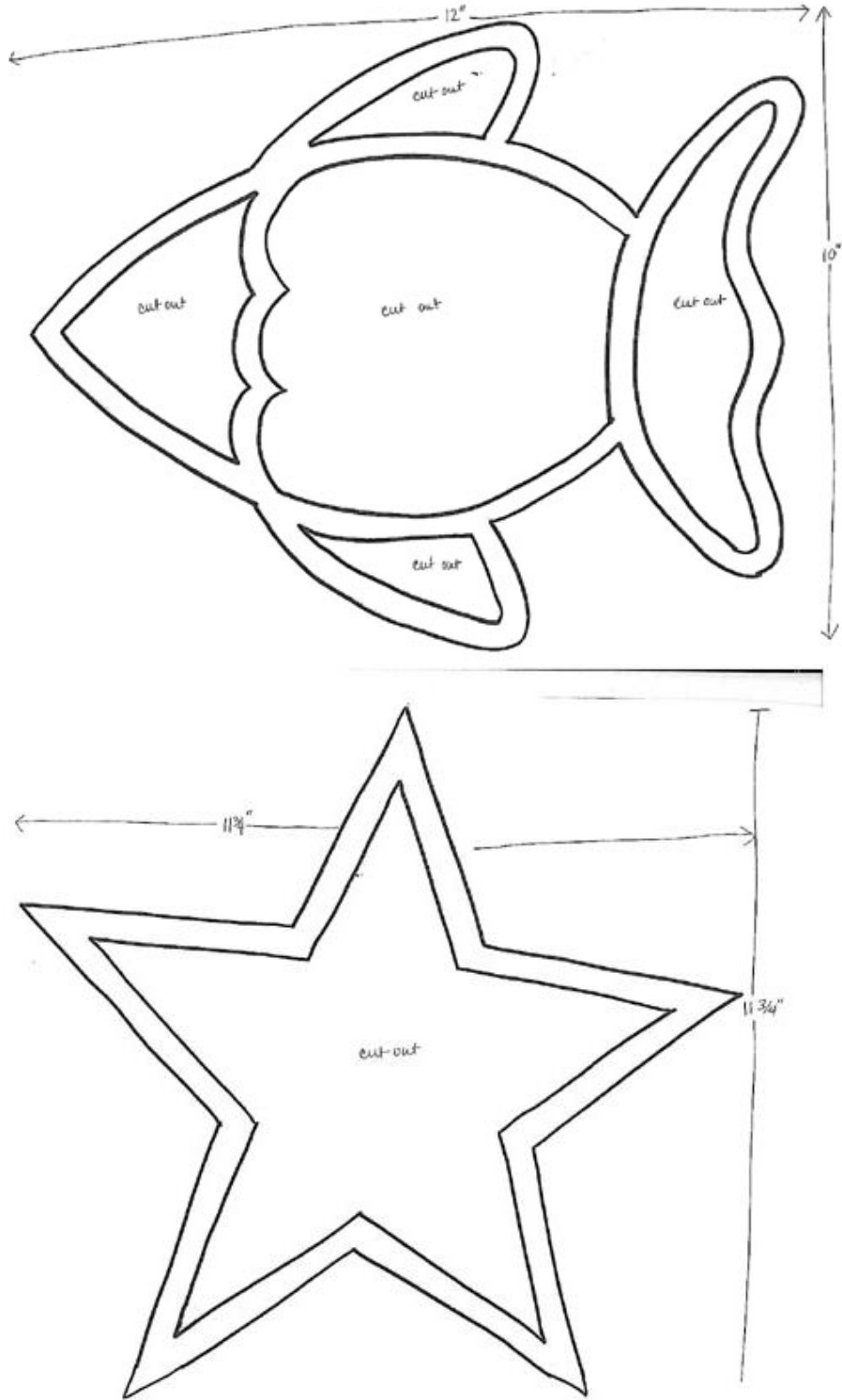
#### Materials:

- Aleene's® Original Tacky Glue®
- Freezer paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Fishing line
- 18" square Cardboard,
- Assorted colors of tissue paper,
- Pushpin
- 1" wide Foam paintbrush
- Tape
- Two 12" squares of Cardstock, desired color
- Foam plate

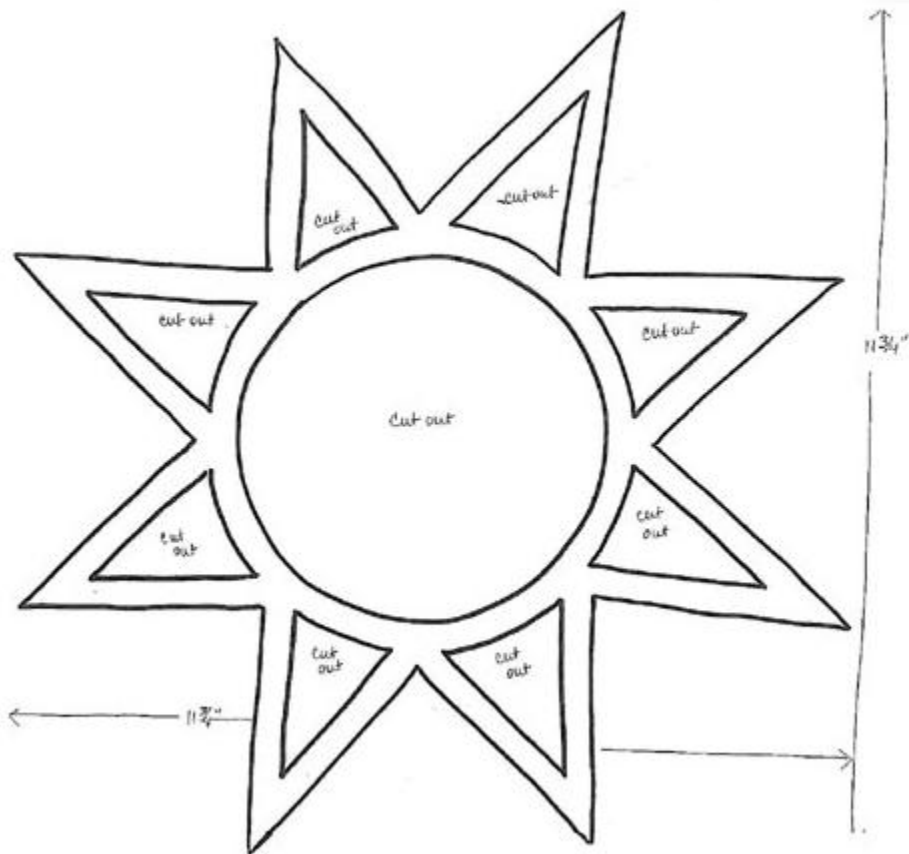
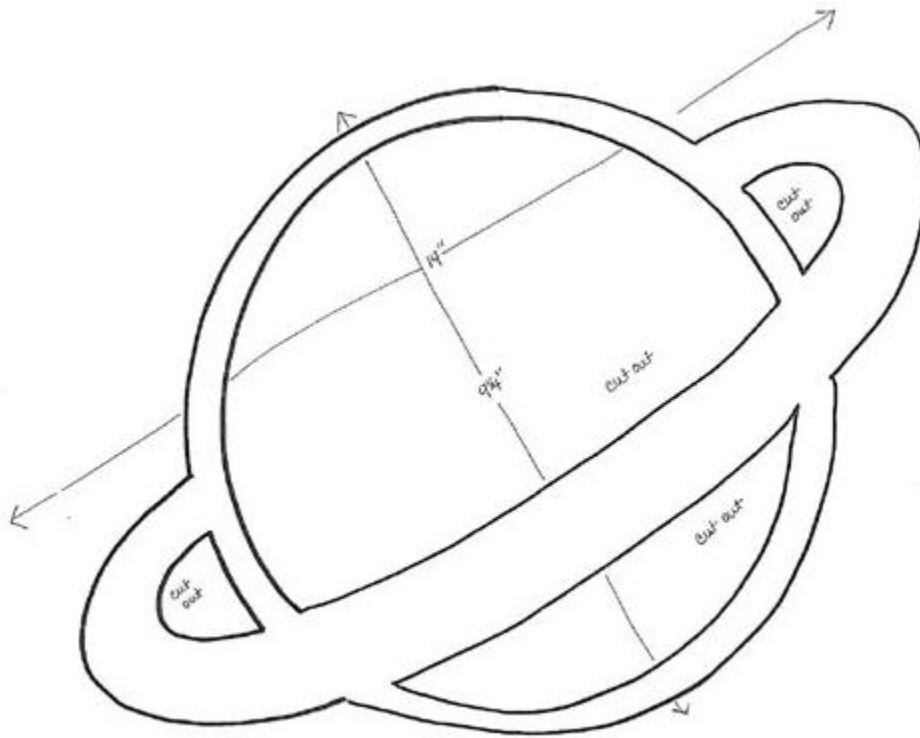
#### Instructions:

1. Cover cardboard with freezer paper, shiny side up, taping excess to back.
2. Tear tissue paper into about 3" pieces.
3. Squeeze a large puddle of glue onto foam plate. Brush glue onto small section of freezer paper, using dry paintbrush. Immediately press pieces of tissue paper into glue, overlapping edges. Carefully brush a thin layer of glue over paper. Repeat procedure until freezer paper is covered. Let dry until glue appears clear.
4. Trace desired design onto two pieces of cardstock. Cut out.
5. Carefully peel dry collage from freezer paper. Trace pattern onto collage. Cut out slightly inside pencil line so it will be smaller than cardstock pattern.
6. Lay one cardstock design onto work surface, right side down. Working quickly, apply a thin bead of glue along pattern. Smooth with finger. Press collage shape into place, aligning edges. Press into glue. Glue remaining cardstock design right side up onto collage. Let dry.
7. Use pushpin to create hole for hanger. Thread fishing line through hole. Determine length. Tie a triple knot to secure. Trim ends as needed.

Patterns:



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## Blooming Spring Lei

By: Rebecca Cooper for Simple as That

Here's an idea for some fun and easy spring crafts. Get the kids involved in making a Blooming Spring Lei. They can wear them around their necks or make extra long chains and drape it around the house like garland.



### Materials:

- String or yarn
- Straws cut into peices (about 1 inch long)
- Contruction paper or scrapbook paper for your flowers, flower centers & leaves
- Markers, crayons or pencil crayons to decorate your flower pieces
- A hole punch to punch holes in the center of all your flower pieces

### Instructions:

1. Cut out some flowers, circles & leaves in varying colors from cardstock/construction paper.
2. Decorate your flower pieces any way you choose using markers, crayons or pencil crayons.
3. Cut up your straws into approximately 1 inch long pieces.
4. Start stringing your flower peices & straw beads onto your string.
5. When you`re done tie the ends of the string together.



## Cute Paper Bowl Turtle

By: Plaid Enterprises

Make a cute turtle out of a paper plate, the kids will love this craft. It's easy with paints and paper, what more could you ask more. This Plaid kids craft is great for a day off of school or a weekend activity.



### Instructions:

1. Cover work area with Wax Paper.
2. Cut feet, head, and tail from Paper Plate. Paint with Shamrock. Let dry.
3. Paint turtle shell with Fresh Foliage.
4. Dot with Shamrock using flat brush - See photo.
5. Glue feet, head, and tail into place on underside of bowl. Let dry.
6. Using handle end of brush to apply paint, dot eyes with Fresh Foliage.

### Materials:

- 44219 - Apple Barrel<sup>®</sup> Brush Sets - Wood Brush Set, Flats
- 926 - FolkArt<sup>®</sup> Acrylic Colors - Shamrock, 2 oz.
- 954 - FolkArt<sup>®</sup> Acrylic Colors - Fresh Foliage, 2 oz.
- Scissors
- Craft Glue
- Wax paper
- Pattern
- Styrofoam bowl
- Paper plate

## Clay Rock Box

By: Syndee Holt for Sculpey and PluffyClub.com

This kids' crafts project will be fun for the whole family. Use colorful new clays from Sculpey to create your own clay rocks and embellished wooden box to place them in. Get ready to have some fun because this box rocks, literally.



### Materials:

- Unfinished wooden box
- Pluffy™: black, pink, white, brown, green, turquoise, grey, glow-in-the-dark, and beige
- Sculpey Premo Fashion Art Mini Metal Cutters: oval and circle
- Sculpey Premo Fashion Art 6 piece glitter sets
- Firefly™ Tool Set
- Craft paint in your selected color – this project shows a forest Green color
- Small foam brush
- Small piece of scrapbook paper in a complementary color to your paint – preferably one with a pattern that looks like a rock

- Brown craft paint
- Bamboo skewer
- Small amount of ground Black pepper from the kitchen
- White craft glue, such as Crafter's Pick Super Tacky glue
- Small bag of cotton balls to line the finished box
- Wax paper
- Metal baking sheet or disposable foil
- A handful of pepper
- A leaf or two to make the fossil rock

### Instructions:

1. Start with clean hands and work area. Good work surfaces include wax paper, metal baking sheet, or disposable foil. Knead clay until soft and smooth. For best results, clean your hands in between colors. Shape clay, pressing pieces together firmly.
2. Bake clay on oven-proof glass or metal surface at 130 °C (275 °F for US customers) for 15 minutes per 6 mm (1/4") of thickness. DO NOT USE MICROWAVE OVEN. DO NOT exceed the above temperatures or recommended baking time. Baking should be completed by an adult. Wash hands after use.
3. Paint the inside and the outside of the wooden box with the craft paint and small foam brush. Set it aside to let it dry thoroughly.

**Black Lava Rock:**

1. Lava tends to be rather sharp and covered with holes and bumps, so make a small lump of black Pluffy clay and texture it really well, using both sides of the bamboo skewer. Set aside on a paper lined baking tray.



2. Cover the nugget with Gold Premo Fashion Art Glitter, pressing it into the clay. (NOTE: Do this on a paper plate AWAY from your work area. This way, you can fold the paper plate and pour the leftover glitter back into the container and not have to worry about getting glitter all over the rest of your clay). Set the finished nugget on your baking tray.



**Gold Nugget:**

1. Use the knife tool to cut several small pieces of the beige clay and gently press them together to form the nugget.



**Igneous Quartz Nugget:**

1. Since you probably have some leftover small pieces of beige clay from the Gold nugget, cut up a few small pieces of brown and black Pluffy and push them gently together.



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2. Texture the brown and black pieces and leave the beige areas smooth to represent the quartz crystals in the rock.



3. Add some Silver Premo Fashion Art Glitter to help represent the mica flakes in the rock. Set the finished rock on your baking sheet.

### Crytal Quartz:

1. Use the clay knife tool to cut a rough crystal shape from the opened package of white Pluffy clay.



2. Add a small amount of brown clay at the bottom to represent the bed of rock that the crystal is growing in. Before you set the finished crystal on the baking sheet, you can add one or more colors of glitter to the crystal shape.



### Moon Rock:

1. Form a small piece of the glow-in-the-dark Pluffy clay into a good rock shape and texture it with your bamboo skewer; Moon rocks tend to have very sharp edges to them so they don't appear to be rounded too often.
2. Rub some of the Yellow Premo Fashion Art Glitter onto the surface to make it look like it came from space even when it's not glowing in the dark. Set the finished rock on your baking tray.





**Green Agate Pebble:**

1. Make small “snakes” of green and white clay, make the snake of green larger than the white. The snakes should only be about 3 inches long.



2. Twist the two snakes together and continue to twist until the pattern gets pretty small; meaning the bands of color get thinner.



3. Pinch the roll in half and roll the twisted clay into a ball and set it on your baking tray. Roll the rest of the clay into a ball to make a second pebble if you wish!



**Pink and Brown Sandstones:**

1. Make snakes of brown and beige or pink and beige clay and follow steps 1 and 2 above for the Green Agate Pebble.
2. This time, pinch a small piece off and flatten it in your hand to create a flatten piece of sandstone to represent a section of layered sandstone.



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3. You can texture the stone if you wish and even add glitter to represent some of the minerals that could be in the sandstone. Place the finished sandstones on your baking tray.



**Fossil:**

1. Cut of a piece of beige clay (to represent the sandstone part of the fossil) about 2x3 inches.



2. Lay a piece of real or plastic plant leaf on the clay and roll across the leaf with the plastic roller to press the leaf into the clay.



3. Remove the leaf and you will have a fossil patterned rock, place the piece of fossil onto your baking tray.



4. AFTER the clay has baked and cooled, you can paint the surface of the fossil with brown paint and quickly, before the paint dries, wipe the top surface with a damp paper towel to remove some of the paint. The paint should stay in the lower parts of the pattern you pressed into it. As a variation: Try pressing a small plastic dinosaur into a piece of clay to make a dinosaur fossil.



### **Turquoise Stone:**

1. Cut a piece of turquoise clay, like you did for the fossil and smooth the edges slightly with your fingers.
2. Use the knife tool, to draw lines for texture through the piece of clay. Place onto your baking tray.



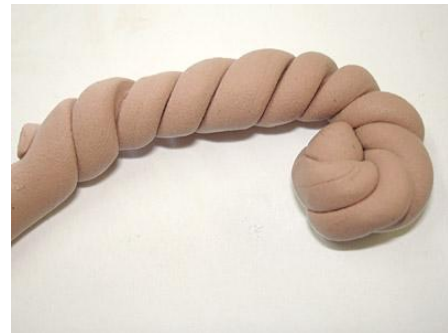
3. AFTER the clay has baked and cooled, you can paint it with brown craft paint and quickly, before the paint dries, wipe the top surface with a damp paper towel. You can also use black craft paint to represent the black lines or “matrix” often found in turquoise stones.

### **Ammonite:**

1. Roll two small brown Pluffy snakes about 3 inches long and twist them together.



2. Starting at one end, gently coil the twisted snake to create the round shape of the ammonite. Set on the baking sheet.



**Grey and White Granite:**

1. Make small pebble shapes from white and grey Pluffy.
2. Put some pepper into a small dish and put the clay into the pepper and gently press the pepper into the top of the clay.



3. If you wish, you can also add some glitter to represent the shiny minerals, such as mica, that could also be present in granite. Set on your baking dish.

**Finishing Rocks:**

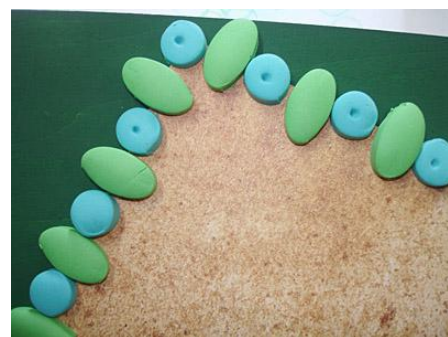
1. Bake according to the instructions above. Allow the clay to cool.

**Box Decorations:**

1. Pinch off about ¼ of the package of green and turquoise clay. Press each color as flat as you can and then use the plastic roller to roll it out even and flat to about ¼ inch.
2. Use the oval cutter to cut the green clay. Use the wide back of the Sculpey shape tool to gently press the clay from the cutter.



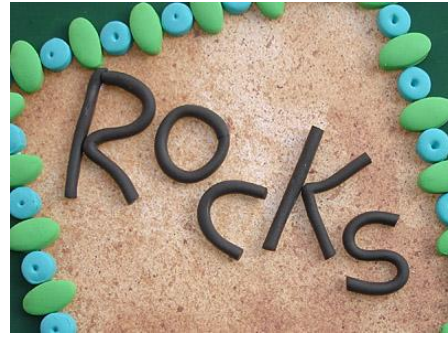
3. Use the round cutter to make the turquoise decorations. Press the point of the Sculpey shape tool into the center of each circle.
4. Set the piece of paper you selected into place on the painted box top and gently set your clay pieces into place on one side of the paper so that they are positioned half on the paper and half on the wooden box. This will help you determine just how many pieces you need to make.
5. Move the pieces to a baking tray and bake the pieces according to the clay package directions.
6. Once the pieces have cooled, glue the pieces into place on the box. The clay pieces will hold the paper in place.





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7. Roll some of the Black clay into a very long small snake and use pieces of this snake to form the letters for “rocks” on a small piece of paper.
8. Bake according to the instructions above. Allow the clay to cool. Once the clay is baked and cooled, glue the pieces into place on the paper.



## Rainy Day Fun

### Homemade I Spy Tube

By: Jennifer Neill

Jennifer Neill's fantastic Homemade I Spy Tube tutorial will teach you how to make hidden object games for kids. This DIY version of the Find It plastic cylinder game is great for waiting rooms and long car trips!



#### Materials:

- Tiny, random toys
- Rice or Acini de Pepe pasta
- Jar
- Rubbing alcohol
- Three colors of food coloring
- Paper towels
- Plastic tube or baggie
- Cards, cut out from computer

#### Instructions:

1. We began by having a scavenger hunt for lots of tiny, random toys.
2. Next, we dyed rice three colors for the filler. (If I could give any advice, it would be to make this from Acini de Pepe pasta rather than rice as the little balls would be more like the actual game. I didn't think of this until after the game was constructed and the dying process for pasta is exactly the same.)
3. Simply place white rice or pasta into a jar and cover with ordinary rubbing alcohol. Add food coloring and shake. Leave overnight or to desired tint. Strain the rice and lay out to dry on a paper towel.



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4. Mix dried rice and little toys in a bowl.



6. To make it more like a game, keep track of all the objects in the tube and type up and cut out cards on the computer. They can draw a card and look for that object!

5. Add the whole mixture to some kind of clear tube. We used an empty ornament container, but a tennis ball tube would work as well. (And, I'm pretty sure someone linked up an idea like this on Tutorial Tuesday on time using a ziploc baggie.)



## Guest Tutorial: Recycled Crayons

By: Sara of Kitty Baby Love

This great, guest tutorial for how to recycle crayon bits into new crayons comes to us compliments of Sara of Kitty Baby Love.



Cost: \$0 - \$20

Time: 15 minutes

### Materials:

- Crayons (tip: recycle the broken bits and ends of crayons that end up being tossed)
- Heating source (Oven, microwave, stove...)
- Mold (tip: cupcake pans or tin foil will work just fine)
- Baking glove or some kind of protection from the hot wax (we used a pair of pliers)

### Instructions:

1. Make time. This makes a perfect rainy day activity with items you can already find around the house. Make this an opportunity to bond with your children or even your partner.



2. Find crayons. Standard crayons are easy and cheap to find at any drugstore. Make sure they are non-toxic!
3. In our experience, specialty crayons may not work as well, i.e. glow-in-the-dark crayons, or glitter crayons. You don't have to buy new crayons for this activity though, just use the ends and broken off bits you already have at home.





4. Peel paper off crayons and melt. You can melt them in a variety of ways: Heat lamp, oven, etc. We used the double boiler method- empty crayons in a heatable container and boil the container (with the crayons in them) inside another pan of water. Make sure you watch the crayons as they melt, which will happen fairly quickly (around 3-5 minutes).
5. We encourage using recycled cans. We molded ours to have a pouring spout and used an old meatloaf pan to boil it in. If you want to reuse the same can for making multiple crayon molds, we recommend using a pot that you don't mind tossing at the end as it can get a little messy. Depending on the size of your mold, melt between 7-20 crayons. This part takes some experimenting. Also crayons will act like paint and colors will mix together- so unless you want brown, make sure to separate the reds from the greens!



6. After crayons are melted, pour the heated crayon wax into the mold. This is where the baking mitts come in. Always use caution and common sense when handling hot objects. Don't have a mold? Don't worry, you can make your own- be creative! Tin foil or a cupcake container can work just as well as a store bought mold.
7. Let the crayon wax cool. The wax will instantly start to cool and shrink a little. If necessary, refill the mold and let it cool again. The mold will take around 5 minutes to cool, however you can pop them in the fridge or freezer for a quicker time.
8. When cooled, release crayon from mold and start coloring. That's all! Experiment with techniques and create custom colors, crayons with swirls, or layers of multi-colored crayon bars. This is just a general guide; have fun with it!

## **Guest Tutorial: Freezer Paper Stencil Fun**

By: Jaime Mitchell of Little Bird Creations

In this guest tutorial, Jaime Mitchell of Little Bird Creations shows us how to use freezer paper to create easy t-shirt stencils. Kids can help create shirts painted with their favorites animals or other shapes. Visit Jaime's Etsy shop to see her other inspired ideas and designs.



### **Materials:**

- T-shirt
- Freezer paper
- Pencil or pen
- Exacto knife
- Acrylic paint
- Textile medium
- Foam craft brush
- Bowl or container to mix paint in
- Cardboard or shirt form
- Iron
- Pressing cloth

### **Directions:**

First, take the shirt and wash and dry as it will be once finished and worn.

Next, take your freezer paper and draw/trace design of your choice on the “paper” side (not shiny) of the freezer paper. Then, on a craft surface, such as a craft cutting mat, cut out design with the exacto knife, being very careful. This part, as well as the iron and paint mixing is a job for parents to please supervise and help out with, depending on the age of the child.



Once design is cut out, take another piece of freezer paper and place it inside shirt, between the shirt and shirt form, with shiny side facing the inside of the shirt. Make sure to place it right under where you want to paint the design onto to help keep the paint from bleeding through.



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Next, place the design, shiny side down on top of shirt. Position it as you would like. Then, with iron on cotton setting, iron freezer paper to shirt. You will only need to iron it about 2 to 3 seconds, just until it “sticks.”

Now, you are ready to mix the paint! Take your paint and, depending on the color paint and shirt you are using, pour the amount of paint needed into the bowl or container. For the green lion shown on the blue shirt, it took about two coats of paint, so I used approx. 3 to 4 tablespoons if it were to be measured. However, I typically eyeball it. Next, following the manufacturer’s suggestion on the textile medium, mix together with paint.

Now for the fun painting part! Take your foam paintbrush, dip in the paint and start painting design onto shirt.



When finished, let dry overnight. Once drying is complete, you can gently remove the stencil and your freezer paper design will be revealed! Then, to heat set it, take your iron, on cotton setting again, and place pressing cloth over design and iron for a few seconds.



And Voila! A customized shirt is now ready to wear! Enjoy!

## Easy Dough Magnet

By: Amanda Formaro

Handmade, unique gifts are always an easy gift idea. This easy dough magnet by Amanda Formaro could make perfect handmade teachers gifts that you can create with the kids!



### Materials:

- 1 cup salt
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup water
- Purple and Light Blue acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Flower shaped cookie cutter
- Magnet
- White craft glue or hot glue

Note: This recipe for salt dough makes a lot of projects. If you only plan on making a few, cut this recipe into fourths or in half.

### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 250 degrees F.
2. Mix together, salt, flour, and water until a dough is formed.
3. Knead the dough on a floured surface until the mixture is elastic and smooth. If dough is too sticky, sprinkle with flour, continue to do so until stickiness is gone. BE CAREFUL. Do not add too much flour, this will dry out the dough and will cause it to crack before you get a chance to bake it.
4. Roll dough flat with a rolling pin, about 1/4" - 1/2" thick.
5. Use cookie cutter to cut out flowers. Roll a small piece of dough into a ball and flatten onto the center of the flower cut out.
6. Bake for approximately 2 - 2.5 hours. Remove from oven and allow to cool completely. For best results, allow to cool and dry overnight, or for at least 4 hours.
7. Paint flower with one or two coats of purple paint, then paint center of flower with light blue.
8. Let dry completely.
9. Glue a magnet to the back of the flower.  
Note: THIS DOUGH IS NOT EDIBLE, though it won't hurt you or your kids, it just won't taste very good!



## Altered CD

By: Melony Bradley for Uchida of America, Corp.

This altered CD makes a great projects for kids!



### Materials:

- Marvy® Opaque Stix,-Silver, White, Black, Blue
- Recycled CD
- Cardstock, lime, white
- 1" Alphabet stencil
- Decorative edged scissors- corkscrew
- Embossing label maker and black tape
- Black and White gingham ribbon- 1/4 1/2 yard
- Black fibers- 1/2 yard
- Paper Glue- Zip Dry™ Paper Glue, Beacon Adhesives®
- Marvy® Paper Trimming Buddy
- Marvy® Squishy Scissors
- Ruler

### Instructions:

All measurements are in inches.

1. Using CD as template, trace and cut one circle from the lime cardstock. Cut two 1" x 3 1/2" pieces from the white cardstock.
2. Draw four flowers on white cardstock. Use silver Opaque Stix pen to draw petals. Use blue Opaque Stix for flower centers. Outline all with black Opaque Stix. Allow to dry and cut out with scissors.
3. Decorate the background of the lime circle. Use white Opaque Stix to draw flowers randomly on circle. Use blue Opaque Stix for flower centers. With stencil, trace letters for "My Dear" with silver Opaque Stix. Outline with black Opaque Stix.
4. Cut one edge of each white cardstock piece with decorative edged scissors. Adhere to edges of CD. Cut one edge of each piece even with curve of CD. Glue flowers to CD.
5. Cut ribbon into 2 separate pieces-- one piece 4 1/2" long and one piece 5" long. Glue shorter piece to CD, below sentiment. Loop other piece for hanger and adhere to top of CD with glue. Use label maker for "Friend" and adhere to center of ribbon. Glue black fiber around edge of CD.

## Learning

### Customizable Chore Chart

By: Allee Marderosian from  
ilovetocreate.com

Functionality meets creativity with this cool craft! Create this fun chore chart for the kids in your home or classroom to keep everyone on track in a fun way. Magnets and dry erase markers make this a great visual tool for the kids and can be easily customized to fit your needs.



### Instructions:

1. Use computer and printer to print out pictures that correspond with each chore. Tip: Clip Art works great for this task!
2. Type up and print out chore names. Cut out.
3. Cover work surface with newspaper.
4. Spray Crystal Clear Tacky Spray onto cardstock and press printed images firmly onto sprayed area. Repeat until all images have been applied to cardstock.
5. Spray backs of chore names and press adhesive side down on top of corresponding image. Let all images dry completely.
6. Cut out images.
7. Peel off white backing from magnetic dot and apply to backside of cardstock.
8. Use dry erase pens to create a fun grid on whiteboard, including students' names.
9. Stick magnetic pictures in place on whiteboard chart as desired.

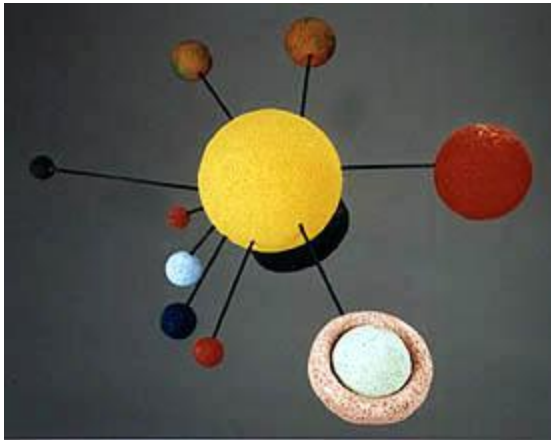
### Materials:

- Dry Erase Board
- Aleene's® Magnetic Tacky Dots
- Aleene's® Crystal Clear Tacky Spray™
- Computer
- Printer
- Newspaper
- Dry Erase Markers

## Solar System Model

By: Annabelle Keller for STYROFOAM\* Brand Foam

Don't be astronomically ignorant! This accurate model of the solar system is a great DIY way for kids to learn about both crafting and science.



### Materials:

- STYROFOAM\* Brand Products:
- 2-4-1/2" Rings
- 1- Ball each: 1", 2", 2-1/2", 3", 4", 6"
- 2- Balls each: 1-1/4", 1-1/2"
- 1- Sheet each, 12" x 36"
- Acrylic paint: (Bright Yellow, Black, Orange, Blue Danube, Ultra Blue, Christmas Green, Bright Red, Village Green, Nectar Coral, Terra Cotta, Seminole Green and Purple)
- 2- Wooden dowel rods, 36" x 1/8"
- Paint brush
- Toothpicks
- Ruler
- Craft snips
- Tacky glue

### Instructions:

1. Cut the dowel rods to the lengths shown on the chart below. Paint them Black and stand them in a foam sheet to dry. Note: you may need adult supervision to trim the dowels.
2. Using the chart as a guide, glue the cut dowels into the corresponding balls of STYROFOAM brand foam, then paint each ball. When two colors are given paint the ball with the first color, let it dry then dab on spots of the second color with your finger.
3. Glue the sun to the black ring and the coral ring around Saturn.
4. Place a rubber band around the sun about 2-1/2" above the base. This will be your guide for placing the planets. Starting with Mercury, glue the dowels into the sun about 1" below the rubber band. Remove the rubber band when all of the planets are attached.

## 18 Homemade Christmas Decorations: How to Make Christmas Decorations

Planet	Size of Ball	Color	Dowel Length
Sun	6"	Bright Yellow	
(Ring for Base)		Black	
Mercury	1"	Orange	2 1/2"
Venus	1 1/2"	Deep Danube	4"
Earth	1 1/2"	Ultra Blue/Christmas Green	5"
Mars	1 1/4"	Bright Red	6"
Jupiter	4"	Orange	7"
Saturn	3"	Village Green/Nectal Coral	8"
Saturn's Ring		Nectar Coral	
Uranus	2 1/2"	Terra Cotta/Seminole	10"
Neptune	2"	Green	11 1/2"
Pluto	1 1/4"	Seminole Green/Terra Cotta, Purple	14"



## Child's First Learning Clock

By: Marla Canfield Clark

Marla Canfield Clark to use at home using our free felt craft patterns.



### Materials:

- Embroidery Hoop (we recommend a 10 or 12" hoop)
- Felt or Fabric of your choice to fit the hoop (we used craft felt)
- Self adhesive felt numbers (1 or 2" depending on hoop size)
- Coated or Laminated Paper
- A scrapbooking brad
- Hot Glue Gun
- Ruler
- Scissor
- Fabric Marker or tailors chalk
- Paint for the embroidery hoop
- Decoration for your brad (we used a Mickey Mouse brad head)

### Instructions:



1. Recycled an old embroidery hoop or buy an inexpensive 10 or 12" wooden hoop.
2. Find a piece of felt or use scrap fabric that is slightly larger than your embroidery hoop.
3. Fit the felt or fabric over the bottom hoop and put the top hoop back on over the felt. Make sure the felt is stretched tight.
4. Turn the hoop over and trim some of the excess felt. Leave about  $\frac{1}{2}$ " of felt.
5. Hot glue the felt so that it sticks flat onto the inside rim of the embroidery hoop.
6. Turn over to work on the "front" of the clock.
7. Using a ruler, measure down about  $\frac{1}{2}$  from the top middle and mark lightly with a fabric pen or chalk. You can find the middle directly under the "tightener" on the embroidery hoop. The tightening screw can serve as the top of the clock.

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8. Continue marking using your ruler for the number positions. Mark top and bottom (12, 6), across the middle (9, 3) and so on for (1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11). Position your self adhesive numbers around the clock where your marks are. Find the middle of the clock and make a small mark.
9. Make the hands of the clock using a strong and stiff laminated or coated paper. We used an old file folder.
10. Cut one long strip of the paper and angle the tips like an arrow. We used pinking sheers.
11. Cut the strip making one "longer" arm and one "shorter" arm. Lightly position on the clock over your "mark".
12. Take the arms off the clock and carefully poke a small hole in both. We used the sharp pointy end of our regular scissor.
13. Push a scrapbooking brad through the arms.
14. Gently push the brad through the face of the clock, taking care not to rip the felt or distort the clock. It helps to put one hand over and one hand under the clock face while doing this step. Open the brad to secure on the back side of the clock.
15. We added a Mickey Mouse decoration to the top of our brad. Decorate as desired.

**Additional ideas:** Allow your child to paint the outside ring of the embroidery hoop before making the clock. Make sure the paint is fully dry before assembling the clock.

**Green Crafting:** Make this clock 100% eco friendly by using an old, repurposed embroidery hoop, eco craft felt or scrap fabric and recycled paper.

## Dinosaurs

By: Frank Tompkins of Styrofoam Brand Foam

Create some cool dinosaurs to display around your house or in your son's room. This makes for a really neat birthday party activity.



### TIPS:

**Cutting.** A serrated knife, hacksaw, floral knife or X-acto® knife easily cut through STYROFOAM Brand Products. Wax the knife blade with an old candle for easier, smoother cuts.

**Painting:** Spray paint with a water-based paint. Paints containing active solvents may damage foam. (See paint manufacturer's instructions for details.)

**Gluing:** White craft glue is ideal for STYROFOAM Brand Products. Use florists' picks or toothpicks to hold the pieces together until dried. For faster bonding, try a low temperature glue gun; hot glue guns can be used but they may melt a small portion of the foam. (Please follow manufacturer's safety instructions when operating a glue gun.)

### Tyrannosaurus Rex Materials:

- STYROFOAM Brand Products:
  - Body: 1- 5" egg
  - Arms: 6-1-1/2" balls
  - Legs/Feet: 2-4" eggs, 3- 3" eggs
  - Tail: 1- 3" ball, 4- 2" balls, 4-1-1/2" balls
  - Neck/Head: 1- 3" ball, 1- 2" ball, 1- 4" egg, 1-1-1/2" ball
- Wood picks
- 1- 3/4" doll's eyes, pair
- Sharp knife
- Glue
- Blue felt tip pen (water based)
- Spray paint: dark blue, light blue, shocking pink

### Instructions:

1. **Legs:** Position 4" eggs on body (tapered ends down) as if dinosaur is walking. Carve out eggs so they fit snugly against body and glue in place. Glue one 3" egg to each 4" egg (tapered ends down). Cut remaining 3" egg in half lengthwise to form feet; glue on to legs.
2. **Tail:** Glue together balls for tail, starting with 3" ball and ending with 1-1/2" balls. Glue tail to body; adjust tail as needed to help body stand.
3. **Head & Neck:** Glue 3" ball onto body, followed by 2" ball. Carve a wedge from end of 4" egg, forming mouth; glue to 2" ball. Cut 1 1/2" ball in half; glue to head for sockets.

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4. **Arms:** Cut wedge out of two 1 1/2" balls, forming hands; glue together three balls for each arm. Attach to 3" ball.
5. **Painting:** Mask the inside of mouth with tape and carefully paint front of body light blue, shading to white in the center; turn over and paint back side deep blue. Remove tape; carefully paint inside of mouth pink. Draw on nostrils and toe nails with blue felt tip pen. Attach doll's eyes to eye sockets.

### Green Stegosaurus Materials:

- STYROFOAM Brand Products:
  - Body: 1- 6" ball
  - Legs/Feet: 2- 3" eggs, 2- 2" eggs, 6- 1-1/2" balls, 2- 1" balls, 2- 2" balls
  - Neck/Head: 1- 2" egg, 2- 1-1/2" balls
  - Tail/Fins: 4- 1-1/2" balls, 4- 1" balls, 4-1/2" balls, 6- 3" eggs
- 1- 1/2" doll's eyes, pair
- Sharp knife
- Glue
- Spray paint: bright green

### Instructions:

1. **Back Legs:** Position 3" eggs on body, tapered ends down. Carve out eggs so they fit snugly against body and glue in place. Glue one 1-1/2" ball to each egg.
2. **Front Legs:** Glue 2" eggs to body, following instruction above. Glue 1-1/2" and 1" ball to each egg.
3. **Feet:** Cut two 2" eggs in half lengthwise; glue to legs.
4. **Head & Neck:** Whittle top of tapered end of 2" egg into muzzle. Glue together two 1-1/2" balls and 2" egg. Glue neck to body.
5. **Tail:** Glue together balls for tail, forming a curve. Attach tail to body.
6. **Painting:** Paint dinosaur body bright green. Attach doll's eyes to head.
7. **Fins:** Shape tapered end of 3" eggs into a point (optional). Carefully cut six slices from each egg. Paint fins green. Attach fins in pairs, with larger fins on body and smaller fins on tail.

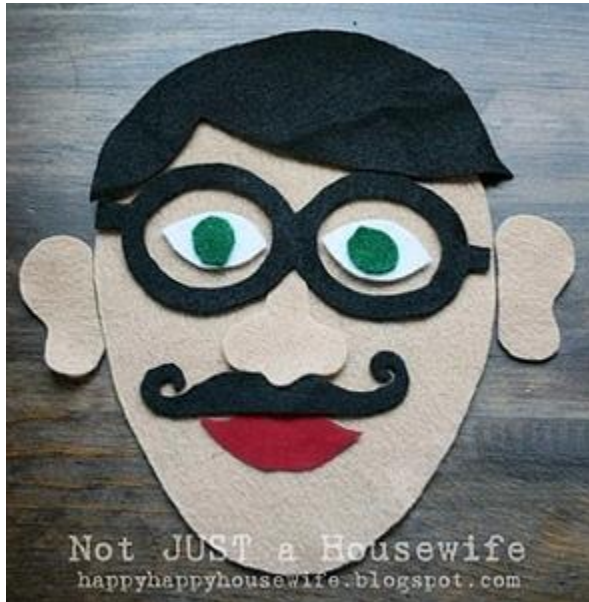


## Games

### Felt Face Game

By: Not Just a Housewife

The felt face game is a homemade travel activity to make and use with your kids. These easy crafts for kids will keep them occupied for hours.



#### Materials:

- Scissors
- Card stock paper
- Pencil
- Felt

#### Instructions:

1. Draw a basic face shape, eyes, a few different noses, ears, some mouths, eyebrows, accessories like bows and flowers, maybe some glasses. I wait until I have cut out the face shape before I draw the hair. Then they will match up.



2. Cut them out and then trace them onto the felt.
3. Cut the felt pieces out and you're done!



**More tips:**

- I have four boys so I didn't focus on the girls as much. You could go all out with fun girly things like earrings, girly glasses, more hair options, etc. I made my first set for a friend 7 years ago and made hair that had two pony tails. The sky is the limit!
- I store mine in a gallon sized ziplock baggie. They are great to stick in your purse and have for church, Doctor's offices, etc.
- I save the pieces I cut out of paper (the "pattern") and the scraps of felt and put them in a folder in my filing cabinet. That way if we loose an ear or mouth I can quickly make a replacement.
- Make them to look like your family members complete with Grandma and Grandpa. I was going to make some Grandpa hair but I didn't have any grey felt.
- Make some hats. A cowboy hat, fireman, etc. Or even an eye patch and bandanna. Then the people can play dress up!

## Game Set

By: DecoArt

Games are so much fun and are a great learning tool. This kid craft project is perfect for teachers to use. Games help stimulate the brain and gets kids thinking!



### Materials:

DecoArt Products Required

- Americana Gloss Enamels
  - DAG265 - Tuscan Red
  - DAG01 - White
  - DAG36 - True Blue
  - DAG227 - Bright Yellow
  - DAG235 - Citron Green
  - DAG230 - Festive Green
- 4 1/2" x 4 3/4" x 2 1/8" white jewelry box, Decorate Me
- Six 3/4" unfinished wood square blocks, Lara's Crafts U10182
- 26 unfinished wood 1 1/2" discs, Lara's Crafts U10046
- Two 8.5" x 11" sheets of school-themed scrapbook paper or cardstock (We used sheets from DCWV cardstock stack, The Grade School/PS-006-00026.)
- 2" unfinished wood star, Forster Woodsies

- Unfinished 3" x 2" wood rectangle, Lara's Crafts V20023
- #0 liner brush
- 1/2" flat brush
- Fine point and ultra fine black permanent markers
- Aleene's Quick-Dry Tacky Glue
- Lo-temp glue gun and glue sticks
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil

### Instructions:

#### Game Box

1. Use flat brush and Bright Yellow to paint star; let dry.
2. Use flat brush and Tuscan Red to paint rectangle; let dry.
3. Referring to photo for placement, use liner brush and White to paint "games" on rectangle and let dry.
4. Use marker to draw chalkboard graffiti around word on rectangle.
5. Cut following pieces from scrapbook paper: for lid, 4" x 4 1/2"; long sides, two 4 1/2" x 1 7/8"; short sides, two 4 1/4" x 1 7/8".
6. Apply thin, even coat of tacky glue to back of lid paper; center on lid and smooth out with fingers. Repeat with remaining papers for sides of box. Let glue dry.
7. Refer to photo for placement and use glue gun to glue wood shapes on lid.

**Number Dice Game**

1. Use flat brush and Tuscan Red to paint cube; let dry.
2. Repeat Step 1 with True Blue; Bright Yellow; Bright Orange; Festive Green; and Citron Green.
3. Refer to photo and use marker to write numbers 1-6 on sides of each cube.

**Alphabet Game**

1. Use flat brush and Tuscan Red to paint seven discs; let dry. Repeat with Festive Green.
2. Use flat brush and Bright Yellow to paint six discs; let dry. Repeat with True Blue.
3. Refer to photo and use marker to write letters A-Z on front center of discs.



## Buddy Up With Your Finger Friends

By: Kathleen George for Styrofoam Brand Foam

Make a new friend with Kathleen George's creations. The finger friend is a fun and exciting adventure you can have with your kids.



### Materials:

- STYROFOAM Brand Products:
  - 2- 1" or 1-1/2" balls
  - 1- block (optional)
- 1- 3" piece of chenille stem
- 1- pair wiggle eyes
- Craft paint/stiff paint brush
- Felt scraps
- Craft materials such as eyelash curls, pom-poms, yarn
- General Tools and Supplies:
  - Scissors
  - Craft glue or glue gun and glue sticks
  - Wooden skewers or toothpicks

### Instructions:

1. If desired, paint balls of STYROFOAM. Push a skewer into the balls to hold while painting; place skewers in a block of foam to hold while balls dry.
2. Shape 3" piece of chenille stem into a "U". Dip ends in glue and insert U shape into 2 balls so U shape will slip under the wearer's middle finger while the two balls sit on top of the hand to form the puppet's eyes. (1" balls work best for smaller hands.)
3. Cut felt shapes for eyes; glue wiggle eyes to felt or attach wiggle eyes directly on plastic foam balls. Glue on other features such as pom-poms and eyelash curls, or felt ears and eyelids.
4. Dab glue onto foam and use a skewer to push materials such as yarn into the foam for hair. Insert chenille stems into foam for antennae or eye lashes. For antennae, gently curve chenille stems and glue pom-poms onto the tips of shaped chenille stems; dip in glue and insert into foam.
5. Modify the finger puppet instructions to create a finger friend that resembles your school mascot, favorite pet or other character. Buttons, sequins or glitter are other objects that might inspire your creativity.

# favecrafts

In this eBook, you'll find a collection of fun craft projects to get the kids excited about crafting. These craft ideas are great for parents and children to work on together. If you're looking to spend some quality time with your child or grandchild, these craft tutorials are a fun way to create something together while also learning a new skill. Older children can try these crafts on their own too, if you're looking for activities to keep them busy on a rainy day.

## Included in this eBook:

- Recycled Crayons
- Blooming Spring Lei
- Child's Learning Clock
- Freezer Paper Stencil
- Felt Face Game

