



Idaho Libraries Kits Roundup™

Brought to you by the



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Baby Yoda/The Child Take and Make Kit



Ages 8+

You will need a glue gun for this craft.

Supplies :

Green Hand Towel - the towels came from Dollar Tree

Hair bands – Dollar Tree

Polyester Stuffing – Fabric Land or you can pull apart pillows from Dollarama

Burlap Ribbon - Dollarama

Glitter Styrofoam Balls – Dollarama

Hot Glue Gun & Glue

Ruler

Instructions:

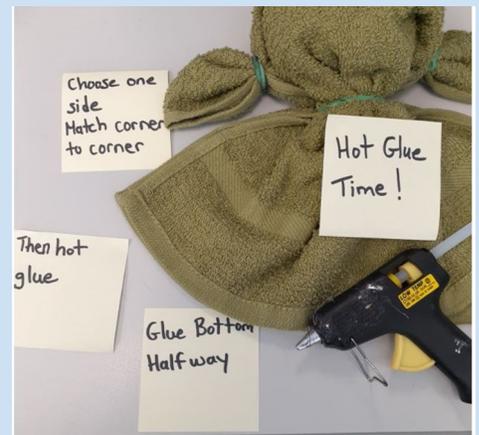
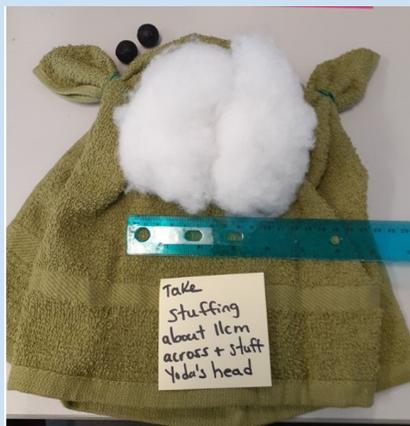
1. Fold the towel in half. Make sure that the line of the towel is facing towards you.
2. You will need 3 elastics. For the Library example I used the green colored elastics
3. Measure from the top 7 to 8 cm. Pinch the fabric and tie elastic around the corner to make ear! Repeat on the other side of the towel.



4. Take some stuffing and place into Yoda's head. This may take some puffing and possibly readjusting the ears etc.. Once you are happy, tie an elastic around to make Yoda's neck.

5. In order to put the stuffing into the body, you will need to close one side with hot glue, so choose a side, line up the seams and run a line of hot glue along the inside seam. Hold down the glue till it sets. Repeat this step on the opposite seam.

6. Stuff the Yoda body with a ball of stuffing. Fluff the stuffing to make full, then hot glue the bottom seam together to close Yoda's body.



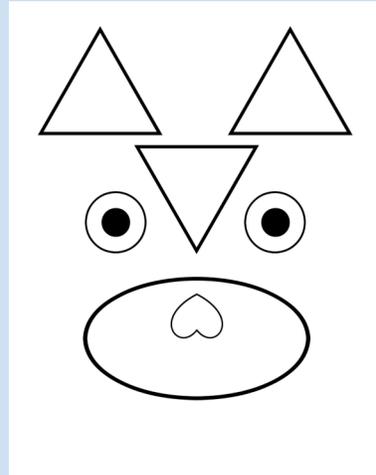
7. Now fold the corners together on the back side of Yoda, and hot glue them (see picture).

8. Glue on the eyes

9. Cut about 2 yards of the burlap ribbon, fold ribbon in half and wrap it around Yoda. If you want, you can hot glue the ribbon in place.



Chalk Art Purr-fect Cat



[Chalk Art Purr-fect Cat](#)

Supplies Included:

Direction sheet,
9 x 12 black construction paper
2 - 3 pcs chalk, preprinted cat face.

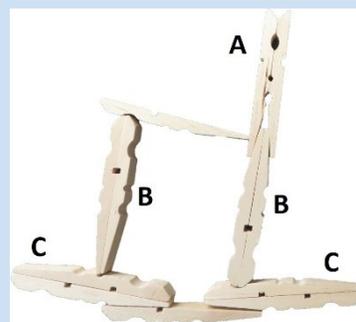
Supplies Not Included: Scissors, glue, markers or crayons.

Directions:

1. Color the cat face w/crayons or markers, cut out and glue onto the middle of the paper.
2. Using the chalk, draw lines all around the cat face to look like cat hair. *Remember it's about the process not the finished product, help your kids but let them do the creating.*

This craft was very fun for all ages and easy for the littles. I made small direction sheets, 4 to a page and cut them apart and attached one to the outside of the craft bag, along with some educational color sheets. I cut the chalk into three pieces and included different colors in each bag along with white chalk.

Clothespin Rocking Chair



Supplies:

At least 18 clothespins

Wood glue or white PVA glue, e.g. Aleene's Tacky Glue, Elmer's Glue, or generic "school glue"

Wax paper

Instructions:

1. Remove the springs. The springs can be discarded or recycled.
2. Glue pairs as follows. The remaining loose halves will be used in later steps.
 - a. Two halves face-to-face
 - b. Four halves back-to-back
 - c. Five halves back-to-back and flipped end-to-end (see picture)
3. Use a sheet of wax paper to protect your workspace. Build the frame for one side of the chair. Apply a thin layer of glue and make final positioning adjustments. To make both sides match, cover the first half with wax paper and build the second half on top of the first to make sure everything is aligned.
4. Glue the final Part C in the center to link the rockers. Glue two loose halves to support the backrest, and two more to support the seat.
5. Use the remaining halves to form the seat and backrest. You can create a solid seat with up to five halves or use three fanning apart for a fancier look. Place the flat or milled side up according to your preferences. More halves can be used to make a fancier backrest, too.

Alternative build ideas:

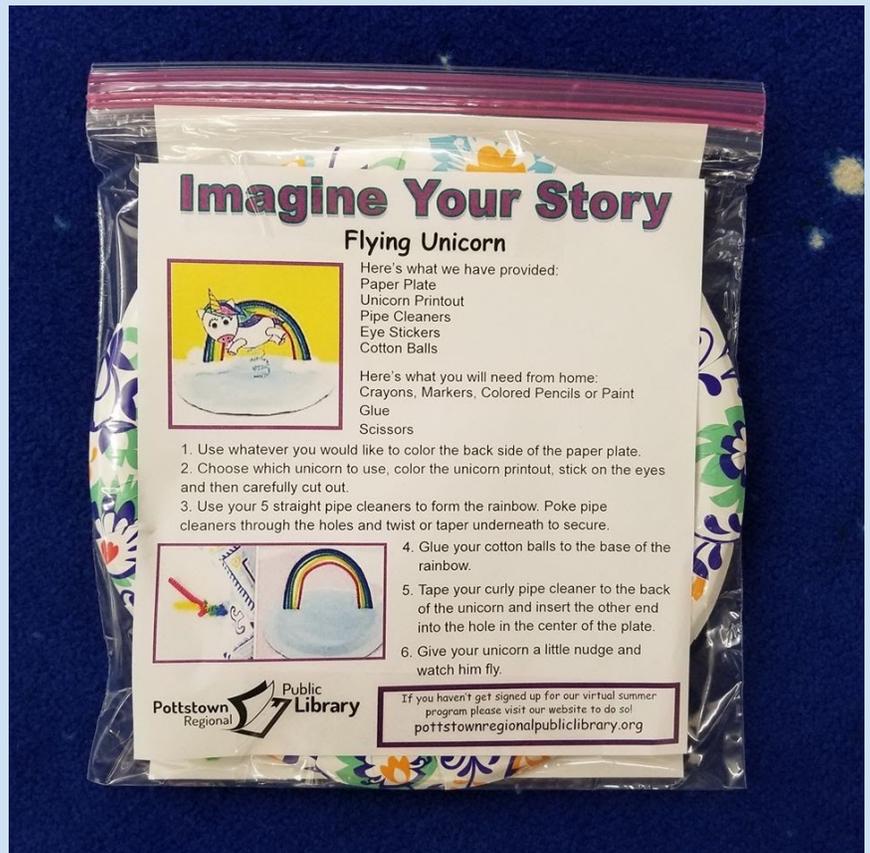
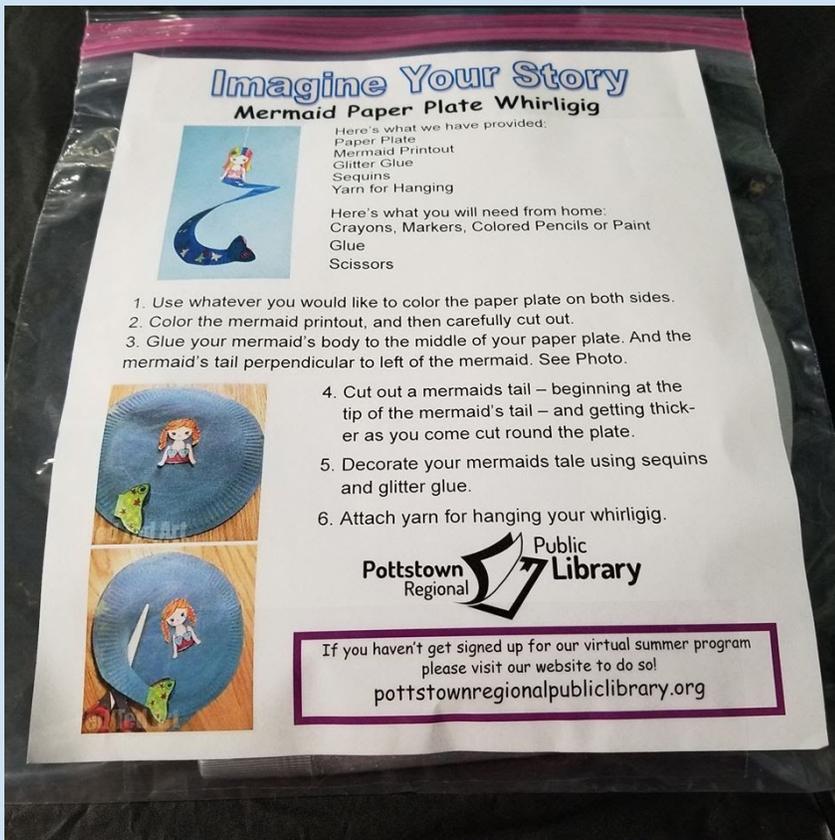
Try a different pattern for the chair side frames. Adjust the angle, make the back taller, use fewer glued pairs. The sky is the limit! Omit the rockers and build a simpler straight-back armchair. If you intend to paint your chair, start by painting all clothespin halves before any glue is applied, and allow time to dry. Sand any surfaces to be glued for a good bond. Then paint a final coat after assembly. Finally, add any decorative embellishments.

video: <https://youtu.be/C4gFXC6OfD8>

Instructions: www.facebook.com/groups/makestuffforadultscln/permalink/2663956487208492

Inspired by a garage sale knick-knack I bought for my mother's teddy bear collection many years ago. This was designed to use 18 clothespins, since packages of 36 or 72 seem most common. The clothespins and a ½-page instruction sheet fit in a Ziploc sandwich bag for distribution.

CSLP Imagine Your Story Kits



Imagine Your Story

Jack and the Beanstalk



Here's what we have provided:
Plastic Cup
Castle in the Sky Printout
Wooden Skewer
Dirt
Magic Beans

Here's what you will need from home:
Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
Tape
Scissors

1. Color and cut out your castle in the sky printout.
2. Tape your castle to the wooden skewer and set aside.
3. Carefully place your dirt in the cup.
4. Use your finger to make holes for your magic beans. Place beans inside holes, and lightly cover with a pinch of dirt.
5. Water and place in a sunlight. Wait for your magic beans to start growing.



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please visit our website to do so!
pottstownregionalpubliclibrary.org

Imagine Your Story

Butterfly Magnets



Here's what we have provided:
6 coffee filters
3 magnets
3 pipe cleaners
dropper

Here's what you will need from home:
Any watercolor markers
Water

1. Each kit makes 3 butterfly magnets. Place your coffee filters in sets of two, stacked on top of each other. You should have 3 sets. Color each set using markers. Remember to press hard so it goes through to the bottom filter.
2. Leave filters in sets of two and place on a plate or tray, add a few drops of water to each and watch the colors spread.
3. Place in the sun to dry. When dry fold each filter accordion style. Stack two folded filters together and form a body using the pipe cleaner. Twist into place as shown.
4. Fluff your wings and add your magnets to the back of the pipe cleaners



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Imagine Your Story

Q-Tip Flowers



AGES 12 AND UP

Here's what we have provided:

2 Styrofoam balls
Q-Tips cut in half
2 bamboo skewers
2 pots of paint
4 green pipe cleaners
green shredded paper
plastic pot
package of Model Magic

Here's what you will need from home:

small bowl of water
glue
paper towels

1. Insert a bamboo skewer into each ball to be used as a stem.
2. Dip the stick end of your Q-tip into glue and insert into the Styrofoam ball. Continue until your ball is covered with Q-tips. Do not put them too close together or they will pop out. If it pops out put more glue on the stick and reinsert into the same spot.
3. Scoop one of your paint colors into a small bowl add water and mix. Now roll your ball covered with Q-tips into the paint to color the cotton ends using your stick as a handle. Rinse bowl and repeat with the second ball and the remaining paint. Let dry.
4. Wrap your skewer with green pipe cleaners and create leaves for your flowers.
5. Press the air dry clay into the bottom of your pot and stick the skewers into the clay. Cover the clay with green shredded paper.



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GRAB AND GO ACTIVITY

Windchimes



Here's what we have provided:

Hoop
Yarn
Beads, Bells and Feathers

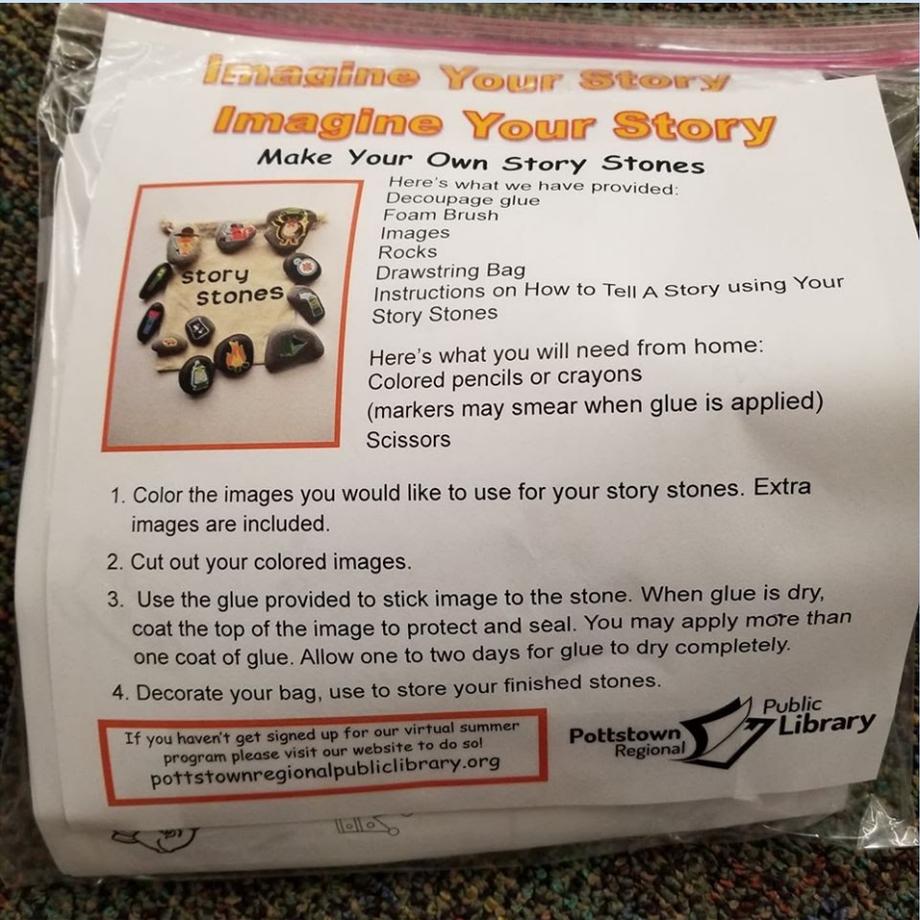
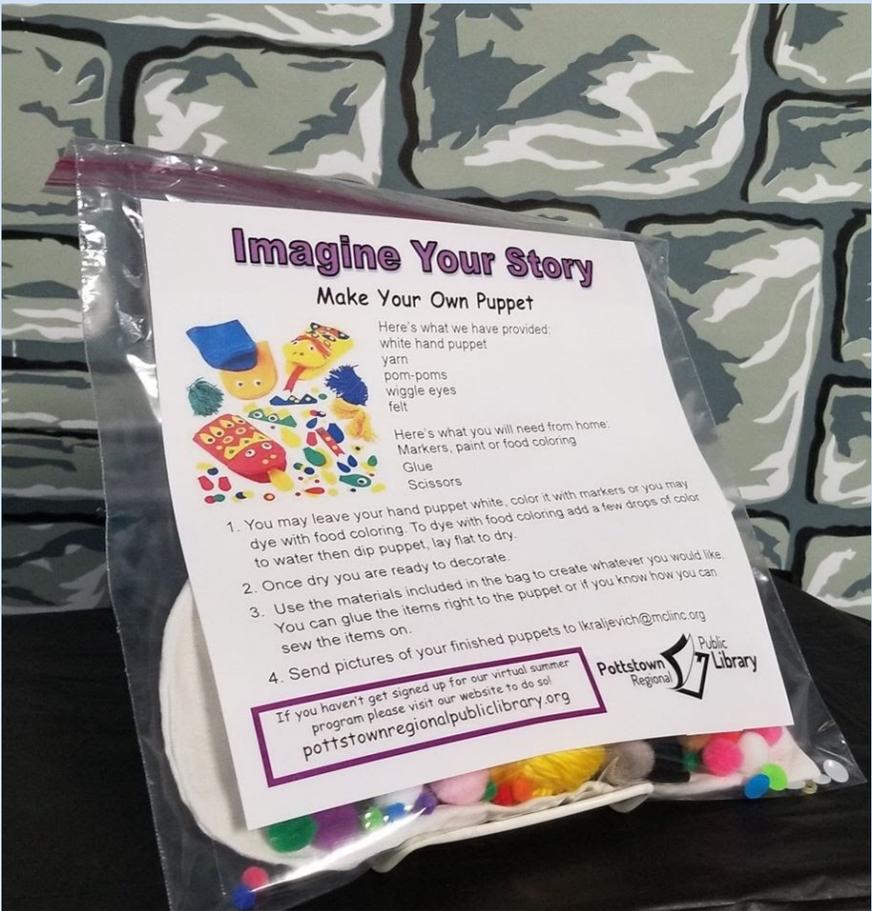
Here's what you will need from home:

Scissors
Tape

1. Your hoop has yarn for hanging attached to the hoop for you. You will use the included yarn to make as many strings as you would like to blow in the wind.
2. Cut your yarn into long pieces, cut at least 4 or 5 pieces. Knot one end of each piece of yarn.
3. If you want to apply tape to the un-knotted end of the yarn it will be easier for the kids to string the beads and bells. Think shoelace ends. String your bells and beads leaving enough room at the top to tie to the hoop. Tie finished strands to the hoop securely.
4. Feathers can be tied on with any remaining yarn.
5. Hang in a covered area and enjoy!



If you need help choosing children's books email lkraljevich@mcclinc.org and we will select them for you!



Imagine Your Story

Magic Wands



Here's what we have provided:
Magic Wand chosen especially for you!
Metallic paint
Paintbrush
Magic Rainbow Seeds

Here's what you will need from home:
1/2 cup warm water

1. Paint your magic wand using the special paint provided. Let dry!
2. Place you magic rainbow seeds neatly on a white plate or dish. Slowly add warm water.



3. Wave your magic wand over the plate. Count to three and say, "Ohh, Ahh" and a rainbow will appear in front of your very eyes.
4. If your rainbow doesn't appear immediately repeat the magic spell!



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pottstownregionalpubliclibrary.org

GRAB AND GO ACTIVITY

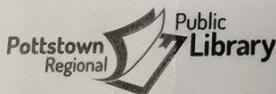
Shark Porthole Sun Catcher



Here's what we have provided:
Circle of blue contact paper
black construction paper
shark silhouettes
tissue paper

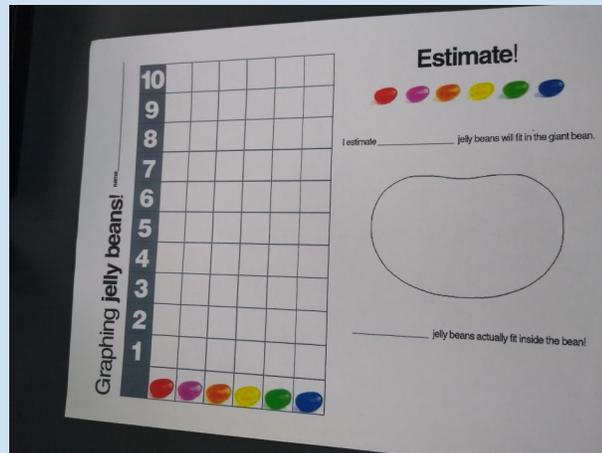
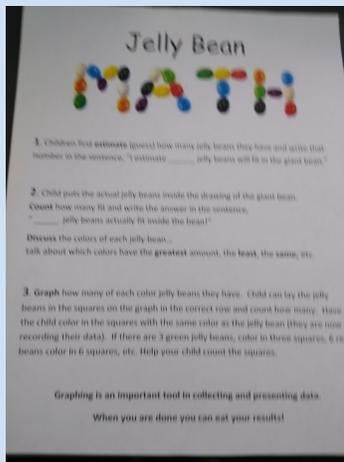
Here's what you will need from home:
Scissors
String or tape to hang in window
pencil

1. Place your blue contact paper circle on top of you black construction paper and use a pencil to trace the circle. Cut out your black circle. It should be the same size as your blue circle.
2. Fold the black circle in half and cut a smaller semi circle out of your black paper. You should have a ring of black paper.
3. Remove the backing from your contact paper and lay it on a table sticky side up. Carefully place your black ring on top of the sticky paper.
4. Choose which shark or sharks you would like and cut them out. Stick them to your paper black side facing down.
5. Now tear your tissue paper into small pieces to cover all of the sticky places. Then hang your porthole in a sunny window.



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Jelly Bean Math: STEAM Activity



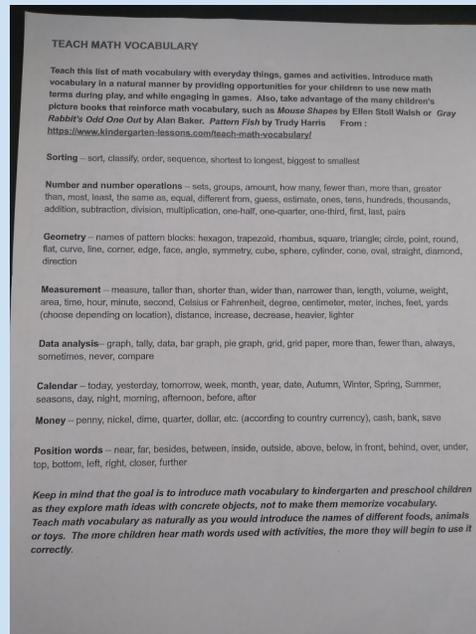
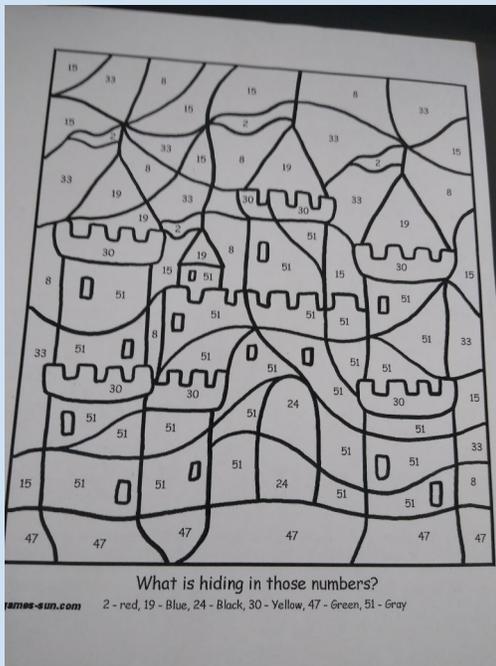
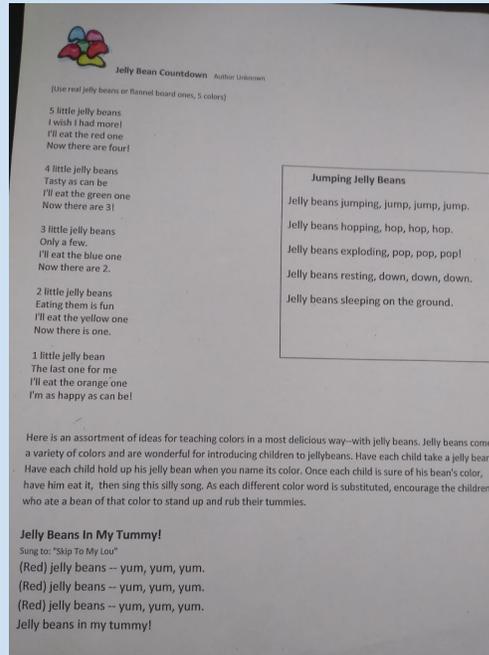
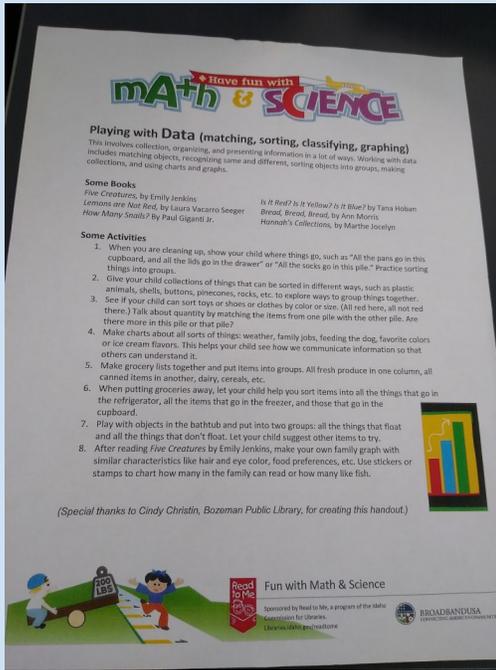
Each Grab & Go bag had a Ziplock baggie with 10 various colors of jelly beans. No black beans, just the colors that are represented on the graphing sheet. Red, pink, orange, yellow, green & blue. Walmart.com was the cheapest I found for large bags of jelly beans, or wait until after Easter and get them on discount at the drug store.

On the first sheet “**Jelly Bean Math**” I’ve listed many “math” vocabulary words urging parents to start speaking in these terms with their children, so it will become easy for them to understand and be better prepared for math instruction, etc..

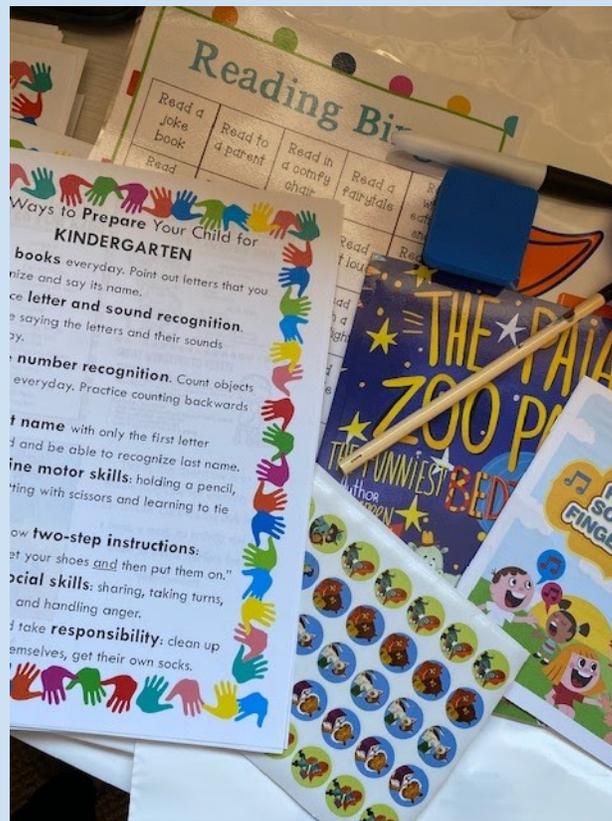
Directions: Kids are supposed to **estimate** how many jelly beans they think are in the bag and **record** the number on the sheet. Then they dump the bag of jelly beans out into the big jelly bean shape and actually **count** how many jelly beans there are and again **record** that **data**. This is recording **data** just like a real scientist does. Next the child should **graph** the beans according to their color, this is **sorting**. Kids can put the jelly beans, one to a square or box, on the graph then count them to see how many they actually have of each color. Before they eat them they should use a marker of the same color as jelly beans and color in all the squares to **record** how many of each color they had. They now have made a simple but effective **bar graph**.

Also Included in the Kit:

I copied the “Jelly Bean MATH” sheet back to back with “Have Fun with Math & Science” sheet from ICfL Read to Me ... titled “Playing with Data (matching, sorting, classifying, graphing.” On the back of the “Estimate!” sheet I copied jelly bean rhymes and songs sheet. I also copied back to back, “What is hiding in those numbers?” color sheet and on the other side a “Teach Math Vocabulary” sheet.



Kindergarten Readiness Kit



Supplies:

1. Laminate Bingo Cards with a dry erase marker
2. Finger play guide book
3. Songs to sing
4. Finger puppets
5. Manipulatives
6. 3 books to keep
7. A list of online resources
8. Pencils
9. Bookmarks
10. Scissor practice sheets
11. Stickers

These kits are designed to be used over again with a parent or caregiver to help those preschool children be kindergarten ready. They can also be used with homeschool parents and distance learning homes as well.

-Rasheil Stange-Valley of the Tetons Library

No-Sew Fabric Bookmark



Supplies:

Scissors

Glue

Scrap fabric

Instructions: www.debsdays.com/2019/04/no-sew-fabric-bookmark-tutorial-tuesday.html We used a star-spangled red, white, and blue theme for July. Nothing was significantly changed from the source linked above. Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas patterns might be good options for other libraries.

Pool Noodle Boats: STEAM Activity



Supplies:

- 2 pool noodle pieces (boat)
- 2 straw pieces (part of sail)
- 1 piece of foam sheeting (sail)
- Scissors, glue, markers

Instructions:

1. Cut two triangles out of the foam sheet. Help younger children measure & cut. This is a perfect opportunity to discuss shapes with preschoolers. The foam sheet is a rectangle with four sides, the pool noodle piece is a circle with 0 sides. We are going to make a triangle that has three sides, etc. If you have a paper punch, punch a hole at the tip of the triangle and another hole directly below closer to the bottom of the triangle. Or you can use scissors and make two small holes. *Don't punch/cut too close to the edge or your sail will rip.*
2. Thread the straw through the sail (foam sheet)
3. Punch a hole in the flat side of the pool noodle. Look at the picture to see where to punch. *Using the tip of your scissors poke a hole in the pool noodle.* Add a little Elmer's glue and put the straw in and let dry.
4. Now put your sail on the boat and go float your boat.

Bonus Craft:

Create a mermaid and a merman. Merpeople are legendary water-dwelling human-like beings. Please glue on their tails and decorate them any way you like. Now make up a story about your merpeople and your pool noodle boats. (See Picture)

-Debbie Allen Youth Services Specialist—Lewiston City Library

Preschool Yarn Monster



Supplies:

Yarn
Googly Eyes
Pipe cleaners

Instructions: bluebearwood.co.uk/yarn-monsters/

1. Bend your pipe cleaner in half and then twist it to 1/3 of the way down, just shy of the three finger width (adult hand) that you will wrap the yarn around. If a child is doing this depending on the size of their hand you will need to wrap the hand around four or five fingers.
2. Wrap the yarn around your fingers so you get a nice thick wodge of yarn. Thicker is better for monsters.
3. Carefully slide one of the pipe cleaner legs through the wodge of yarn and twist tightly to secure.
4. Carefully snip through the loops of yarn trying to keep the lengths even.
5. Gently pull the yarn strands down to cover the chopped part of the pipe cleaner and trim any irregular bits off.
6. Curl each of the remaining pipe cleaner strands to create flat tight circles (this is where the eyes will be).
7. Glue on the Googly Eyes and let the fun begin!

- Lauren Silva, Ada Community Library: Hidden Springs Branch

Rainbow Cloud Craft : STEAM Activity



ROY G BIV Say this name to remember the colors of the rainbow. Each letter stands for a color.

R=Red **O=Orange** **Y=Yellow**

G=Green **B=Blue** **I=Indigo**

V=Violet

Supplies:

6 inch paper plate cut in half, (can use a 9 inch), cotton balls, pre-cut 1 inch x 6 inch strips of construction paper in the ROYGBIV colors, length of yarn to hang up craft. (Cutting Tip: Using 9 x 12 construction paper cut in half and cut 1 inch strips, should get 18 total strips out of one sheet paper.) Each kit got the half paper plate, 3 cotton balls, 7 colors of paper strips and yarn piece. I printed off the words ROYGBIV (in the correct color for each letter) and printed on labels and stuck onto the back of the paper plate.

Instructions:

Glue or tape the rainbow strips along the cut edge of paper plate. Try to put them in the correct color order. Look below or on the back of the paper plate to see what order the colors go in. Next glue cotton balls (clouds) on the front of the paper plate. Punch a hole in the top middle of the paper plate and thread a length of yarn through the hole and tie to make a hanger. Hang your Rainbow Cloud up in your house and practice saying the colors of the rainbow.

Extension Activity: How to make a Rainbow

Learn how to make a rainbow with a few simple items you have around your house.

Supplies:

glass of water (about three quarters full)

white paper

a sunny day



Instructions:

1. Take the glass of water and paper to a room with sunlight near a window is good.
2. Hold the glass of water above the paper and watch as sunlight passes through the glass of water, it refracts (bends) and forms a rainbow color on your sheet of paper.
3. Try holding the glass of water at different heights and angles to see if it has a different effect.

Rainbows form in the sky when water refracts (bends) as it passes through raindrops, it acts the same way when it passes through your glass of water. The sunlight refracts separating it into the colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo & violet. (ROY G BIV)

More Resources:

Listen and sing the Rainbow song on YouTube by Nancy Kopman. The link is below <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xLNZAJs11SU>

Check out these other fun hands-on science experiments for kids at <https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/weather/rainbows.html>

Sink or Float

Physics for Preschoolers: Will it sink or will it float? This is a great beginner science experiment that will introduce young children to density and buoyancy. See directions included in this packet.

This low-prep, play-based learning activity combines a science activity and a water activity. It is best to do outdoors when the weather is nice, but kids can do this activity at the kitchen sink, in the bathtub or on the floor with a tub of water. If doing this activity inside be sure and put down a table covering and have plenty of towels on hand for spills.

This activity is from the Happy Hooligans website <https://happyhooligans.ca/>

Be sure and checkout this site for more fun and educational activities.

Kids retain more information when more than one sense is engaged. Add a packet of Jell-O powder or juice crystals to the water. This creates a fruity scent.

Items Needed for the sink or float activity

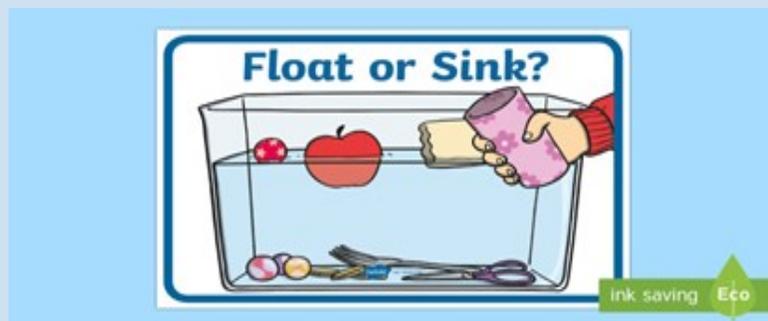
- Waterproof toys and household items
- A container to do the experiment in (plastic tub, basin, pot, bucket, etc.)
- Drinking straws (optional) & Jell-O or juice crystals (optional)

Items that sink

- Metal utensils, coins, stones, toy car/truck, keys, glass gemstones or marbles (note: marbles not suitable for toddlers)

Items that Float

- Duplo/Legos, stick or popsicle stick, corks, bath toys, foam shapes, crayon, rubber ball



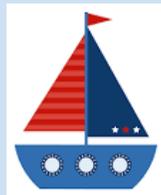
HOW TO DO AN EDUCATIONAL SINK OR FLOAT EXPERIMENT:

1. Collect the items needed for your experiment. Give kids a list of things to collect and this part of the activity can be a fun scavenger hunt that kids usually enjoy.
2. Fill a tub or bucket with lukewarm water.
3. If coloring your water, you can add it now or once the toys have been added.
4. Before adding the objects to the water, tell kids they are going to test several things to see if they will sink or float. Pass them an object and ask them to make a prediction whether they think the object will sink or float. Then have kids place the object in the water to see what happens. They are now making an observation. Have children test each of the items in the same manner, making a prediction first, then observe to see what happens. Remind kids, it doesn't matter who is right or wrong, we are doing a real scientific experiment, just like real scientists do, we are making predictions (a guess) and then finding out if our prediction was true or false.
5. Now, have the kids drop the objects, one by one, into the water and observe what happens. Once all of the items are in the water, you can extend the activity by giving the kids drinking straws to blow the floating items around. This is a fun way to teach children about [kinetic energy](#) as the air they blow through the straw propels the floating items forward

THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE SINK OR FLOAT EXPERIMENT

Before explaining why items sink or float, ask your children why **they think** an object sinks or floats. They may guess it's because of size or weight or construction. Then, explain that **items sink or float based on their density**. Density is determined by how close or far apart molecules are within an item. Molecules are tiny and only visible by a microscope.

Once you have prompted their learning by explaining the science behind the activity, allow your children to replicate the experiment as many times as they please. This will help to solidify their knowledge and reap the [benefits of play-based learning](#).



Summer Kit Series: Salmon Public Library

Family Activity Kits

Each kit contained a series of five themed activities aligned with the five early literacy practices: Talk, Sing, Read, Write, Play.

- “Talk” activities were usually a game child could play with a caregiver, often with paper manipulatives (which we provided in the kit)
- “Sing” activities were a simple, preschool-appropriate song to sing together
- “Read” activity was a list of recommended books the library had that went along with the theme
- “Write” was a craft/activity focused on fine motor skill development. Materials were provided for these activities, as well as (when relevant) a short list of what they would need from home. We tried to choose activities that even if they didn’t have things like scissors or glue, could still be completed in an alternative way.
- “Play” was a game involving gross motor movement

Kit Themes (to go along with “Imagine Your Story”). Each theme links to the PDF instructions included with the kit: [1\) My Story](#), [2\) Folk Tales](#), [3\) Let’s Pretend](#), [4\) Magical Creatures](#)

Each kit had a companion video demonstrating the activities & song. [A playlist of these videos is available here.](#)





Family Activity Kit #1: My Story

Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

SING: "You Are My Sunshine"

Enjoy singing this timeless family lullaby with your child:

*You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are gray
You'll never know dear, how much I love you
Please don't take my sunshine away*

Find it on Youtube: "You Are My Sunshine Song for Kids - The Kiboomers"

TALK: Family Sensory Bag

Gather a few objects that remind you of a special family memory (i.e.: souvenir from a family trip, a soccer trophy, your wedding ring). Do not let your child see the objects. Place one of the objects in a bag or container. Have your child reach inside and try and guess the object using only their sense of touch. Ask your child to describe how it feels. Is the object... Big? Small? Heavy? Light? Hard? Soft? Fluffy? Squishy? Smooth? Rough? Etc. When they're tired of guessing, or once they guess correctly, reveal the object and tell them the story of what makes it special. Repeat with other objects. Once you've done this a few times, allow your child to choose their own object for you to guess, and tell you its story.

READ: Read a book with your child that you loved when you were younger AND/OR read a story about **Family History & Tradition**. Check out our suggested books below:

- This is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids From Around the World by Matt Lamonthe (E 305.23 LAM)
- A Forever Family by Roslyn Banish with Jennifer Jordan-Wong (E 362.7 BAN)
- We Belong Together: A Book About Adoption & Families by Todd Parr (E 362.7 PAR)
- Song and Dance Man by Karen Ackerman (E A2K)
- Thunder Boy Jr. by Sherman Alexie (E ALE)
- Grandma's Purse by Vanessa Brantley-Newton (E BRA)
- Grandpa Bear's Fantastic Scarf by Gillian Heal (E HEA)
- Kite Flying by Grace Lin (E LIN)
- The Egg Tree by Katherine Milhous (E MIL)
- Miss Oak and the Weather Balloon: Life, Love, Divorce & Everything in Between by Karen Delette Osborn (E OSB)
- A Different Pond by Bao Phi (E PHI)
- The Old Truck by Jarret Pumphrey (E PUM)
- Too Many Tamales by Gary Soto (E SOT)
- Owl Moon by Jane Yolen (E YOL)



Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

WRITE: Paper Bag Puppets

Make paper bag puppets to represent members of your family!

You will need:

- 2 paper bags (included)
- 4 large googly eyes (included)
- 30" yarn (included)
- Liquid glue (included)
- Scissors
- Crayons or markers
- Construction paper & other decorative supplies



Step 1: Turn the paper bag upside down. The folded over piece will be your puppet's face. Peel the sticky back off your googly eyes and add them to your puppet face.

Step 2: Use crayons or markers to add a nose, mouth and other facial features (freckles, birthmarks, glasses, etc.). Make the mouth so that the top part is on the folded piece and the bottom part is below the folded piece, so that you can make the puppet "talk."

Step 3: Cut your piece of yarn into smaller pieces to make hair for your puppet. Stick the yarn strips on the paper bag using a bit of liquid glue. Allow to dry.

Step 4: Use crayons, markers, construction paper or other decorative supplies to make clothes for your puppet.

PLAY: Puppet Show

Invite your child to put on a puppet show with their new puppets! Set up a puppet studio using a piece of furniture or large box for your child to hide behind. Put out chairs or a blanket for the audience. Use toys or household items as props or other characters.

Earn a Bonus Ticket!

Do one of the following and **check in at the circulation desk** on or before **Saturday July 18:**

- Share a picture of your paper bag puppets on Facebook or Instagram and tag @salmonpubliclibrary
- Email a picture of your paper bag puppets to salmonlibrary1@gmail.com
- Bring in your paper bag puppets for us to snap a photo!



Family Activity Kit #2: Folk Tales

Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

SING: "Where is Thumbkin?"

This traditional fingerplay is sung to the tune of "Frere Jacques" and begins with both fists behind the back.

Where is Thumbkin? Where is Thumbkin?

Here I am! (bring right fist to front with thumb sticking up)

Here I am! (bring left fist to front with thumb sticking up)

How are you today, sir? (bob right thumb up and down)

Very well, I thank you. (bob left thumb up and down)

Run away. (put right fist behind back)

Run away (put left fist behind back)

Repeat with **Pointer** (pointer finger), **Tall Man** (middle finger), **Ring Man** (ring finger), **Pinky** (little finger), and **Family** (all fingers, sing "here we are")

Find it on Youtube: "Where is Thumbkin - Super Simple Songs"

TALK: What Happened Next?

Play a simple storytelling game with your child. Color and cut out the fairy tale pictures included in this kit to use as prompts. Choose a picture and make up the first line of a story, i.e. "Once upon a time, there was a mysterious castle and very grumpy old cat lived there." Then, ask your child to tell you "what happened next?" Take turns adding to the story in this way.

READ: Enjoy one of our classic or adapted **Folk Tales** from cultural traditions around the world!

- The Talking Eggs: A Folktale from the American South (J 398.2 SAN)
- Rapunzel by Paul O. Zelinsky (J ZEL)
- Anansi Does the Impossible: An Ashanti Tale by Verna Aardema (E 398.2 AAR)
- The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Anderson (E 398.2 AND)
- The Three Snow Bears by Jan Brett (E 398.2 BRE)
- Chicken Little by Rebecca Emberley (E 398.2 EMB)
- Nian, The Chinese New Year Dragon: A Beastly Tale by Virginia Loh-Hagan (E 398.2 LOH)
- Puss in Boots by Charles Perrault (E 398.24 PER)
- The Grasshopper And the Ants by Jerry Pinkney (E 398.2 PIN)
- The Three Silly Billies by Margie Palatini (E PAL)
- Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale by John Steptoe (E STE)
- Nobody Asked the Pea by John W. Stewig (E STE)
- The Three Pigs by David Wiesner (E WIE)
- Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China by Ed Young (E YOU)



Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

WRITE: Little Bo Peep's Yarn-Wrapped Sheep

This makes a nice finished product, or a handy reusable activity to keep your little one busy!

You will need:

- Wooden sheep template (included)
- Length of white yarn (included)
- Scissors
- Liquid glue (optional)



Step 1: (Optional) If you'd like for the yarn to stick as you wrap, use a paint brush or stick to spread a thin layer of glue on one side of the sheep. This can make the project a little messy.

Step 2: Show your child how to grasp the sheep with their non-dominant hand while winding yarn around the sheep with their dominant hand. If this is difficult, try holding the sheep for your child while they focus on wrapping; or take turns wrapping so that you can regularly pull the yarn tight. For very young children, have them hold the sheep while you wrap. Try to make the layers of yarn next to each other rather than on top of each other so that you are able to cover the entire surface of the sheep.

Step 3: When you reach the end of the yarn, tuck the end under a previous layer and tie a knot, or glue down the loose end. Alternatively, leave the sheep unfinished so that your child can unwrap and re-wrap the sheep as an activity later on.

PLAY: There Was a Crooked Man - Gross Motor Game

Use tape, paper or string to make a zigzag (crooked) line on your floor or in your yard. Invite your child to walk the line, without stepping off. Make it more challenging by incorporating other movements down the line: bunny hops, bear crawls, tiptoes, crab walks, etc.

Earn a Bonus Ticket!

Do one of the following and **check in at the circulation desk** on or before **Saturday July 25:**

- Share a picture/video of your child completing the yarn-wrapping activity on Facebook or Instagram and tag @salmonpubliclibrary
- Email a picture/video of the activity to salmonlibrary1@gmail.com
- Bring in your finished sheep for us to snap a photo!



Family Activity Kit #3: Let's Pretend

Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

SING: "I'm A Little Teapot"

Have fun pretending to be a tea kettle with this classic children's song and dance.

*I'm a little teapot, short and stout
Here is my handle, here is my spout
When I get all steamed up, here me shout
Tip me over and pour me out*

Find it on Youtube: "I'm A Little Teapot - The Kiboomers"

TALK: Five Little Gingerbread Men

Cut out and decorate each of the five gingerbread man pieces included with this kit. Place the pieces on a cookie sheet or tray. Use the pieces to act out this simple count-down rhyme:

*Five little gingerbread men, lying on the tray,
One jumped up and ran away,
Shouting, "Catch me, catch me if you can...
You can't catch me, I'm a gingerbread man!"*

Repeat with **four, three, two** and **one** gingerbread men until all the pieces are gone.

READ: Read a book about the Power of Imagination! Check out our suggested books below:

- *Zathura: A Space Adventure* by Chris Van Allsburg (J VAN)
- *Isabella, Star of the Story* by Jennifer Fosberry (E FOS)
- *Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson (E JOH)
- *Nora's Castle* by Satomi Ichikawa (E ICH)
- *How I Became a Pirate* by Melinda Long (E LON)
- *We're All Wonders* by R. J. Palacio (E PAL)
- *Not a Box* by Antoinette Portis (E POR)
- *Not a Stick* by Antoinette Portis (E POR)
- *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend* by Dan Santat (E SAN)
- *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak (E SEN)
- *Alice the Fairy* by David Shannon (E SHA)
- *The Dressed Up Book* by Kathy Stinson (E STI)
- *If I Built a House* by Chris Van Dusen (E VAN)
- *What To Do With a Box* by Jane Yolen (E YOL)



Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

WRITE: Magic Pencil

Make writing magical by transforming an ordinary pencil into a magic wand!

You will need:

- Pencil (included)
- Curling ribbon (included)
- Glitter tape (included)
- Scissors
- Scotch tape (optional)



Step 1: Help your child to decorate the pencil using the glitter tape. Wrap it around in a spiral, make rings, run a stripe vertically or use a design of your own choosing! Optional: Reinforce the glitter tape with scotch tape to help it last longer.

Step 2: Tie the length of curling ribbon around the pencil near the eraser end. Use scissors to curl the ribbon. If your child has never seen this before, let them watch and ask them why they think the ribbon acts the way it does! (It is actually because when you pull on the ribbon, the side that is not touching the blade stretches and becomes longer, but the side touching the blade is not able to, so the ribbon bends and curls.)

Step 3: Have your child practice writing and drawing with their new "magic" pencil. In the future, save the pencil for special occasions when your child needs an extra boost of confidence.

PLAY: Dress-Up

Dress-up play encourages children's natural curiosity and creativity, while also building social skills as they literally put themselves "in the shoes" of another person. Costumes are great for playing dress-up, but so are old clothes, uniforms, accessories, jewelry, luggage, sporting equipment and whatever else you can find in the back of a closet. (Don't forget their magic wand!) Lay out a selection and let your child's imagination take the lead.

Summer Readers: Earn a Bonus Ticket!

Do one of the following and **check in at the circulation desk** on or before **Saturday August 1:**

- Share a picture of your child's magic wand pencil (and/or wacky dress-up outfit!) on Facebook or Instagram and tag Salmon Public Library
- Email a picture to salmonlibrary1@gmail.com
- Bring in your magic wand pencil for us to snap a photo!



Family Activity Kit #4: Magical Creatures

Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

SING: "Puff the Magic Dragon"

Sing the chorus of this beloved folk song together, then try listening to the full version:

*Puff the magic dragon lived by the sea
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honali
Puff the magic dragon lived by the sea
And frolicked in the autumn mist in a land called Honali!*

Find it on Youtube: "Puff the Magic Dragon - Peter, Paul & Mary"

TALK: Hiding Gnome Game

Cut out the house and gnome pictures included in this kit. Have your child color each house a different color. The gnome can be any color! Have your child close their eyes while you hide the gnome under one of the houses. Explain that you want the gnome to come out and play but he is shy and is hiding. Now your child has to find him. Ask: "Which house should we look under first?" Encourage your child to describe the house rather than just pointing (i.e. "the green house," "the house with polka dots") Continue guessing houses until the gnome is found!

READ: Go wild with one of our stories about Monsters and Magical Creatures!

- *Dragons* by Ashley Gish (E 398.2 GIS)
- *Mermaids* by Ashley Gish (E 398.2 GIS)
- *Unicorns* by Ashley Gish (E 398.2 GIS)
- *The Elves and the Shoemaker* by Jim LaMarche (E 398.2 LAM)
- *Dragons Love Tacos* by Adam Rubin (E RUB)
- *Love Monster* by Rachel Bright (E BRI)
- *Monster Boogie* by Laurie Berkner (E BER)
- *The Monster Who Ate My Peas* by Danny Schnittzlein (E SCH)
- *The Somethingosaur* by Tony Mitton (E MIT)
- *Tickle Monster* by Josie Bissett (E BIS)
- *Unicorn Thinks He's Pretty Great* by Bob Shea (E SHE)
- *Unicorn is Maybe Not So Great After All* by Bob Shea (E SHE)
- *Leonardo The Terrible Monster* by Mo Willems (E WIL)
- *Puff the Magic Dragon* by Peter Yarrow (E YAR)



Find video demonstrations and instructions on our [Facebook page](#) or [salmonlibrary.org](#)

WRITE: Play-Doh Monster

Make your own magical creatures with this open-ended fine-motor activity.

You will need:

- Tub of play-doh (included)
- Googly eyes (included)
- Pipe cleaners (included)
- Child-safe scissors
- Miscellaneous craft supplies (optional)



Step 1: Set out the play-doh, pipe cleaners and googly eyes for your child. If appropriate, provide a pair of child-safe scissors so your child can cut the pipe cleaners into smaller pieces (or let them know you can help with this!) You may wish to supplement with additional craft supplies, such as buttons, felt, clothespins, plastic utensils, etc.

Step 2: Challenge your child to create their very own monster or magical creature. Then step back and let them create! When your child is ready, ask some questions about their creation. ("What is your friend's name? Where does she live? Are these arms? Etc.) Then challenge them to make something new!

PLAY: Magical Creature Gross Motor Game

Have fun moving your body like different magical creatures. Feel free to add your own actions.

Can you...
...Flutter like a Fairy?
...Breathe Fire like a Dragon?
...Gallop like a Unicorn?
...Stomp like a Giant?
...Swim like a Mermaid?

Summer Readers: Earn a Bonus Ticket!

Do one of the following and **check in at the circulation desk** on or before **Saturday August 8:**

- Share a picture of your play-doh creature on Facebook or Instagram and tag Salmon Public Library
- Email a picture of your play-doh creature to salmonlibrary1@gmail.com
- Bring in your play-doh creature for us to snap a photo!

STEAM Kits

Our STEAM kits, which we recommended for our “Independent Readers,” contained a single activity. Each week featured a different technique for creative storytelling.

Kit Themes (each theme links to a PDF of the instructions for that week): 1) Chalk Art ([River](#), [Mountain](#), [Blue-bird](#)), 2) [Graphic Novel](#), 3) [Paper Circuits](#), 4) [Claymation](#).

General Tips

- We increased distribution by partnering with local childcare partners and camps and delivering kits to them to pass out to kids at those sites
- We incentivized participation by offering an extra ticket to our Summer Reading raffle for showing us a picture of a completed project -- typically only about 10-15% took advantage of this though
- Placing kits in clear Ziploc bags helped pique the interest of passers-by; we purchased plastic bags that were 9x12” so that an 8.5x11 sheet could fit in unfolded
- We’ve circulated an online survey about our kits and received very positive feedback as well as positive verbal feedback from patrons. We are still wondering about the videos. Of the 15 survey respondents, 60% said they didn’t watch them -- but everyone who did report watching them rated them as “Very Helpful” (the highest option). So we know that they were helpful, but from a cost/benefit perspective, if only some patrons are using them, it’s worth considering whether or not we would do something like that again. We did learn a lot through the production process about setting up effective instructional videos and we feel that this knowledge may prove useful over the coming months -- so in general, we think it was worth it!
- The multiple-activities model for the family kits was very well received. Not all kids wanted to do every activity and that’s OK. These activities generally had a lot of flexibility to adapt and we also received positive feedback on that.
- As mentioned above, hitting the sweet spot for age-appropriate on the STEAM kits was a bit challenging. We did hear and observe that the activities were pretty challenging for kids in the 7-9 age range. With more resources, it would be nice to have three age groups: 2-6, 7-10, 10+

Each kit had a companion video demonstrating the technique and walking viewers through the steps of the project. [A playlist of those videos is available here.](#)

STEAM Summer Activity Kit #1: Scale Drawing with CHALK

Step One: Make your GIANT Chalk Grid

Find an open piece of sidewalk or driveway. You are going to make a grid of 16 squares that are each 1 foot wide, and 1 foot tall, like this:



This paper is the same size each square should be, so you can use it as a tool! You may want an adult to help you with this part.

Method 1 - Measure & Draw Method: Use a yardstick or measuring tape to draw a square that is 4 feet wide and 4 feet tall. Then, line up the bottom left corner of your paper with the bottom left corner of your big square. Make a mark on the sidewalk at the bottom right corner of your paper. Then move your paper along the bottom edge of your square, so that the bottom left corner touches the mark you just made. Make a new mark where the bottom right corner of your paper is now. Keep moving your paper and marking the sidewalk until you have gone all the way around the square. Finally, draw lines to connect the marks across from each other on the square. These lines will make your grid.

Method 2 - Tracing Method: Place this paper on the sidewalk and trace around it to make your first square. Then move the paper to the right and trace a second square, touching the first one. Keep moving and tracing until you have a row of four squares. Then make a new row of four squares right on top of the first row. Then make two more rows on top of those. Now you should have four rows of four squares each - a grid!

Step Two: Number Your Chalk Grid

With a piece of chalk, number each of the squares in your grid 1 through 16, just like the picture below. Write the numbers small and in the corner so you can color them over later. This will help you to keep track of which square you're working on.

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16

Step Three: Make Your Outline

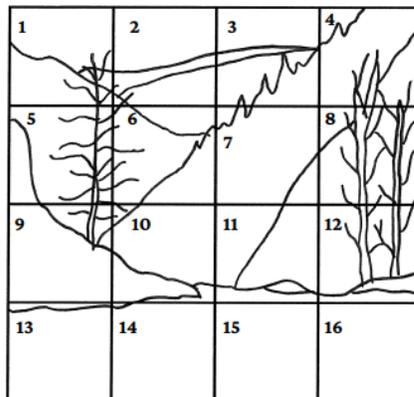
Look carefully at the image at the bottom of this page. You are going to use your grid to make a giant version of this picture, with chalk! Start with the first square (square #1). See if you can copy the lines in square #1 on the picture into the big square #1 on your chalk grid. Take your time. It might help you to make a mark where the lines begin and end on the square, before drawing your whole line. You might also want to use another piece of paper to cover up the other squares in the image so you can just focus on one at a time. Once you are finished with square #1, move on to the next square. Keep going until you have copied all sixteen squares. Now you should have a giant version of the picture on this page!

Step Four: Add COLOR!

Use the chalk provided to color in your picture. We've included the real photo the picture is based on, so you can use that for inspiration as you color it in. Feel free to add other colors and get creative about how you want your final picture to look.

Don't forget to claim your ticket!

You can earn a bonus ticket for the Summer Reading Raffle for completing this project! Take a picture of your drawing (don't worry if it's not perfect) and, with your parent's permission, either: a) share it on Facebook or Instagram and tag Salmon Public Library, b) email your photo to salmonlibrary1@gmail.com, or c) come to the library and show it to us! **Then**, come to the library on or before **Saturday, July 18** to claim your bonus ticket.



Summer STEAM Kit #4: Claymation Movie



Brought to you by **Salmon Public Library**. Find video instructions and our example claymation video on our website, Facebook page or Youtube channel!

Have you ever wondered how movies like *Coraline* or *James and the Giant Peach* were made? These films are really made up of tens of thousands of pictures of clay objects, moved a little bit at a time. The photos are put together and played back rapidly, making it appear like the objects are moving. With a little help from an app, you can use this same technique to make your own movies with play-doh!

Attention: You will need access to a smartphone or tablet to complete this activity. If you don't have one of these devices at home, you can visit the library's "Claymation Studio," which will be set up with everything you need. Give us a call or stop by the front desk to set up a time!

Step One: Download the App "Stop Motion Studio"



In the App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Play Store (Android), search for "Stop Motion Studio." Be sure to select the free version: look for the blue icon with the video camera. You can choose to enable in-app purchases to add special features to your movie; however **it is not necessary to purchase anything** to make a simple stop-motion film.

Once you've installed the app, watch the example video "Big Fish" to give you an idea of what you can make with this program (remember, features like music and text cost extra). For play-doh-specific examples, search "stop motion play-doh" on Youtube or check out our demo video at salmonlibrary.org/summer-reading-instructional-videos.

Step Two: Plan Your Movie

Use the included Storyboard Template to plan out your claymation film. Use the big boxes to doodle what will happen and write notes for yourself in the smaller boxes underneath. Keep the plot simple, with one main task or event for your "characters."

Be creative with the materials you use in your film. You can use the play-doh and pipe cleaners we provided to sculpt characters and props, but you should also feel free to incorporate other objects, such as toys, construction paper, cardboard, kitchen objects, craft supplies, etc. **Tip:** If you want to show text or speech (for free), you can write on a piece of paper and hold it up in front of the camera using a pencil or popsicle stick.

Step Three: Set Up Your Studio

The key to a successful stop motion film is to keep your camera in the same place while you take all the pictures. Use a phone/tablet stand, make your own stand or simply try wedging or taping your device in place.



Next, set up a backdrop for your movie. You can use a shoe box, piece of cardboard, poster board, fabric or simply a blank wall. Open up the Stop Motion Studio App and tap the + symbol to add a new movie. Put your device in place and check what you can see with the camera. This is your "frame." Adjust the position of your camera until you are happy with the frame. Ideally, you should be able to see your objects and backdrop clearly without it seeming crowded. Remember, you won't be able to move the camera once you start taking pictures, so think about how the whole movie is going to play out.

Once you've finalized the position of the camera, tape any objects that *won't* be moving in place, and set things up for your first scene.

Step Four: Make Your Movie!

Tap the red capture button to take your first picture. (Depending on your version of the app, you may have to tap the camera icon first.) The photo you took should now appear in the frame timeline at the bottom of your screen (you may need to press back first). Select the photo to view it. If you're not happy with it, you can always delete it by tapping again and selecting the "delete" option.

Now, make a small change in the scene and take your next photo. We mean **small!** Check out the series of photos below to see how the play-doh ball moves across the screen. We used five pictures to show just a couple inches of movement.



Your goal should be to capture **80-100 pictures** for a 10-15 second film. Once all your pictures are taken, set the speed of your movie by tapping on . Experiment with different speeds to see which you like best. You can also "pause" individual frames to make them stay on the screen longer. Press Play to view your video.

Share Your Movie!

To export (save) your video to your device, go back to the home screen, press and hold your project and tap the share button that appears at the top. Post your movie online and send us a link at salmonlibrary1@gmail.com, or come in and show us your masterpiece to earn a bonus ticket for the Summer Reading Raffle!

Example Kit

Activities:

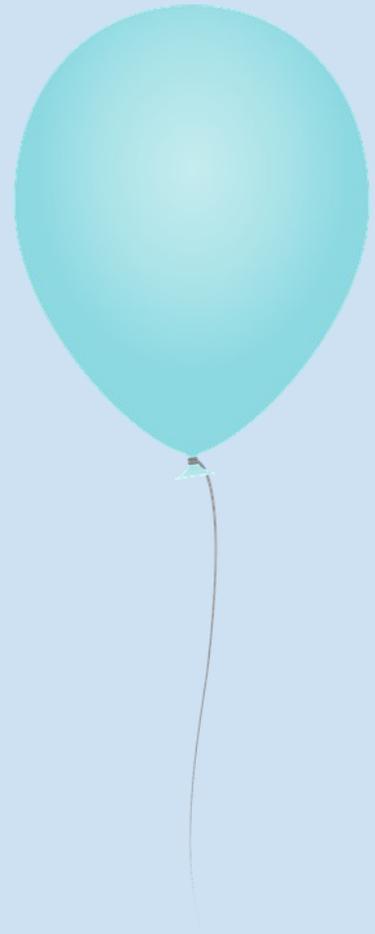
- Walking Water
- Which Way Wind?
- Straw Instrument
- Foil Fun
- The Magic Paper Towel
- Pop the Top
- Constellation Snack
- Balloon Speakers
- Static Electricity
- Mock Rocks crystals
- Ice cube Fishing

Materials in kit:

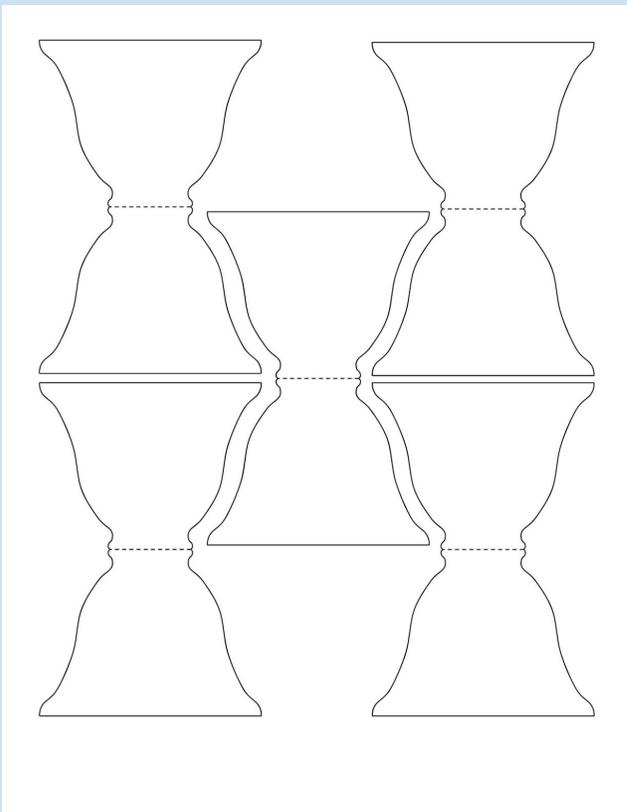
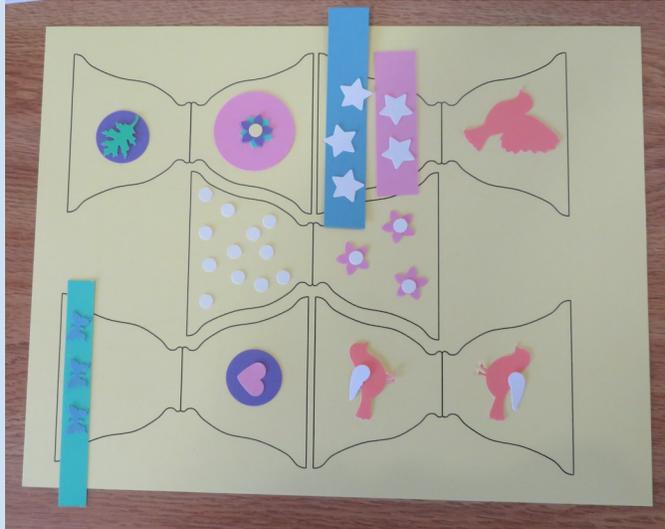
- 1 strip of paper towel (cut strips about 1 ½ " wide)
- 1 full size paper towel (folded in fourths)
- 1 party favor sized bottle of bubbles
- 1 drinking straw
- 1 piece of aluminum foil, folded in half (approximately 8" x 12")
- 3 balloons
- 1 rubber band
- 1 small baggie of mini-marshmallows (about 25 in a baggie)
- 25 toothpicks (I put these with the marshmallows)
- Paper "confetti" in a small baggie
- 2 Tablespoons Epsom Salts in a 3" x 4" or snack sized baggie
- 1 piece of string or yarn
- 3 Salt packets (as from a fast food restaurant)
- Magnifying glass - inexpensive plastic from amazon or Oriental trading
- 1 "Science Experiments for Home" booklet (All directions stapled into a booklet)
- 1 "My Science Journal" booklet" (stapled booklet with prompts such as: "At first I thought.." "I still wonder..." etc.)
- 2 small paper cups
- 1 plastic cap from milk jug etc

Needed from Home:

- 1 egg
- Water
- Hot Water
- Ice cubes
- Empty soda can
- Scissors
- Large bowl or plastic tub
- Food coloring—optional

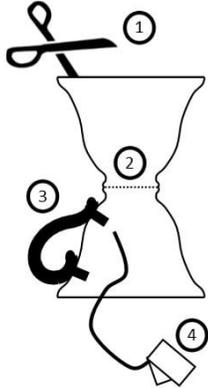


Teacup Bookmarks

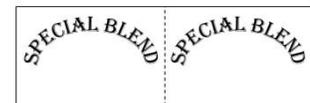
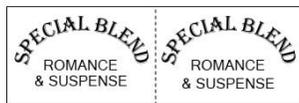
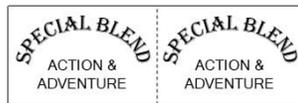
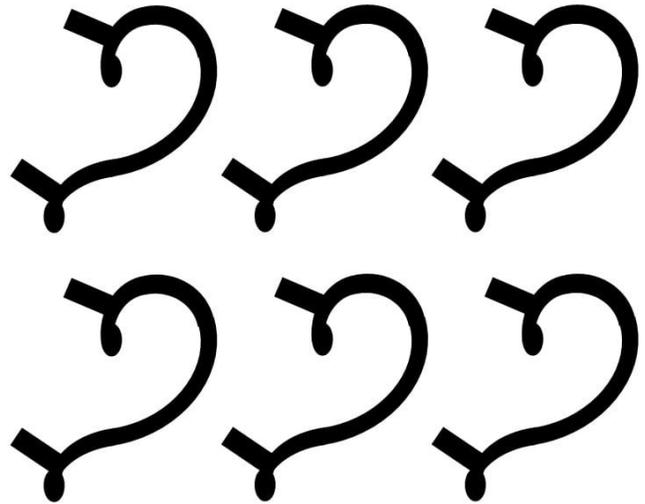


Teacup Bookmarks

You will need scissors and a glue stick (not included) to complete this project



1. Carefully cut out the teacup shape. Do not cut between halves.
2. Fold halves with cut lines hidden inside. Trim as necessary.
3. Use handle pattern as a template to cut out a handle from cardstock, or create your own.
4. Cut out a tea tag and fold it around one end of the string. Glue in place.
5. Use a glue stick to coat the inside of the teacup halves. Position handle and string. Fold the teacup and ensure everything lines up again before pressing the halves together.
6. Decorate the outside with paper strips, punched shapes and other embellishments.



Supplies:

Printer paper (standard white 8-1/2" x 11") and cardstock or patterned scrapbooking paper
 String (4" - 6" lengths)
 Glue stick
 Assorted decorations (stickers, strips of colorful paper, glitter, paper punch shapes, etc.)

Instructions: www.facebook.com/groups/makestuffforadultscln/permalink/2624110817859726

Print the instruction template on a letter-sized sheet of paper. The outlines can be printed on pastel cardstock or the back of a sheet of patterned scrapbooking paper. I also cut a lot of paper strips and used our paper punch sets to make decorative pieces I could include with the pre-printed kits I offered. Use the handle templates to cut out handles from cardstock, or create your own handle shape. Embellish with paper shapes, stickers, glitter, or whatever else sparks your imagination!

- Jacob T. from the Community Library Network, Spirit Lake

More Cool Kits

Lauren Silva: Ada Community Library



Preschool

1. [Troll Magnets](#) - each kit included: a foam square, googly eyes, yarn, and a magnet.
2. [Paper Bag Butterflies](#) - each kit included: coffee filters, googly eyes, and pipe cleaners. And we used white paper lunch bags for these kits so that it could be used to create the butterfly.
3. [Yarn Monsters](#) - each kit included: yarn, pipe cleaners, and googly eyes.
4. [Bottle Cap Bugs](#) - each kit included: plastic bottle caps, a square of transparency paper, and googly eyes.
5. [Pipe Cleaner Bunnies](#) - each kit included: pipe cleaners, googly eyes, and pom poms.
6. [Button Bird Craft](#) - each kit included: buttons and construction paper.
7. [DIY Paper Dinosaur Hat](#) - each kit included: 3 sheets of green construction paper and a handful of plastic jewels (so kids could be bejeweled dragons).

Kids

1. [Balloon rocket](#) - each kit included: a balloon, yarn/twine, and a straw.
2. [Sidewalk Mosaic Chalk Art](#) - each kit included: 3 pieces of sidewalk chalk and a small roll of painter's tape (rolled onto a toothpick).
3. [Scavenger Hunts](#) - we printed off many copies of 2 scavenger hunts (backyard and nature) and put them outside with the rest of the kits.
4. [Bird Kite](#) - each kit included: 1 sheet of yellow paper, 1 small square of green and orange construction paper, and a long piece of twine/yarn.
5. Shrinky Dinks - each kit included: 1 sheet of blank shrink film and the Shrinky Dink instructions.
6. [Balloon Towel toss game](#) - each kit included: 3 balloons.
7. [Canvas Art Kit](#) - each kit included: 1 5x7 canvas panel and a small watercolor paint set.

Teens

1. [Origami Baby Yoda Bookmark](#) - each kit included: 1 square each of grey, green, and brown paper (plus detailed photo instructions).
2. [Pony Bead Lizard Keychains](#) - each kit included: 50 pony beads (2 black beads for the eyes, 18 beads of one color for the feet and middle, and 30 beads of another color for the rest of the lizard), 1 long piece of plastic lacing (Rexlace is the brand we like), and 1 lanyard hook. Yes, these took forever!
3. [Boba Tea Kit](#) - each kit included: 2 individually wrapped boba straws, a handful of uncooked tapioca pearls (in a plastic bag, never touched by human hands), and several boba tea recipes.
4. [Washer Necklaces](#) - each kit included: 1 metal washer, necklace string, and 2 different colored wooden beads.
5. [Shrinky Dinks](#) - each kit included: 1 sheet of blank shrink film and the shrinky dink instructions.
6. [Sugar Cookie Kit](#) - each kit included: 1 plastic cookie cutter (we got a large selection of zoo animal cookie cutters, they were super cute!) and a simple sugar cookie recipe.
7. [Pony Bead Lizard Keychains](#) again. These were so popular we did them twice. Counting all those beads was fun.

Stickers used by Hidden Springs Branch library on their Grab and Go bags



More Cool Kits

Fiona May: Caldwell Public Library

Collage kit - various papers, scissors, glue sticks, idea sheet. Simple, fun.

Grow Your Own Microgreens - This could be done more simply, but here's what I did. You'll need little pots (peat pots, paper cups with a hole in the bottom, or actual small pots), potting mix and seeds. I also included a plastic spoon for the squeamish and paper towel for the mess. I discovered that many seeds are only readily available in late winter/early spring, so I went with chia seeds: two pounds at Walmart for \$9. I included a tablespoon of seeds for each kid. [NOTE 1 - You can also purchase microgreen seeds on Amazon, but I wanted easy and cheap. For kid purposes, I wanted them to sprout at the same time or thereabouts.] [NOTE 2 - from my reading, it's safer for kids to eat microgreens grown in potting soil than in a jar or bag. It reduces chances of mold or bacteria growing on the plants.]

The Healing Library: COVID-19: These kits were put together using resources from [The Healing Library](#). The Healing Library has ready-made packets with suggested ebooks and activities to include. We printed three ebooks to include in the packets, two of them in both English and Spanish. We also included material for journaling (notebook, pencils, pencil sharpener) and coloring (construction paper and crayons). There are

Over the Moon kit - This one may be overly ambitious, but I loved the projects. It's a family kit, with materials for 3 kids. I printed out instructions for all projects.

Project 1: [Penny Moon](#). Question: does the moon rotate on an axis? Penny. (I let them add the quarter.)

Project 2: Moon observation. Simple - encourage families to go out and look closely at the moon on two nights, a week or so apart.

Project 3: [Foil Printed Moon](#). Foil, paper cup, paper plate, white and black construction paper, scissors, bowl, white and black acrylic paint, use those little 2 oz plastic containers to hold paint.

Project 4: [How Do Craters Form?](#) Probably I went crazy here, but I didn't want them 'wasting' flour if they actually needed it. So -- I bought 35 lbs of flour and put 4 cups in each of 30 quart ziplocs. I wrote FLOUR on the bag. Other materials - cocoa (just a little, I used the 2 oz tiny cups), a small round object (I shared bouncy balls cuz I think they're generally FUN), and a tiny [bookmark that's a ruler](#). For measuring crater and impactor

Plants Are Awesome kit - Projects were making a [Seed Mosaic](#) and a [Ziploc Greenhouse](#). For the mosaic: cardboard or tagboard, various beans and seeds in separate bags, school glue, and an idea sheet. For the ziploc greenhouses: paper towel, ziploc bag. I suggested they soak seeds in water to promote sprouting. On the instruction sheet I also suggested a seed scavenger hunt (how many different types of seeds can you find

Quiver Coloring/Augmented Reality: We've offered these kits on an ongoing basis to fill in between other kits. The kits are relatively simple – each kit has 5 coloring sheets, downloaded from [Quiver Vision](#), and a bundle of crayons (3-10, depending on kit). The best part about this kit is that once you finish coloring your sheet, you can download the Quiver app to a phone or tablet, hold it over the coloring sheet and watch it come to life! There are a variety of coloring packs to choose from on the QuiverVision website, so you can make new kits whenever you want.

Ready for Kindergarten kits in English and bilingual Spanish/English. I'll get the cover and parent letter to you if you need it (send me a note: fmay@cityofcaldwell.org). Parent intro letter telling basics and suggesting library resources that would be helpful. Materials- paperback JumpStart book, Read to Me BINGO sheet, Fun with Math + Science booklet, Let's Go to the Library/Vamos a la Biblioteca coloring book, a couple of brochures from ICFL and pencil/bookmark.

Tinker kit - I went thru storage and gathered all the recycled materials (cardboard, TP tubes, CDs), versatile items (pipe cleaners, toothpicks, pompoms, balloons, various papers, some writing implements, cotton balls, etc) and other goodies I could find. I made an Idea Sheet and sent it home as a Family Kit.



More Cool Kits

Lauren Jenkins: Former YA Coordinator at the Coeur d'Alene Public Library

Each kit comes with an overall supply list (some supplies are provided in the kits, others must be gathered from home), detailed instructions, and suggested expansion activities (books to request through Sidewalk Service, web resources, library databases to explore, etc.). Besides the printed sheets, the kits also include the less-common items that are required to complete the crafts/activities (for the most part, we didn't include things like crayons, markers, scissors, glue, etc. to help with cost). For those that aren't able to make



Preschool Busy Bags

[Apples Preschool Busy Bag](#)

In this bag, we provided pre-cut apple number matching puzzles and pre-mixed containers of apple cider cloud dough (A lot of our preschool parents gave us feedback saying they couldn't necessarily take the time to cut out individual components for activities, and if they were picking up a kit, they would appreciate having those items ready to go.)

[Pets Preschool Busy Bag](#)

In this bag, we provided the activity sheets, the animal activity cards, 20 felt fish, a foam die, and the "Feed the Cat" cut-out affixed to a small box.

[Construction Preschool Busy Bag](#)

In this bag, we provided the activity sheets, a small felt hammer (made with felt cutouts from a Cricut and popsicle sticks), the alphabet rocks, a laminated "Fill Your Dump Truck" sheet, and a low-odor dry erase marker.

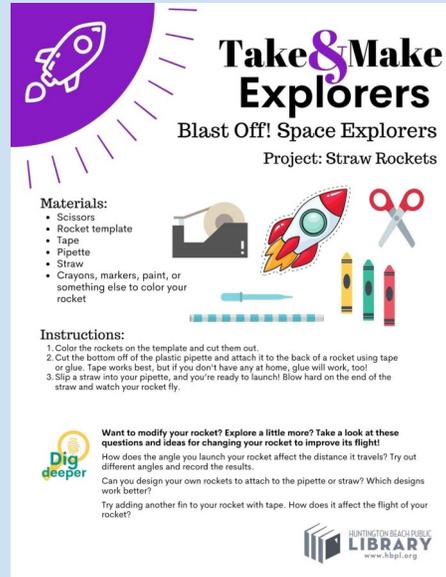




Kids Take&Make Explorers

[Space Explorers Take&Make Activity Kit](#)

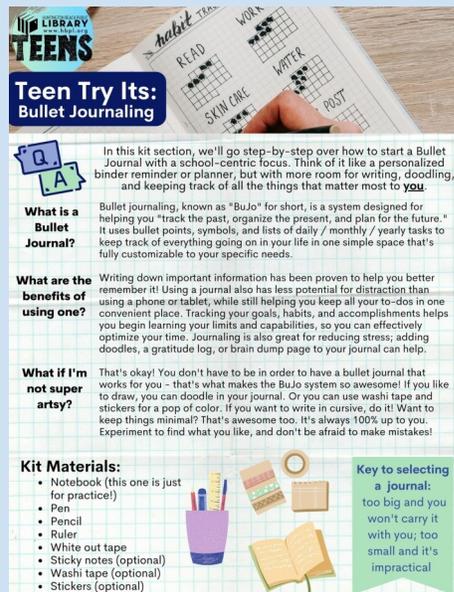
In this kit, we provided the rocket template printed on cardstock, two pipettes, a small bag of glitter, and enough ingredients to make one batch of “Moon Dough,” measured into small containers for the kids to mix themselves.



Teen Try Its

[Bullet Journaling Teen Try It](#)

In this kit, we provided starter journals, a few gel pens, stickers, two rolls of washi tape, and a smattering of found items nicked from our craft supply closets.



More Cool Kits

Renee Addington: Boise Public Library Collister Branch

Baby Storytime to Go

- One board book to keep
- One scarf
- One shaker egg
- One wooden ring with ribbons
- Handout with nursery, rhymes, songs, and suggested board books

Prep: Place all items in a large bag and label.

Color Sorting Activity

- 10 felt or foam shapes, assorted colors
- 10 pom poms, assorted colors
- 10 sheets of 3" by 3" paper, assorted colors
- Sandwich-size bag

Prep: Place all materials in sandwich bag. Label with sticker or Sharpie.

Color Mixing with Acrylics

- Instruction and activity sheets designed by staff
- 5 acrylic paints in red, yellow, blue, white, and black
- 5 small condiment cups
- Sandwich-size plastic bag
- Paintbrush
- Gallon-size plastic bag



Prep: Fill condiment cups with about ¼ oz of paint. Close condiment cups and place in sandwich bag. Place all materials in gallon-size bag.

Egg Carton Flowers

- 4 egg carton cups
- 4 pencil-thick twigs
- 4 assorted colors acrylic paints
- 4 small condiment cups
- Paintbrush
- Gallon-size plastic bag
- Sandwich-size plastic bag

Prep: Cut out individual egg cups from egg cartons. Poke a small hole in the bottom of each. Fill condiment cups with about $\frac{1}{4}$ oz of paint. Close condiment cups and place in sandwich bag. Place all materials in gallon-size bag.

Cardboard Shield

- 1 shield cut from cardboard
- 1 armband cut from cereal box
- 1 instruction quarter sheet

Prep: Attach the armband to the back of the shield with packing or masking tape. Tape instruction sheet to front of shield with painter's tape.

Sketching with Watercolors

- Instruction sheet designed by staff
- Small sketchbook
- Watercolor palette
- Manila envelope or paper lunch sack

Prep: Place all materials in envelope or sack. Staple closed. Label by hand or with sticker.

Beans in a Bag

- 1 sandwich-size plastic bag
- 1 folded paper towel
- 5 beans
- Observation chart
- 1 instruction half sheet
- Paper lunch sack or manila envelope

Prep: Place plastic bag, paper towel, beans, and observation chart in sack or envelope. Staple instruction sheet to outside.

Bubble Wrap Prints

- 2 sheets of bubble wrap, close to 8 by 11 in size
- 4 sheets of letter-size cardstock
- Paintbrush
- Manila envelope
- 4 colors acrylic paints
- 4 small condiment cups
- Sandwich-size bag
- 1 instruction quarter sheet

Prep: Place bubble wrap, cardstock, and paintbrush in a manila envelope and close. Fill condiment cups with about $\frac{1}{4}$ oz of paint. Close condiment cups and place in sandwich bag. Staple sandwich bag and instruction sheet to outside of manila envelope.

Clothespin Worry Dolls

- 1 round-style wood clothespin
- 4 pieces of yarn, assorted colors, each about 4' length
- Paper lunch sack
- 1 instruction quarter sheet

Prep: Place clothespin and yarn pieces in lunch sack. Fold sack opening and staple closed with quarter sheet.

Sketching Faces

- Sketching guide designed by staff
- Sketchbook
- Pre-sharpened pencil
- Pencil sharpener
- Paper lunch sack or manila envelope

Prep: Place all materials in sack or envelope.

Contact Paper Sun Catchers

- 1 paper plate with center portion cut out
- 2 sheets of contact paper slightly larger than the paper-plate cut out
- Handful of tissue paper scraps
- 1 instruction quarter sheet
- Gallon-size plastic bag

Prep: Place all materials in gallon-size bag.

Zendoodles

- Instruction sheet
- 1 ultra fine Sharpie permanent marker
- Sketchbook
- Manila envelope

Prep: Place all materials in envelope.

Paint by Number

- 2 paint-by-number designs made by staff
- 5 acrylic paints in orange, yellow, light green, dark green, and sky blue
- 5 small condiment cups
- Paintbrush
- 1 instruction label
- Gallon-size plastic bag

Prep: Fill condiment cups with about ¼ oz of paint. Close condiment cups and place in sandwich bag. Place all materials in gallon-size plastic bag.

Adult Coloring Packs (Teens and Adults)

- One 12-pack colored pencils
- Five coloring sheets from coloring books
- Manila envelope

Prep: Place all materials in envelope.

Mix and Match Animals (Ages 2+)

- 5 animal puzzle sets
- Cardstock
- Laminator
- Sandwich-size plastic bag

Prep: Print animal puzzles on cardstock and cut out. Laminate pieces and cut out. Place all pieces in a sandwich bag and label.

Unicorn Puppet

- One puppet template cut from cereal box (we used a Cricut)
- One gluestick
- Googly eye
- Yarn
- Paper lunch sack

Prep: Print or cut template. Place all materials in the lunch sack.



Things to Consider

Tips from Fiona May: Caldwell Public Library

What to put the kit in- Standard paper lunch bags can work, but we also used large manila envelopes (book and paper), grocery sacks (large kit for family), and my new favorite, over-sized white paper bags (purchased from [Caxton](#) in Caldwell. "20 Lb Squat." 8.5" x 6" x 13.5" high, 500 for \$62).

How to contain small stuff- For many things, various sizes of Ziploc bags work. ** Awesome FIND alert: I found 2 oz clear plastic containers with snap on lids ([Amazon](#), \$7 for 100) that seem to do a good job holding glue, paint, and even cocoa in small quantities. The glue hasn't dried out even a week later!

What to include - Our families often don't have a lot of discretionary money. If the project required scissors, I tried to include scissors. I also provided school glue (see container note, above) or glue sticks, paper, foil, paper towels, and other basic supplies if the project needed them. For example, a set of 30 pairs of kids' scissors is available from [Amazon](#) or [Quality Art](#) for \$25-30. If I'm creating a kit with this type of school supplies, I like to include materials for several kids (a "family" kit). I can give the FAMILY one pair of scissors to share. Also, I don't assume parents have internet access; they can complete the project with instructions and materials included.

Who did what - In general, one staff person selected and created most of the kits we gave away. We had summer interns who assisted with putting items into bags.

Choosing projects - In general, I try to select projects where there isn't a 'right' and 'wrong' way, but rather it's pretty open-ended. I mostly created STEM/STEAM or art kits. I also tried to make the projects as accessible as possible: simple, interesting for a wide range of ages, easy to understand what's happening. I was working with a limited budget, so I only made about 25-35 of any kit. The exception was Kindergarten kits, where we made 100.

A plug for local businesses - And speaking of [Quality Art](#), I love this resource. Great prices (ask for the educator discount, 40% off everything), great selection of fine art and craft materials, friendly and helpful. Free shipping over \$60. Try [Caxton](#) for school supplies as well, family business in Caldwell. Way better than Amazon or Walmart, and you're supporting Idaho business.

Language - if you have a translator and can provide bilingual instructions, that would be fabulous. Most of my kits were English-only, but I plan to 'up my game' and provide bilingual kits in the fall.

Community partners – 1/ We had a local teacher/artist create four videos that inspired kids to try art. One was collage, and I sent home glue and papers for that class (see Collage, below). 2/ Also, I had been in touch with our local Ag Extension/4-H staff in early spring. They asked me whether the library might serve as a pick up location for weekly STEM kits their summer interns were creating. This partnership worked well until they needed folks to register (provide name and other info) and complete surveys. They hoped library staff would encourage filling out the papers. Due to our busy curbside-only service at the time, I suggested they might work with a school in the fall, for easier and more specific feedback. 3/ Finally, I worked with our school district's Migrant Summer School and provided class kits for each of four weeks of classes. Projects: Marshmallow/toothpick/spaghetti challenges, Code and Go Mouse Robot kits, making glitter slime and Ziploc greenhouses/seed mosaics. These were funded with ICFL Summer STEM money.