

Arts & Crafts

Resource Pack



Creative Play



You will find in this pack some very simple, quick, economical and creative ideas for younger children, and some slightly more complex and time-consuming activities for older children.

You will also find a list of resources that can be very helpful, plus the internet is an endless resource of inspiring ideas for arts and crafts on a budget, and many creators love to share their inventive ideas so others can benefit from them and try them too.

LOOSE PARTS

This philosophy allows children to create freely on an individual or group basis. Having an easy access (and safe) cupboard with various trays/ sections of different crafts materials, which can be anything such as twigs, leaves, loo rolls, plastic takeaway containers, wool, sparkly things – the list is literally endless.

Children are naturally creative and usually, given resources, will engage in making something individual and imaginative. You can expand these activities by talking to them about why they made it and what their thought process was, what they will use it for etc. Taking interest in, and engaging with their creativity is an excellent way to further their own confidence and enjoyment.

Younger children, and sometimes older children who require more structure, may need a theme or more specific suggestions/ ideas. What I have included here is just a tiny drop in the ocean of incredible activities out there – often child led (single or collaborative) art activities can really let everyone's imagination run away and everyone is surprised and delighted with the end results.



PAPER PLATES



Pipe Cleaners
are great



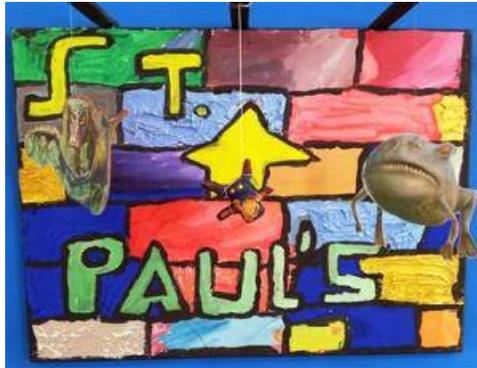
EGG BOXES



PROJECTS FOR OLDER CHILDREN OVER SEVERAL SESSIONS

Children can make these singly, or paint a bigger canvas together and then all make things from paper/ card/ textiles to hang down with cotton from the wooden arms, which are bits of dowling screwed into the top of the wooden frame.

This one below is in a residential care home – the residents chose a background scene to paint and then added textile flowers, hanging textile butterflies and some fake foliage to add to the 3D effect. This is a really nice project in bringing a group together if you're going to be working with the same children across several sessions.



CLAY is a wonderful material to use – both children and adults can find the feel of it quite therapeutic, and some wonderful things can be created. Air drying clay is simple to use, can be found relatively cheaply on the internet, and can be either painted, varnished or both when dry.



MODROC can be pricey but hunt around for a deal and get creative! It's versatile and easy to use, and children love it.



CHOMPERS

These are fantastic; simple to make from A4 paper or thin card and as soon as they're done they come to life immediately and you can guarantee they'll start talking in a funny voice or try to bite your nose! You can decorate them however you like, and some children (and adults) do get quite elaborate about it!!

Wide-Mouthed Critters

- 1 Regular 8.5 x 11 sheet
- 2 Folded in four equal parts
- 3 bend in a fan like shape
- 4 Flatten Fan
- 5 Flip out one edge & flatten
- 6 Fold up both corners to center
- 7 Repeat Step 6 on other side
- 8 Fold up together with corner folds on the inside
- 9 Cut a small slit up through all layers on bottom edge
- 10 Fold up edges at slit
- 11 Flip over and fold up edges at slit on other side
- 12 Press inside and push down on top and bottom - as shown
- 13 Colour and decorate critter as desired

Resource List

Suppliers:

www.theworks.co.uk

www.kcswebshop.co.uk

www.bakerross.co.uk

www.wilkinsonplus.com

www.littlecraftybugs.co.uk

www.ebay.co.uk

www.usbourne.com (art books) www.favecrafts.com

Ideas:

www.activityvillage.co.uk www.thechocolatemuffintree.com

www.thecraftycow.net

www.crayola.com

www.kidspot.com.au

www.craftideas.info

Good materials to use:

pipe cleaners

coloured sand

feathers

recycled items

pom poms

cardboard boxes

ribbons

finger paints

sequins

googly eyes

glitter

leaves

twigs

lolly sticks

and anything else you can think of, as long as its safe...have fun!