



32 Crafts for Preschool

NEW!

Homeschool
projects and
Activities

32 Crafts for Preschool + Homeschool Projects and Activities

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Letter from the Editors

Hello Crafty Families,

I know I'm preaching to the choir when I say that you've got to get kids started crafting as soon as possible, but, really, you've got to!

Crafting with kids is such an important part of their development, as it promotes creativity, focus, fine motor skill practice, direction following, and more. While you'd love to present your children with new, creative crafts each day to ensure they're constantly progressing, coming up with the ideas can be difficult and, frankly, frustrating. I'm here to take that burden off your shoulders and present you with this compilation of crafts for preschool children (including some homeschooling activities) that are easy and budget-friendly to ensure your kids are on track with other students their age.

Between science experiments that will get the little ones asking questions, animal crafts that will introduce children to other species, and other wild crafts that require a creative mind and an engaged imagination, your kids are in good hands.

Keep minds sharp, eyes wide, hands moving, and smiles big when you explore this unbeatable collection of crafts perfect for kids ages 2-8. Depending on your child's skill level, these crafts might pose a challenge, serve to teach, or allow for a short unwinding session. No matter what, I can guarantee that at least one of these projects will be beneficial to the development of your favorite kiddos.

You can find even more craft projects, games, and activity ideas at www.AllFreeKidsCrafts.com.

Our eBooks, like all our kids' craft projects, are **absolutely FREE** to members of our crafting community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up for [our e-mail newsletter](#) for daily inspiration.

Happy crafting!

The Editors of AllFreeKidsCrafts.com

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Cute Carton Ladybug Crawlers

By: [Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda](#)

Crawl with cuteness into this perfect recycled craft project. These [adorable carton crawlers](#) won't cost you a penny, but they'll sure look like a million bucks. Nothing is better than a preschool craft project that can be made with simple supplies, a smile, and some creativity.



Materials:

- Empty egg carton cup
- Skinny black chenille, 2" piece
- 2 small googly eyes
- 1 medium black pom pom
- Colorful acrylic paint
- Black acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- White craft glue
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors

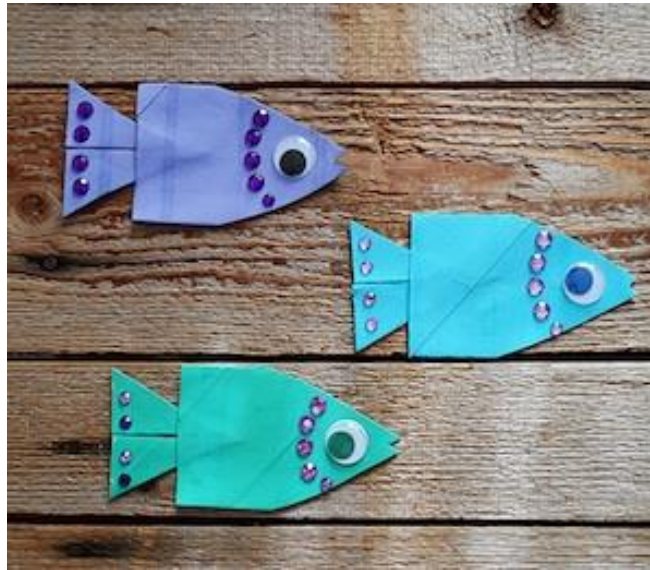
Instructions:

- 1.) Use scissors to separate egg carton cups, trim the edges.
- 2.) Paint egg cartons in desired colors and let dry.
- 3.) Glue googly eyes onto black pom pom and let dry.
- 4.) Glue black pom pom on to side of egg cup with white craft glue, and let dry completely, making sure eyes are facing out and are where you want them.
- 5.) Cut the 2" piece of skinny, black chenille in half. Bend the end of each one to form the antennae. Use hot glue to attach antennae to pom pom head.
- 6.) Use the handle end of a paintbrush to add black paint dots to the ladybug's back. Dip handle into paint and pick up a generous amount, then use a drawing motion to add the dot to the ladybug's back.
- 7.) Let dry completely.

Glam Guppies

By: [Amanda Formaro for AllFreeKidsCrafts](#)

"Fish are friends, not food!" Not only are they adorable, nautical friends, but they're also the best kind of friends, free ones! [Glam Guppies](#) are toilet paper roll crafts, which means that the materials can be found right in your own house. You don't have to run to the store with your allowance to make these ocean crafts for preschool kids. Make these cute fish crafts for kids to learn about the magical world of the deep blue sea and to bring that "whole new world" home with you.



Materials:

- 3 cardboard toilet paper tubes
- White craft glue
- Paint: green, light blue, purple
- Scissors
- Self-adhesive gems
- 3 large googly eyes

Instructions:

1.) Flatten each cardboard tube. Line the inside with some glue and press them tightly together with your hands. Place a heavy object on top of each one to help them stay closed while the glue takes hold.



2.) Paint each flattened tube, one blue, one green, and one purple.



3.) Cut on a diagonal on each side (see photo) to create the head. Save the pieces you cut off for the tail. Use scissors to trim out a mouth.



4.) Carefully open the back end of the fish and insert the two cut pieces, creating the tail. Press back together.



5.) Glue on eyes and decorate with self-stick gems.

Paper Plate Penguins

By: [Lorie from Reading Confetti](#)

Paper plates have never looked so cute. With items in your home, make the adorable [Paper Plate Penguin](#). Paper plate crafts for kids are wonderfully inexpensive ways to stay busy and happy. Display your animal crafts for kids in your room or use them as dolls to run a zoo. This is a great craft for children who are in preschool and kindergarten. It's easy enough that they won't get frustrated, but it still poses a challenge for their little minds and hands. You can wear these funny penguins as hats or let them stand tall on their own.

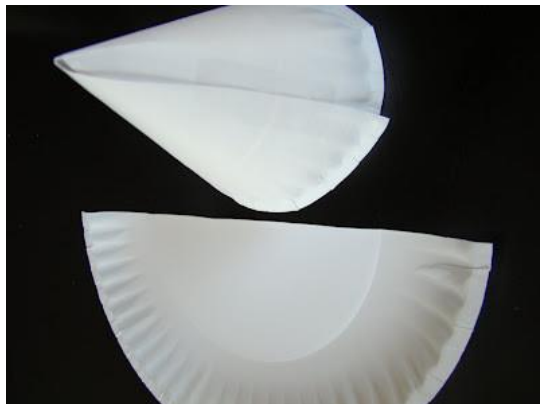


Materials:

- Paper plate
- Clear tape
- Black, yellow, and white construction paper
- Black marker

Instructions:

1.) Cut a paper plate in half and use tape to secure it into a cone shape.



2.) Fold a piece of black paper in half and cut two wing shapes starting at the crease. (Leave the two pieces connected. This will make the wings stand out.)



3.) Tape the underside of the wings to the plate cone. Add a beak from yellow paper using the same method.

4.) Cut two circles from the white paper, draw little black dots on them, and tape them down at the top of the cone.

5.) Cut two feet out of yellow construction paper. Tape these onto the bottom of the cone. If you use the same method as the wings and beak, you can tape the flap of the feet to the inside of the cone.



Bottle Cap Fishies

By: [Rachel from I Heart Crafty Things](#)

Blurp, blurp, blurp. Imagine if you could breathe under water, make bubbles, and live the life of a fish. See what it's like when you craft [Bottle Cap Fishies](#). A lot of people throw away all parts of their bottles because they don't know what to do with bottle caps, but make sure you keep them for awesome crafts for kids like this. Even the littlest ocean-lovers can get to know fish with this adorable beach craft. Add algae and fishy faces to complete the picture. And don't forget bubbles so that your buddies can breathe!

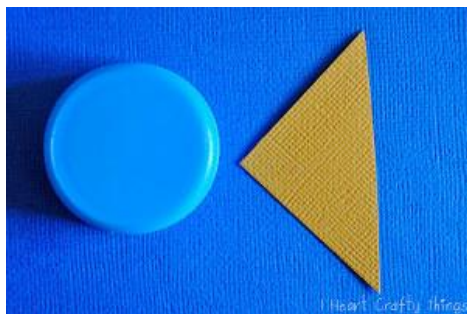


Materials:

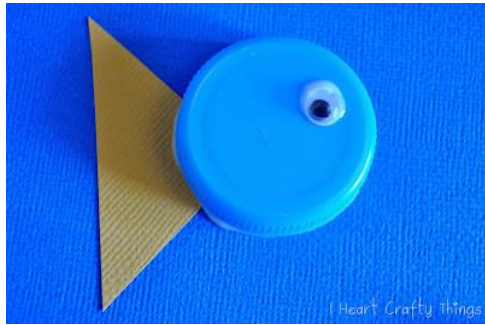
- Blue and yellow cardstock
- Scissors
- Glue
- Milk carton tops
- Googly eyes
- Sharpie marker
- Glitter glue pen
- Green tissue paper
- Straw
- White paint

Instructions:

1.) To make the fish you need a milk cap and a triangle shape cut from cardstock paper.



2.) Glue the triangle down on a blue sheet of paper and then glue the milk cap down overlapping the triangle to make the fish shape. To glue on the milk cap, use a generous amount of school glue along the entire rim of the cap. Then glue on a small googly eye. Draw a mouth for your fish with a Sharpie.



3.) To make the scales on the fish, use glitter that comes in little tubes that are easily handled by little hands. Make scales on the bottle cap and lines to define the tail fin. The variety of colors makes this extra fun for the kids.



4.) To make the bubbles, use a straw dipped in white paint and press it onto the paper. The key to getting this to work properly is to make sure the white paint doesn't bubble over the hole at the end of the straw. Every time we dipped the straw in the paint we had to turn it up and blow into the straw to pop the bubble if there was one. If you don't blow the bubble out, you will just get a solid circle.



5.) Crunch up little strips of green tissue paper and glue them to the bottom of your paper to make water plants.

Perfectly Preschool Egg Carton Jellyfish

By: [Amanda Formaro for AllFreeKidsCrafts](#)

Get your scuba gear ready because you are about to take a dive under the sea with ocean crafts for preschool kids like you. Have a blast, but don't spend a dime with the [Perfectly Preschool Egg Carton Jellyfish](#). This jellyfish craft is an absolutely adorable summer adornment that is a breeze to make. Crafts with egg cartons are so inexpensive because you can find the materials right in your refrigerator. Gobble down those eggs so that you can start crafting the best ocean crafts for kids.



Materials:

- 2 cardboard egg cups
- Paint: purple and light blue
- Yarn
- Pony beads (17 per yarn string, 102 total)
- 2 large 4-hole buttons
- Toothpick
- Hot glue gun
- Googly eyes
- White craft glue

Instructions:

1.) Paint the egg cups, one light blue and the other purple.

2.) Meanwhile, create the beaded tentacles. Cut a piece of yarn about 12" in length. Tie a pony bead to one end. Trim the excess from the knot and rotate the knot so that it lines up with the hole in the bead. Thread on 16 more beads. Repeat this five more times. There will be three tentacles per jellyfish.



3.) Use a toothpick to push the top end of the yarn tentacle through one of the button holes. Repeat with the other two and gather the three pieces of yarn together and tie into a knot. Trim the excess yarn. Repeat for the second button.



4.) Poke a hole in the center of the egg cup. Take another piece of yarn, about 5" in length. Loop it and tie the open ends together to create a hanger. Poke the looped end through the underside of the egg cup and out through the hole. The knot will stop at the hole, but go ahead and secure it with glue.



5.) Hot glue the button up into the egg cup jellyfish head. The tentacles will be hanging down. Because this is a bit heavy, allow it to dry completely before trying to display.

6.) Glue googly eyes to the front of the egg cup.

Mirrored Bright Butterflies

By: [Jill from Meet the Dubiens](#)

What's better than half a beautiful butterfly? A full, bright flying friend! Lucky for you, though, you only have to paint half of the butterfly, and the other half will magically appear. [Mirrored Bright Butterflies](#) are fun ways for little artists to get it on spring crafts for children. These colorful paintings make perfect decorations for the warm months. Let your imagination fly free as you decide how to paint your fluttery friend.



Materials:

- Paper
- Assorted paint
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Sharpie

Instructions:

- 1.) Fold your piece of paper in half to create a crease.
- 2.) Unfold paper, and place globs of paint on only one of the sides.
- 3.) Fold paper in half again.
- 4.) Rub the folded paper like crazy until all of the paint is spread.
- 5.) Open up your folded paper to reveal your masterpiece.
- 6.) Let dry, and then draw on antennae with your Sharpie and glue on googly eyes.

Easy Egg Carton Penguin

By: [Judi from Love to Sew Studio](#)

A dozen eggs can make a lot more than an omelet. You can reuse an old egg carton and transform it with the [Easy Egg Carton Penguin](#) art project. You can craft with egg cartons to create a furry friend that normally only lives in the cold. This adorable animal craft for kids is great because you can use simple, recycled materials to create a bird that you don't often get to see. Instead of taking a trip to the zoo, just settle down and construct your own little penguin who can live with you in your home. You can pretend you are slipping and sliding down an icy slope with this cutesy craft for kids.

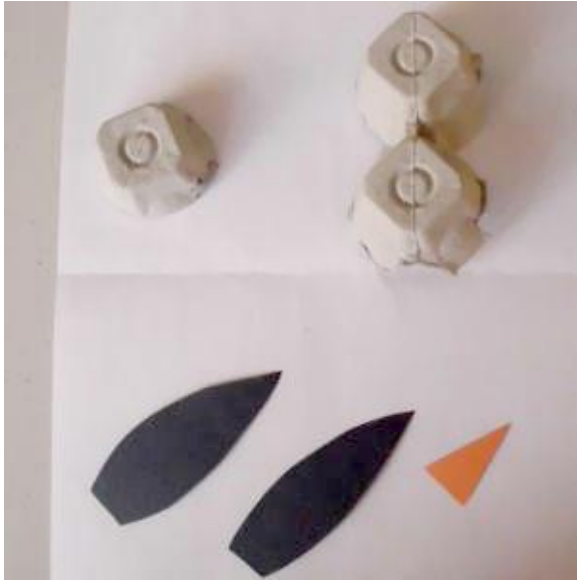


Materials:

- Egg carton
- Black, orange, and white craft paint
- Black and orange construction paper
- 2 googly eyes
- Scissors
- Glue
- Paintbrush
- 2 small pom poms
- Pipe cleaner

Instructions:

- 1.) Cut off two cups from an egg carton, keeping them connected. Cut off one individual cup.
- 2.) Cut out a triangle from the orange paper for the beak, and two wings from the black paper.



- 3.) Paint the single egg carton cup orange.



4.) The two egg cups together are going to be the face and belly. Paint the face and belly of the penguin white. Then paint the rest of the egg carton cups black, as shown.



5.) After the paint is dry, glue the egg carton pieces together with the orange piece on the bottom to use as the penguin's feet or base.



6.) Glue the wings and beak onto the penguin. Glue googly eyes onto the face above the beak.



7.) Cut a small piece of pipe cleaner to fit over the penguin's head. Glue the pipe cleaner and two small, fuzzy pom poms to create earmuffs for your penguin craft.

Beaded Butterfly Beauty

By: [Amanda Formaro for AllFreeKidsCrafts](#)

Never when staring at an empty toilet paper roll did you believe that it could grow into a beautiful butterfly. Well, start believing because the [Beaded Butterfly Beauty](#) is a toilet paper roll craft. These fun projects are darling and a bit funny when you think of where they came from. But real butterflies come from caterpillars, so it's not that far off. Kids can make these simple butterfly crafts inexpensively, so let the fluttering begin.



Materials:

- Recycled cardboard tube
- Black pipe cleaner
- Pony beads, various colors
- Craft paint
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun

Note: Adults should handle the hot glue gun. White craft glue can be used as an alternative, just keep in mind that it will require drying time.

Instructions:

1.) Flatten the cardboard tube, and then cut it in half. Each cardboard tube can make four butterflies.



2.) Paint cardboard tube inside and out and allow to dry.



3.) Bend pipe cleaner in half and thread on six pony beads. Trim the end of the pipe cleaner for antennae.



4.) Cut cardboard tubes into $\frac{1}{2}$ " strips. Bend strips about two-thirds the way down to create a small and large loop. Lay tubes next to each other and glue together. Glue the beaded body to the top of the cardboard tube wings.



Egg Carton Frog

By: [Amanda Formaro for AllFreeKidsCrafts](#)

Sunnyside up eggs, please. You'll be seeing the sun every morning in order to finish off an egg carton so that you can make your new friend. The [Egg Carton Frog](#) is an adorable egg carton craft that will bring you even more cheer than the sun or those eggs. You will have a blast making this little fella, and then once he's complete, you can hop on over to all of your friends and show them your talent.



Materials:

- 2 cups from a cardboard egg carton
- 1 Styrofoam coffee cup
- Green craft paint
- 2 green pipe cleaners
- 2 green buttons
- 2 googly eyes
- Scrap of red felt
- Hot glue gun
- Scissors

Instructions:

- 1.) Paint the egg cups and the coffee cup with green paint.



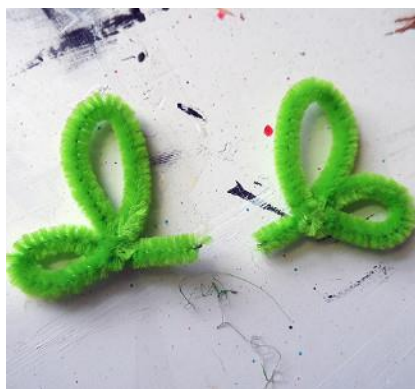
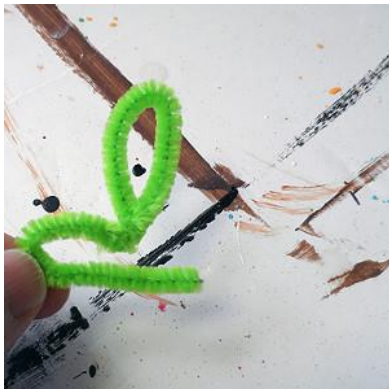
2.) Cut the cup to about 2" from the bottom.



3.) Cut one of the pipe cleaners in half. Bend the top of the pipe cleaner into a loop and twist. This forms the top of the back leg.



4.) Now bend the bottom half into a loop, forming a shape similar to a heart. Leave a little excess pipe cleaner sticking out to poke into the side of the cup.



5.) Repeat with the other half of the pipe cleaner to make the second back leg. Poke the pipe cleaner leg into the side of the cup body.



6.) For the front legs, cut the second pipe cleaner in half. Set one half aside for a future project. Take the remaining half and cut that in half. Bend one end of each pipe cleaner into a small loop for the front foot. Make a bend in the front leg and poke it into the front of the cup. Repeat for the other leg.



7.) Cut a forked tongue from red felt and glue inside one of the egg cups.

8.) Glue the egg cups together, open end to open end.

9.) Glue the egg cup head to the body.

10.) Glue googly eyes to the buttons.

11.) Glue the eyes to the head.

Firefighter Paper Dolls

By: [Free Printable Online](#)

Save cats from trees, babies from burning buildings, and zoom through stoplights in a bright red fire truck when you construct your very own [Firefighter Paper Doll](#). It's hard to determine what's best about this printable paper doll: the fact that it's free or the fact that you'll be a hero. Simply print this champion, cut him out, give him a hero's face, and then when the siren begins to ring, get him ready to save some lives. Just like real firefighters, with this paper craft for kids you get to dress your hero in record speed once the team has been alerted of a fire.



Materials:

- [Firefighter toy PDF](#)
- Cardstock
- Scissors

Instructions:

- 1.) Print out the [Firefighter Paper Doll PDF](#), preferably on cardstock for durability.
- 2.) Cut out the doll and all accessories.
- 3.) Dress the firefighter by folding the tabs to keep accessories hooked onto the doll.
- 4.) Draw a face on your firefighter.

Storytime Stones

By: Jackie from Happy Hooligans

Turn storytime into a game with these amazing [Storytime Stones](#). Decoupage kids' crafts like this are a great way to get kids interested in stories and help them remember the details. Kids' nature crafts like this transform learning activities for children into playtime.



Materials:

- Smooth stones
- Mod Podge
- Magazines, craft books, or fabric with pictures
- Sponge brush

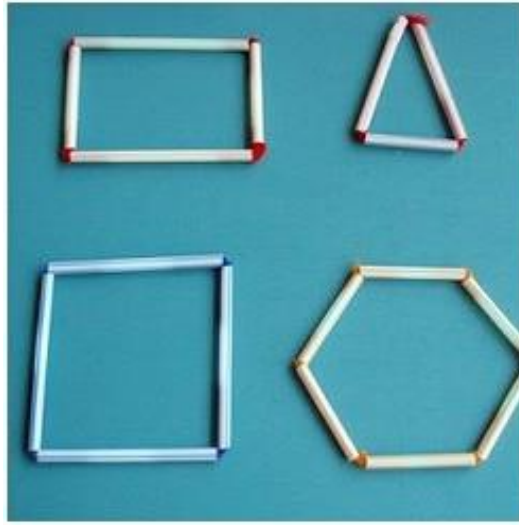
Instructions:

- 1.) Find pictures in a craft book or magazine or on fabric and cut them out.
- 2.) Put a puddle of Mod Podge on a stone, and then place the cut out in the puddle, and use your fingers to smooth out any air bubbles.
- 3.) With a sponge brush, smooth and dab a little Mod Podge over the cut out, pressing around the edges with your fingers to get a good seal between the paper and the stone.
- 4.) Once dry, place all of the Storytime Stones in a basket and grab a handful. Make up a story based on the images on the stones you grabbed!

Straw Shapes Activity

By: [Katy from Sycamore Stirrings](#)

Sippy cups are in the past, and now you're using big-kid straws and learning about shapes. Believe it or not, those cool, big straws make for extremely fun activities for children. Have a ball with the [Straw Shapes Activity](#) using only two materials! You can create cubes, squares, and triangles, or you can make up your own designs. Build a masterpiece, take a picture, and then pull it apart to make an even more spectacular straw setup.



Materials:

- Pipe cleaners
- Straws (buy a pack that has multiple colors)
- Scissors
- Plastic bag (for storage)

Instructions:

1.) Cut pipe cleaners into 1 ½ to 2" pieces - don't obsess over this part, just estimate. Cut at least 20 pieces. It is simple to cut more as needed.



It is helpful if the straws are color coded by size. For example, you can cut blue straws 4" long, yellow 2 ½" and green 1 ½". Don't worry about measuring before cutting; just cut your straws three different lengths.



3.) To build, bend a pipe cleaner to a 90 degree angle (again don't obsess, just bend it), place a straw on one side of the pipe cleaner, than place one on the other. This makes a corner. Keep going until you've reached your desired shape (if there is one.)



4.) When finished you can dump everything in a plastic bag until next time. This activity is easy to transport and store and you only have to make it once.

Simple Boats that Float

By: [Deborah J. Stewart from Teach Preschool](#)

Ahoy matey! Do you know which kind of boat floats best on water? Try this [Simple Boats that Float](#) craft activity for kids to determine if cork or Styrofoam works the best. In this water craft for kids, set your sail and decorate your boat any way you want with markers or colored craft foam. Once you are finished, place your boat out on the ocean and see if it floats. For some extra fun, try placing some mini animals on your boat and see if that hurts or helps it float with this easy preschool craft. You will have a blast making your own boat out of two different materials and then setting sail into the deep, blue sea.



Materials:

- Pieces of Styrofoam
- Scissors
- Markers
- Toothpicks
- Wine corks
- Rubber bands
- Craft foam

Instructions:

1.) Set up two different stations for the two different types of boats that can be made. One station should have pieces of Styrofoam, scissors, markers, and toothpicks, and the other should have toothpicks, wine corks, rubber bands, and craft foam.



2.) For the Styrofoam boats, decorate the Styrofoam with markers, cut out a sail from the Styrofoam, and attach it to the boat using a toothpick as the mast.



3.) For the cork boats, gather two or three wine corks and keep them together with a rubber band. Cut a sail from craft foam and then attach it to the cork boat with a toothpick as the mast.



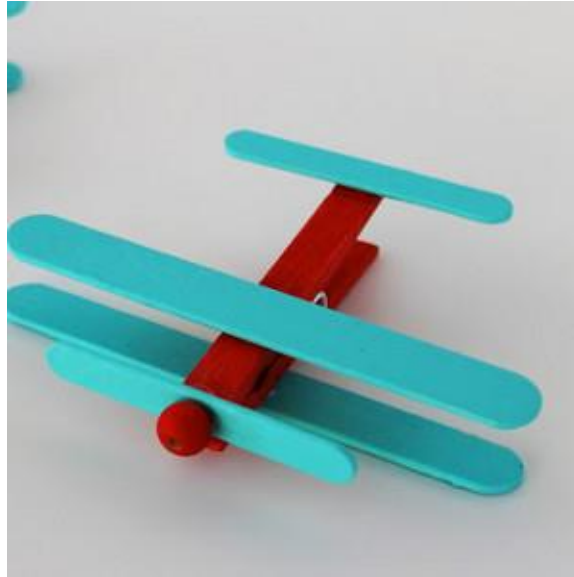
4.) Set up a tub of water or use a bathtub or sink, and test the boats out to see if they float!



Clothespin Airplanes

By: [Jill from Create.Craft.Love](#)

This is your captain speaking. We will be taking off in just a few moments, and we will be making an extremely fun craft. [Clothespin Airplanes](#) are easy kids' crafts that provide hours of fun. For the little ones who love flying, this craft will give them their very own plane. The project also helps teach about balance. You will see that the weight must be even on each side so that the plane doesn't tip. Please fasten your seatbelts, and enjoy the ride.



Materials:

- 2 large craft sticks
- 1 clothespin
- 4 mini craft sticks
- 1 wooden craft bead
- Blue and red paint
- Hot glue gun

Instructions:

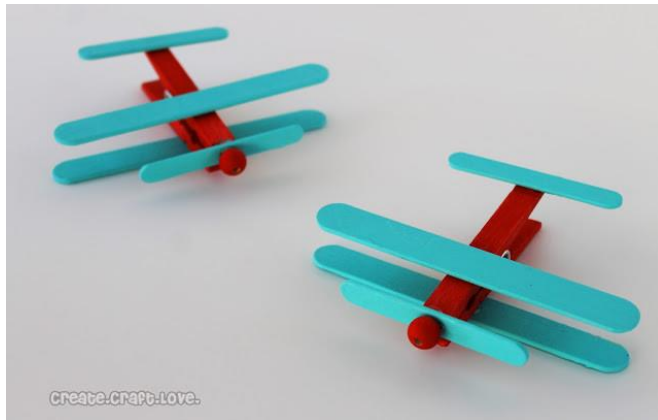
1.) Take apart your clothespin, and set the spring aside. (This step is not necessary, but it makes painting much easier.)



2.) Paint the clothespin, wooden bead, and craft sticks (in colors of your choosing). Hint: A wooden kabob skewer works great for holding these while painting!

3.) Once everything has dried, reassemble your clothespin. Use your hot glue gun to glue the wings, propeller, and rudder to form the airplane. Glue the propeller and rudder only on the top plank of the clothespin so that the clothespin can still open and close.

4.) Allow to dry.



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Monster Alphabet Game

By: [Linda from Little Family Fun](#)

Some monsters may be scary, but this monster just wants to help you learn. He's very hungry, so learn your letters quickly so that you can feed your buddy with the [Monster Alphabet Game](#). Alphabet games for kids are fun ways to learn your letters. Have a blast building your monster man with materials you have at home, and then have an even better time as you become the smartest kid alive. Before you know it you'll be writing novels and attending college all thanks to kids' alphabet games like this one.



Materials:

- Assorted construction paper
- Small cup for circle tracing
- Marker
- Scissors
- Empty oatmeal canister or other cardboard container
- Craft foam
- Yarn

Instructions:

- 1.) Use the cup to trace circles onto construction paper. Make 52 circles.
- 2.) Cut out circles, and write the alphabet, one letter per circle. Write an upper-case set of letter and a lower-case set. This will account for all 52 circles.



3.) Cut an opening in your cardboard container to make the mouth. Be sure this is wide enough for your circles to fit through.

4.) Cover your canister in construction paper, and then decorate. Use craft foam for eyes and a nose and yarn for the hair.



Felt Button Board

By: [Rockabye Butterfly](#)

A [Felt Button Board](#) is a nifty learning tool for toddlers and preschoolers. Felt crafts for kids like this homemade toy make wonderful travel activities for kids and improve fine motor skills with a series of tactile shapes that can be attached and removed from a felt board.



Materials:

- Large felt rectangle
- Assorted, large buttons
- Needle
- Thread
- Felt
- Puzzle box or other cardboard box
- Hot glue

Instructions:

- 1.) Sew large buttons onto the felt rectangle.
- 2.) Hot glue the felt rectangle onto the top of a cardboard box, like a puzzle box lid.



- 3.) Cut shapes from colored felt, squares, circles, stars, hearts, and more. Be sure to cut a slit in the middle of each shape.
- 4.) Now kids can button and remove the felt shapes onto and from the board!

Wild Watercolor Names

By: [Deborah J. Stewart from Teach Preschool](#)

What's in a name? You can find out with this [Wild Watercolor Names](#) easy art project for kids. Learn to spell out each letter in your name by tracing it with beautiful watercolors in this painting project. The paper is a blank canvas for you to paint however you choose, and your masterpiece will turn out as unique as you are. There are plenty of colors to choose from when painting with watercolors, and this easy painting craft certainly encourages creativity. Whether you are a Bella, John, or Alex, this fun watercolor activity is for you.



Materials:

- Hot glue gun
- Paper
- Liquid watercolor paint
- Paintbrush

Instructions:

- 1.) With the hot glue gun, spell out the child's name.
- 2.) Allow the child to paint around, over, and alongside his name. This can be used as a letter tracing activity as well.



Button Rainbows

By: [Jill from Meet the Dubiens](#)

Learn about colors in the happiest of ways when you craft [Button Rainbows](#). Separate the buttons so that they're organized by color and then begin to make a beautiful button craft that will brighten up your day. Kids' crafts for spring are the perfect break during a busy day. You can't help but smile when you're making a rainbow, so if you ever need a pick me up, this is the perfect spring craft for you.



Materials:

- Buttons in rainbow colors
- Glue
- Canvas

Instructions:

- 1.) Sort your buttons into different colored piles.
- 2.) Glue your buttons on the canvas in a rainbow pattern.

Pretty Painted Seashells

By: [MaryLea from Pink and Green Mama](#)

[Pretty Painted Seashells](#) are lovely post-vacation nature crafts for kids. Collect a variety of seashells at the beach, and then paint them in every color. Use them in other kids' craft projects or keep them in a treasure box!



Materials:

- Seashells
- Watercolor paint
- Paper towel

Instructions:

- 1.) Go to the beach and find your favorite white seashells, or use shells you've already collected.
- 2.) Place the white seashells on top of a paper towel.
- 3.) Paint the seashells with watercolor paint.

Macchia Inspired By Chihuly

By: [Rachel from Ms. Motta's Mixed Media](#)

Have you ever seen a glass sculpture by Dale Chihuly? The glass sculptures may not seem like arts and crafts projects for kids, but this [Macchia Inspired by Chihuly](#) is the perfect way to give the impression of one of those magnificent sculptures, only without the shards! This art project includes instructions for several age groups.



Materials:

- Coffee filter
- Scissors
- Markers
- Spray starch
- Yogurt container

Instructions:

- 1.) Cut the edge of the coffee filter so that's it's curved rather than all the same length.
- 2.) Color the coffee filter with markers however you would like.
- 3.) Lay the colored coffee filter over the yogurt container and spray it with spray starch.
- 4.) Let dry, and use as a bowl or decoration.

Rockin' Rock Stamps

By: Sam from Thrive 360 Living

Blot out those expensive store-bought stamps with this nature inspired, inexpensive solution. [Rockin' Rock Stamps](#) is a cute, easy craft idea for kids that can be found right outside in your own yard. Gather up some small rocks and you have the materials to create a quick, handmade card. It's that easy! This art project for kids is great because you can choose what stamps you want to make, whether you like animals, planes, or bugs. The variety of Rockin' Rock Stamps is perfect for all, regardless of age.



Materials:

- Rocks
- Foam sticker shapes
- Stamp pad or paint

Instructions:

- 1.) Place foam sticker shapes on rocks.
- 2.) Dip your new stamp in paint or press it onto a stamp pad and then onto paper.



Dancing Dr. Seuss Oobleck Recipe

By: [Tammy from Housing a Forest](#)

Dance with the doctor. Science experiments for kids are always cool, but this one would impress a person of any age. Make the [Dancing Dr. Seuss Oobleck Recipe](#), and then jam out as the oobleck dances along. Add color to the mix for an even more vibrant experiment. When the oobleck is dancing and filled with color, it looks exactly like a picture out of a Dr. Seuss book. You will be hooked on oobleck after this amazing experience, but that's okay because there are so many things to do with it.



Materials:

- 2 cups cornstarch
- 1 cup water
- Food coloring
- Thin, metal cooking sheet
- Subwoofer
- MP3 of audio test tone

Instructions:

1.) Mix the cornstarch and water.



2.) Place the cookie sheet onto the speaker of the sub, and pour the oobleck onto the sheet.

3.) You can download different test tones and play to see what works best for you. We used 40 Hz, 50 Hz, and 63 Hz, and found that we needed to turn the volume way up. Search for subwoofer test MP3 on the computer, and there are a number of different sites that you can use. Before you play the MP3, you will need to place your fingers on the edge of the cookie sheet with gentle pressure. It took a bit of playing to see what worked the best, but the results were amazing.



4.) Add food coloring to the oobleck!



Rubber Band Splatter Painting

By: [Lorie from Reading Confetti](#)

Hopefully you have a smock on because it's about to get messy. [Rubber Band Splatter Painting](#) is a creative craft idea for kids where you get to create a beautiful masterpiece while having a fun time. Pretend you're playing the guitar and pluck on paint-filled strings that splatter onto a blank sheet of paper to produce your own version of a Picasso. This painting craft for kids is messy and might be best outdoors, but if you are not afraid to get your hands a little dirty, or maybe your hair, then set it up on the kitchen table and have a blast.

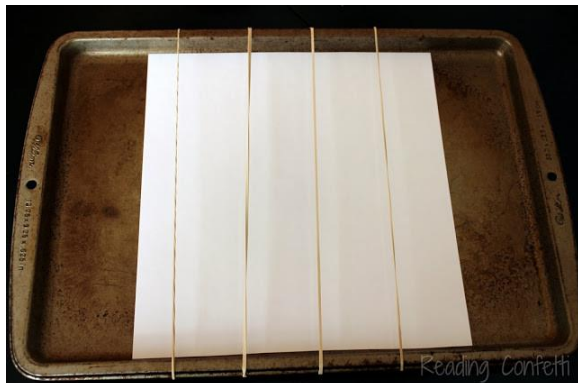


Materials:

- 2 large craft sticks
- 1 clothespin
- 4 mini craft sticks
- 1 wooden craft bead
- Blue and red paint
- Hot glue gun

Instructions:

- 1.) Place a piece of paper on a baking sheet and wrap rubber bands around the whole thing.



2.) Paint the rubber bands.



3.) Pull back the rubber bands and let them go.



4.) Rotate the paper and repeat.

Remarkable Rising Paint

By: [Jill from Meet the Dubiens](#)

Voila! Your once flat paint has now become a 3D piece of art. You'll have a blast with [Remarkable Rising Paint](#). Make your easy kids' crafts into a magic show when you pop them in the microwave. The paint is non-toxic and super simple to make and work with. You will go from chef to artist to magician during the course of this awesome arts and crafts project.



Materials:

- 6 squeeze bottles
 - 6 bowls and spoons
 - Canvas without staples or heavy cardstock
 - Microwave
- For each color:
- ¼ cup self-rising flour
 - ¼ cup salt
 - 4 tbsp water
 - Gel icing color

Instructions:

- 1.) In a bowl mix ¼ cup self-rising flour, ¼ cup salt, 4 tbsp water, and a bit of gel icing color (just one color at a time!).
- 2.) Mix the above all together until smooth and runny.

3.) Pour your mixture into a squeeze bottle.



4.) Repeat the above process for each color you make.

5.) Use the paint to make a design on your canvas or cardstock.



6.) Pop the entire canvas in the microwave for about 20-30 seconds, or until the artwork starts to rise off the paper.

Colorful, Lovable Playdough

By: [Rebecca from Simple As That](#)

[Colorful, Lovable Playdough](#) is a simple kids' craft that delivers days of fun. Cut out shapes with plastic cookie cutters or mold the dough into something you come up with. Save some dough by making your own, and you and your piggy bank will be thrilled with the result. Get creative because the world is at your fingertips!



Materials:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 package unsweetened Kool-Aid, cherry, strawberry and ice blue raspberry lemonade
- ¼ cup salt
- 2 tbsp cream of tartar
- 1 cup water

Instructions:

- 1.) Mix dry ingredients in a medium saucepan.
- 2.) Add water and oil.
- 3.) Stir over medium heat for 3-5 minutes.
- 4.) When mixture forms a ball in the pan, remove.
- 5.) Knead the dough until smooth.
- 6.) Place in plastic bag and refrigerate.

Galaxy Goo

By: [Kristi from I Should Be Mopping the Floor](#)

Take a trip to outer space and bring back the coolest souvenir there is: [Galaxy Goo](#). Make your own play dough from items you have around the house, add some secret ingredients, and you've got yourself hours of fun. This rare breed of play dough can only be made by the most imaginative kid crafters. Kids' crafts ideas call for creativity, and that is a wonderful thing.



Materials:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 tablespoon Cream of Tartar
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 cups water
- Black food coloring gel paste, 1-2 tablespoons
- 1/4 cup glitter
- 2 teaspoons pure mint extract

Instructions:

1.) Combine water, food coloring gel, and oil in large stockpot. Turn on your stove to medium heat and stir.



2.) Combine all dry ingredients (except glitter) and add to the liquids while they're still heating. Don't let your liquids get to a boil, just hot enough to incorporate everything.



3.) Stir very well...it may take a while to get everything mixed. Pictured is the "beginning stage" of stirring.



4.) Now is the time to add in your mint and continue to stir. (I only do this to make it smell nice.)

5.) If yours is still super soft, you can add in a bit more flour until it's a more pliable consistency. Once 99% of the dry ingredients are incorporated, go ahead and pull the dough out of your pot (I put mine onto a cutting board) and let cool for 10 minutes. Give it a few kneads before adding the glitter.



6.) Make a small well in the center of the dough and add your glitter to it. Then work it in by turning it, folding it, and kneading it.



Sparkle Slime

By: [Whitney from It's Gravy, Baby!](#)

Learn how to make your own goopy, globby, silly [Sparkle Slime](#)! This slime recipe is a fun idea for a day with downtime. It's a quick and inexpensive boredom buster that you won't be able to put down thanks to its amazingly funky texture.



Materials:

- Borax
- Elmer's glue
- Water
- Food coloring
- Glitter

Instructions:

- 1.) Dissolve 1 teaspoon Borax in 1 cup water. Set aside.
- 2.) In a medium size bowl, empty your glue. Then, fill your empty glue bottle with water and pour it into the bowl of glue.
- 3.) Add food color of your choice and stir well.
- 4.) Pour the Borax mixture into the glue mixture and combine.
- 5.) Stir with a spoon, you'll start seeing gobs immediately. Add glitter, to your desire.
- 6.) Put the spoon aside and finish kneading the slime with your hands.
- 7.) Dump the excess water out and continue working the slime. The wetness will go away and it'll be dry to the touch.

Foaming Rainbow Experiment

By: [Kim Ritter from Two Kids and a Coupon](#)

Are you looking for a fun and kid-friendly STEM science project to make with the kids that explodes with color? This easy foaming rainbow is a fun and easy project and is something that they will always remember.



Materials:

- 2 oz paper sauce cups (or other small bowls)
- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Food coloring
- Stir sticks

Instructions:

1. To create your foaming rainbow, first, you'll want to do a bit of prep to make clean up a little bit easier. Line a cookie sheet or baking pan with aluminum foil or parchment paper and set out all of your supplies.
2. Fill each of your paper cups up to 3/4 of the way with baking soda. We used little disposable paper cups, but any small paper cups will work.



3. The next step is to create your rainbow! Mix a few drops of a different color food coloring in a rainbow pattern into each cup of baking soda and mix them well.



4. Line up the cups into a row and pour your vinegar in a line down the row of colored baking soda and watch the foaming rainbow erupt!

DIY Bouncy Ball

By: Chris Hammond for AllFreeKidsCrafts.com

Did you ever think you could create your own bouncy ball? Well, if you're looking to have some fun with your children then you need to try out this DIY bouncy ball craft. This is such a fun kids craft that you can make in the kitchen. This handmade bouncy ball is a great science experiment for your kids to play and learn with, and you'll have fun making them too!



Materials:

- Borax
- White school glue
- Food coloring
- Corn starch
- Hot water

Instructions:

1. Take one cup of hot water and dissolve a couple tablespoons of Borax in the hot water.
2. Taking 4 tablespoons of glue add a couple of drops of food coloring and a couple tablespoons of corn starch. Mix this all together as best you can.
3. Pour your glue mixture into the Borax solution.
Note: if you would like to make smaller bouncy balls you can cut down the portions.
4. Reach into your solution and begin kneading it. If your little ball is still really sticky, put it back into your borax solution and then continue to knead it.
5. Begin to roll it into a smooth ball shape until you are satisfied with the shape.

Child's First Learning Clock

By: Marla Canfield Clark for AllFreeKidsCrafts.com

Educational toy clocks can be used to easily teach children how to tell time in a fun and creative way. The best part is kids think they're just playing!



Materials:

- Embroidery Hoop (we recommend a 10 or 12" hoop)
- Felt or Fabric of your choice to fit the hoop
- Self-adhesive felt numbers (1" or 3" depending on hoop size)
- Coated or Laminated Paper
- A scrapbooking brad
- Hot glue gun
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Fabric marker or tailor's chalk
- **Optional:** Paint for embroidery hoop
- **Optional:** Decoration for your brad

Instructions:

1. Recycle 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 and fit it over the bottom hoop and put the top hoop back on over the felt. **Make sure the felt is stretched tight.**
3. Turn the hoop over and trim some of the excess felt. Leave about ½" of fabric.
4. Hot glue the felt so that it sticks flat onto the inside rim of the embroidery hoop.

5. Turn over to work on the “front” of the clock.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Make the hands of the clock using a strong and stiff laminated or coated paper. We used an old file folder.
9. Cut one long strip of the paper and angle the tips like an arrow. We used pinking shears.
10. Cut the strip making one “longer” arm and one “shorter” arm. Lightly position on the clock over your “mark”.
11. Take the arms off the clock and carefully poke a small hole in both. We used the sharp pointy end of our regular scissor.
12. Push a scrapbooking brad through the arms.
13. 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.



Ideas for Personalization:

- 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.
- We added a Mickey Mouse decoration to the top of our brad. Decorate as desired.

Recycled State Map Magnets

By: Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda

The Recycled State Map Magnets craft is an easy project that could help your kids learn the states and capitals in the US. Even some adults do not know all the states or where they are geographically, so you can learn along with your kids, too. This free craft tutorial shows you how to make state map magnets out of a recycled road map. Refresh your geography knowledge with this eco-friendly craft that you can make with your kids to help them learn at home.



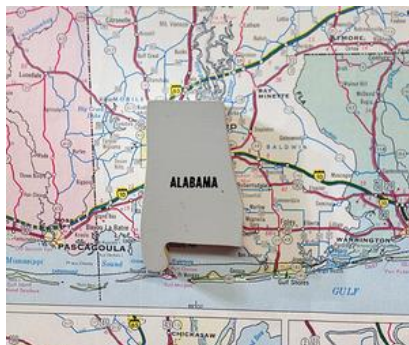
Materials:

- State shaped puzzle pieces or other simple wooden shapes
- Outdated road atlas
- Decoupage medium
- ½" button magnets
- White craft glue
- Scissors

Note: You can achieve a similar feel by using circle or square shaped (or even hearts!) wood pieces.

Instructions:

1. Locate the city you would like to appear on your magnet. Place your wood shape over the city and trace around it with a pen or pencil.



2. When cutting the shape out, cut about 1/8-inch inside the trace line. You want to leave a border of your wooden shape showing. My states were all different colors, which made for a very visually pleasing magnet when finished. Alternatively, you can paint wooden shapes in different colors to achieve the same affect.



3. Apply a thin layer of decoupage to the back of the map and press it onto the wooden shape. Once it is positioned properly, allow it to dry for about 40 minutes before applying a coat of decoupage over the top.



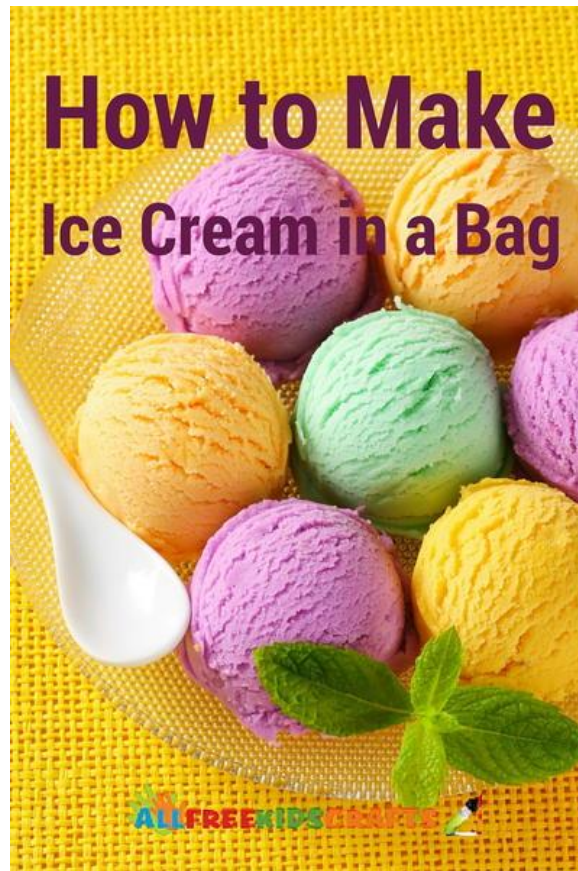
4. When completely dry, glue a button magnet to the back and let dry completely before using.



How to Make Ice Cream in a Bag

By: Ashley Jones for AllFreeKidsCrafts.com

If your kids are craving a deliciously delightful craft to bust up boredom this summer, then we promise they'll absolutely adore this How to Make Ice Cream in a Bag recipe. This free craft for kids is an excellent project for elementary students, as it combines a fun hands-on project with beginner science and chemistry that can be adapted to different age groups. The best part about this easy recipe is that kids can enjoy their yummy desserts after their science lesson. Whether your kids make this cool homemade ice cream recipe at home or school, we guarantee this kids' craft is sure to become a quick favorite.



Materials:

- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 4 cups crushed ice
- 4 tablespoons Kosher salt
- 2 quart-sized plastic bags
- 1 gallon-sized freezer bag
- Hand towels or gloves to keep hands from freezing
- Your favorite ice cream toppings!

Instructions:

1. **Combine your milk, sugar, and vanilla extract together in one of your quart-sized bags.** Make sure your bag is tightly sealed, with as little air in the bag as possible. Too much air in the bag

can cause the bag to open during shaking, so make sure all of the air is squeezed out to avoid any big messes.

2. **Place your bag into the second quart-sized bag, again making sure your bag is tightly sealed.** This extra precaution helps prevent unnecessary messes and this way, you know for sure that the salt and ice won't leak into your yummy ice cream.
3. **Place your double-bags into your gallon-sized plastic bag.** Then, fill your gallon bag with ice and sprinkle your Kosher salt on top. Close the gallon bag, once again making sure the bag is sealed tightly, with as little air left as possible.
4. **Now comes the fun part!** Wrap your bags in a towel or let your little ones wear gloves so that their hands don't get too cold. Then, let kids have a blast shaking up their ice cream mixture. Five to ten minutes of shaking should be enough time for your ice cream to harden.
5. **All done!** Once you're happy with the consistency of the ice cream, remove your mixture from the large gallon bag. Kids can eat their DIY ice cream straight from the bag or they can dish out their dessert in a bowl for a slightly less messy option.
6. **Have fun and be creative with your toppings.** Kids can top their desserts with traditional chocolate syrup and sprinkles or have fun creating new combinations with candy, cereal, and fresh fruit. Don't forget to add that cherry on top for the ultimate tasty topping.



Special Thanks

Thank you to the following contributors who made this eBook possible!

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[Rachel from I Heart Crafty Things](#)

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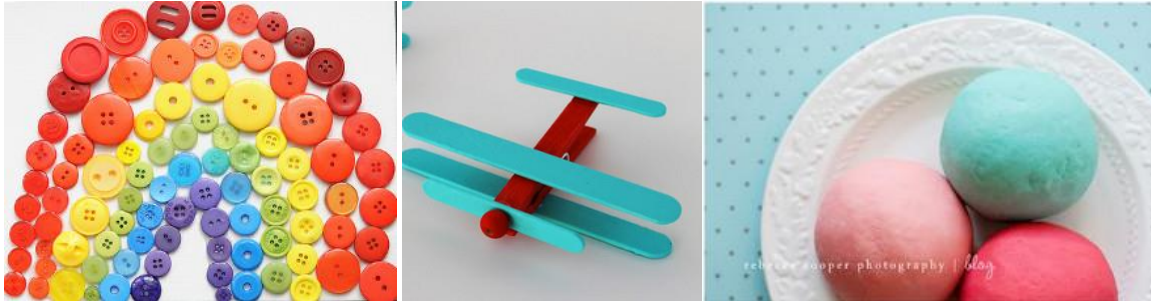
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