

ART & CRAFT EXPERIENCES FOR KIDS

MORE THAN 150 FUN AND CREATIVE PROJECTS!

FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 TO 9, BUT BIG KIDS AND GROWNUPS WILL ALSO ENJOY THE CREATIVITY.

PROJECTS RANGE FROM EASY TO COMPLICATED.

A CLOCK ILLUSTRATION LETS YOU KNOW IF A PROJECT WILL TAKE A LONG TIME TO CREATE.

MOST CAN BE MADE FROM BASIC CRAFT SUPPLIES.

INCLUDES HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS REGARDING STAGES IN CHILDREN'S ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR PLANNING, ORGANIZING, GATHERING MATERIALS, AND CLEANUP.

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MAKING ART FULFILLS CHILDREN'S REAL NEED FOR SELF-EXPRESSION AND CREATIVITY.

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KIDS CREATE



LAURIE CARLSON

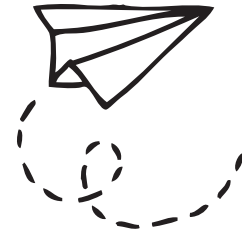
GIBBS SMITH

BY LAURIE CARLSON

# KIDS CREATE

ART & CRAFT EXPERIENCES FOR KIDS

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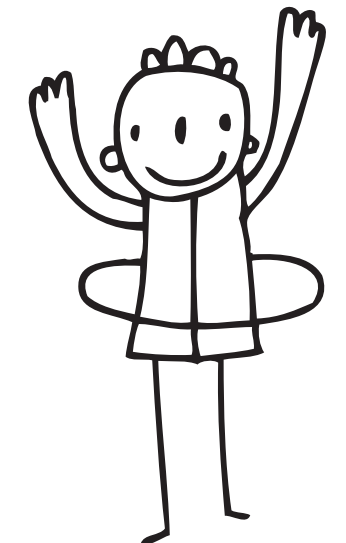
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# PAPIER-MÂCHÉ DINOSAURS

Three types of dinosaurs are easy to make using the paper strip technique. All use a balloon for the tummy area, small boxes for the head, and small paper tubes for legs.

Following the drawings, place several layers of paper strips over the blown-up balloon, using glue mixture, and then tape on the neck and head section. When dry, tape on the paper tubes for the legs and tail sections. When they dry, add spines cut from lightweight cardboard. Feet and hands are cut from the cardboard and taped in place. Layer paper strips over the feet and spines until the whole creature is several layers thick. Allow to dry. Glue on odds and ends to create texture and detail. Use buttons for eyes or glue on paper reinforcements for eyes. Teeth can be made by gluing on rice or inserting broken toothpicks into the

damp mouth area before the paper strips are dry. Lentils glued over the entire surface of the creature's body create a reptilian skin texture.

Paint the finished dinosaur and add final details. You can glue on toenails cut from lightweight cardboard. I like to trim off part of a red or pink balloon and glue it inside the mouth so it looks like a rubbery tongue.

Give your finished creature a spray coating of clear acrylic gloss to protect it and help preserve it.

*\*See warning, page 69.*

## MATERIALS

BALLOONS\*

SMALL BOXES (LIKE GELATIN BOXES)

PAPER TUBES (FROM TOILET TISSUE OR PAPER WRAP)

PAPER STRIPS, TORN INTO 1 X 3-INCH PIECES

GLUE MIXTURE (FLOUR AND WATER, CONSISTENCY OF THICK GRAVY)

MASKING TAPE

LIGHTWEIGHT CARDBOARD (MILK CARTONS AND CEREAL BOXES ARE GOOD SOURCES)

ODDS AND ENDS FOR TEXTURE LIKE BUTTONS, RICE, LENTILS, TOOTHPICKS, NEWSPAPER

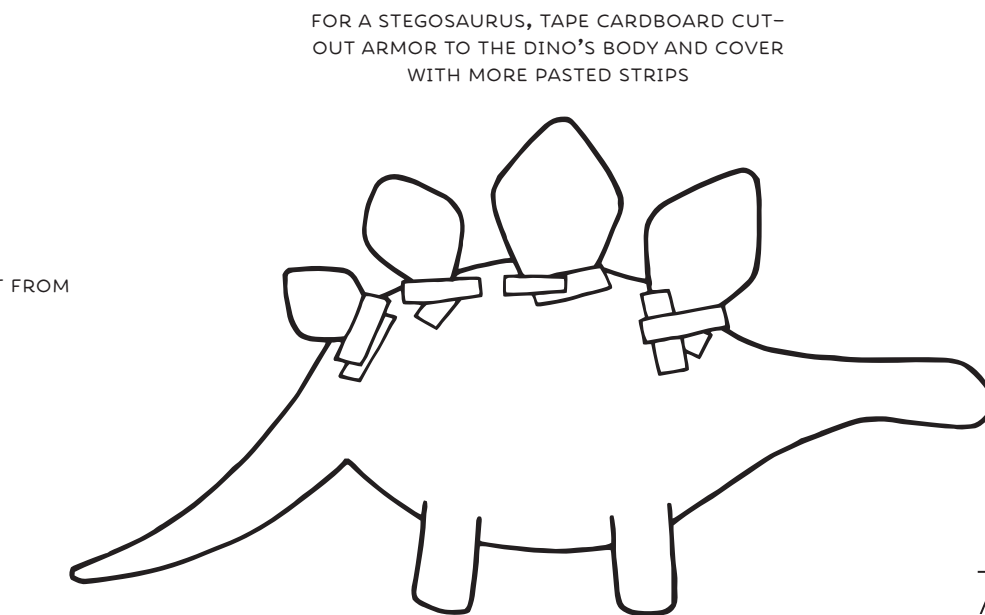
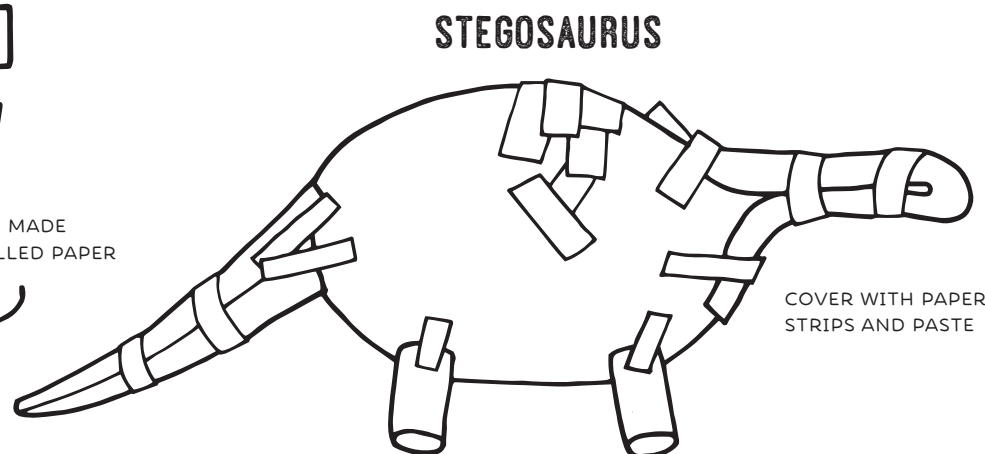
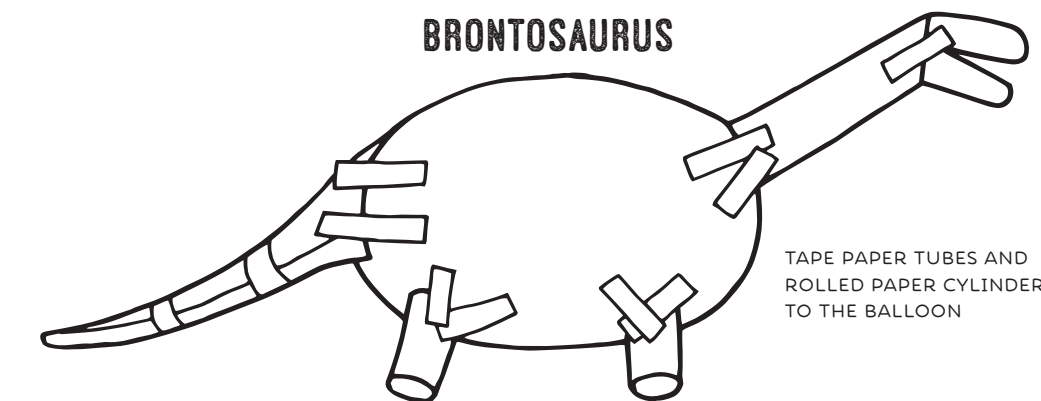
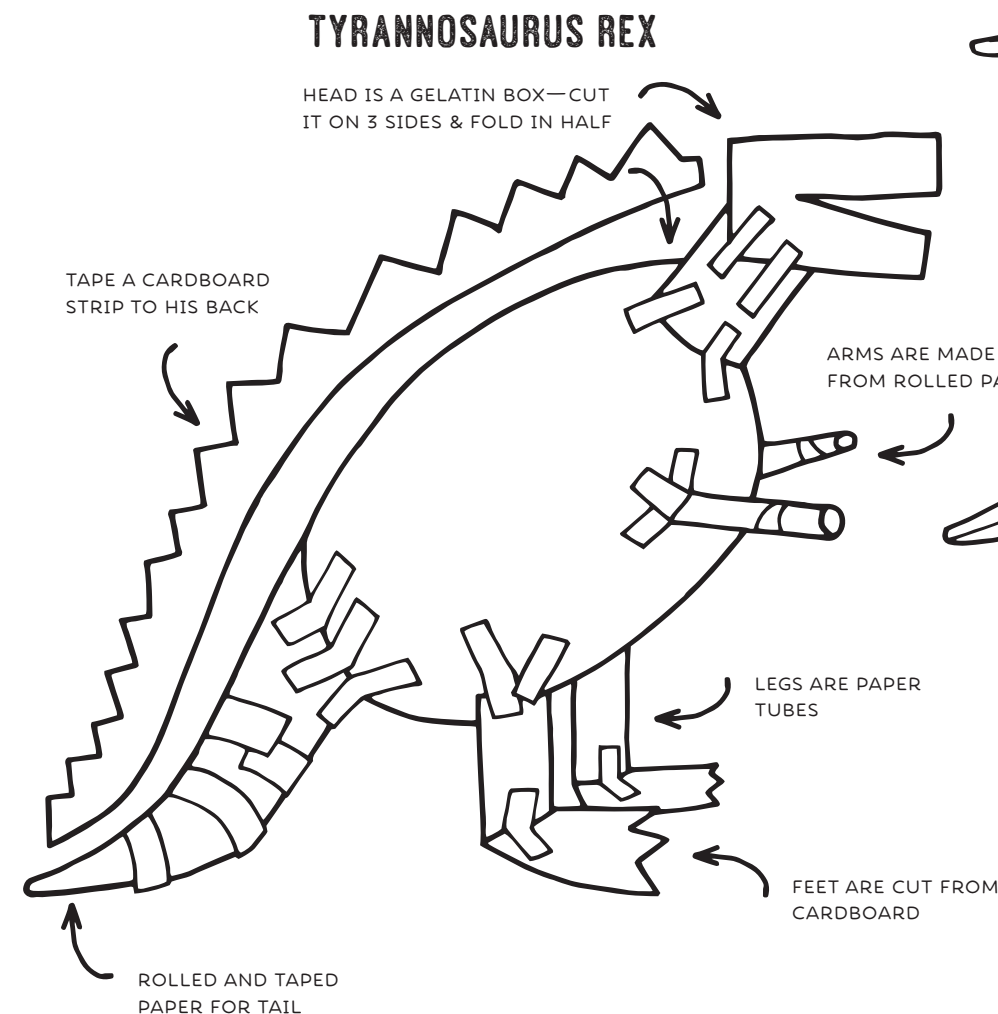
PAINTS: TEMPERA, ACRYLIC, OR LATEX

## PAPIER-MÂCHÉ PULP

IT'S EASY TO MAKE A THICK PULP THAT CAN BE MOLDED INTO SHAPES LIKE CLAY OR PRESSED INTO MOLDS, DRIED, AND PAINTED.

TEAR NEWSPAPER OR PULP PAPER EGG CARTONS INTO SMALL PIECES AND SOAK IN WARM WATER FOR SEVERAL HOURS. SQUEEZE THE EXCESS WATER OUT. SPRINKLE DRY WALLPAPER PASTE OVER THE PULP AND KNEAD WITH YOUR HANDS. WORK WITH YOUR FINGERS UNTIL THE PULP BECOMES SMOOTH AND PLIABLE.

THE PULP MÂCHÉ CAN BE USED TO CREATE UNIQUE PUPPET OR DOLL HEADS, SMALL ANIMAL SHAPES, OR ANYTHING THAT CAN BE SHAPED BY HAND. IT CAN ALSO BE PRESSED INTO CANDY MOLDS, OR GELATIN MOLDS THAT HAVE BEEN COVERED WITH PETROLEUM JELLY. PAPIER-MÂCHÉ PULP HAS BEEN USED FOR A LONG TIME AND WAS POPULAR IN THE VICTORIAN ERA WHEN USED TO CREATE CARVED-LOOKING PICTURE FRAMES, VASES, AND SMALL TABLES.



## BABY CHICK

You can buy yellow puffs at craft shops or make your own using baby powder and cotton balls. Place a couple of spoonfuls of the yellow powder tempera and a little baby powder into a paper sack. Add 2 cotton balls to the sack and fold the top closed. Shake the balls in the powder. Remove the cotton balls and shake lightly over the open sack.

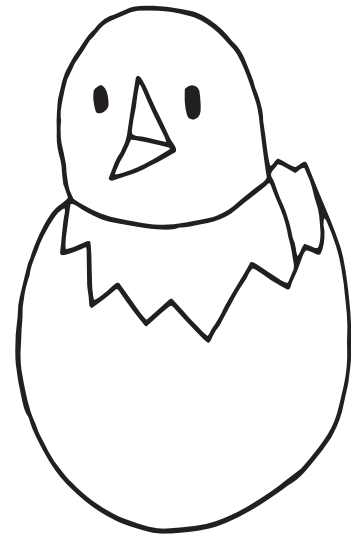
Glue 1 colored cotton ball in the half eggshell and the other ball on top of the first one.

Punch out 2 black eyes and cut out an orange beak from the colored paper. Glue in place.

## MATERIALS

COTTON BALLS  
YELLOW POWDER TEMPERA PAINT  
BABY POWDER  
PAPER SACK  
WHITE GLUE  
HALF OF AN EGGSHELL,  
WASHED & DRIED  
ORANGE & BLACK  
CONSTRUCTION PAPER  
HOLE PUNCH

# SPRING PETS



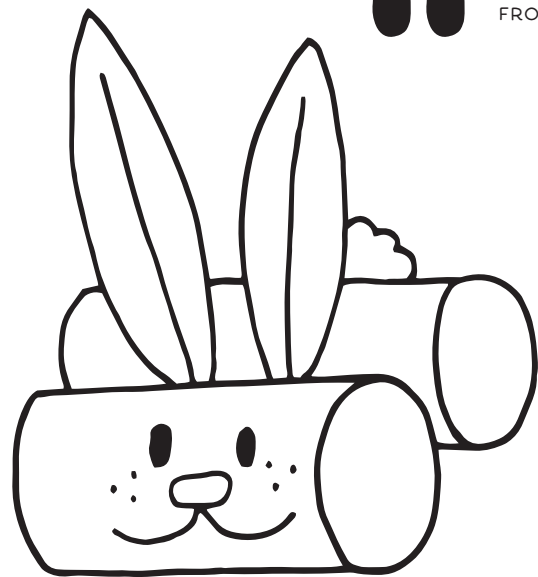
GLUE EGGSHELL TO A CARD  
SO IT WILL STAND UP



MOUTH: USE  
ORANGE PAPER



EYES: CUT OR PUNCH  
FROM BLACK PAPER



## SPRING BUNNIES

For each bunny, cut an 8 1/2 x 11-inch piece of pink construction paper into two pieces, one 5 x 11 inches and the other 3 1/2 x 11 inches. Cut out 2 ears from one end of the smaller strip of paper. Cut out 2 white circles for eyes.

Roll the pink pieces into two loops. Paste or tape to hold the position. Paste the ears in the middle of the 2 loops. Paste the 2 eyes on the smaller loop and a cotton ball on the back of the large loop for a tail.

## MATERIALS

SCISSORS  
CONSTRUCTION PAPER,  
WHITE & PINK  
PASTE OR TAPE  
COTTON BALL

## EGGSHELL MOSAIC

Save eggshells until you have enough for a project. Rinse and let them dry. Crush and store them in a container. When you have a couple dozen eggs' worth, make some dye by filling a jar with 1/2 cup of hot water. Add 1 teaspoon of vinegar and a few drops of food coloring. Drop some of the crushed shells into the water. Repeat with other colors of food coloring and more white shell pieces.

Let them soak a few minutes. Spoon them out and allow to dry on a cookie sheet. (Hurry this up by drying on the cookie sheet in a 200° F oven.)

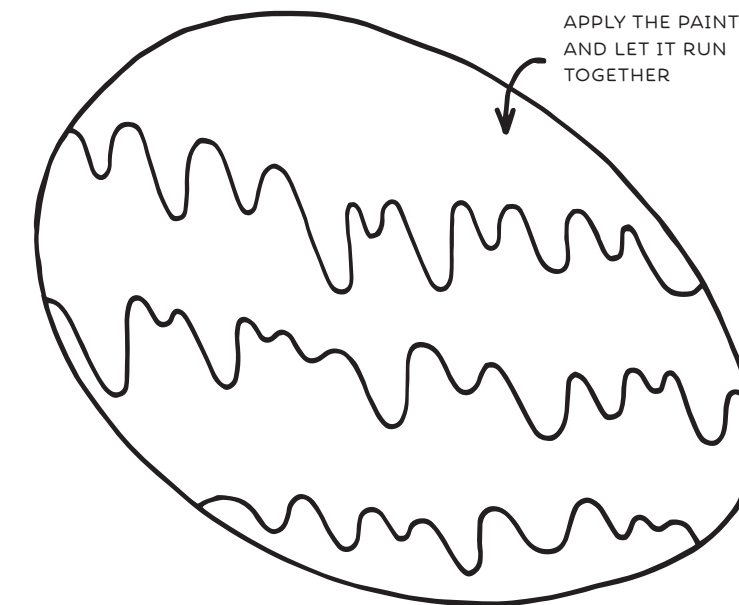
When you have a good assortment of different-colored shells, get your construction paper and glue. Using the cotton swab, paint a design on the paper using the glue. Then sprinkle the colored eggshells onto the glue and shake off the excess.

For variety, you can also use plain white eggshells on colored paper.

# EGGSHELL ART

## MATERIALS

WHITE EGGSHELLS, RINSED AND DRIED  
JAR  
HOT WATER  
VINEGAR  
FOOD COLORING  
CONSTRUCTION PAPER  
WHITE GLUE  
COTTON SWABS (LIKE Q-TIPS)



## GLOSSY EGGS

Cut large white egg shapes out of white construction paper. Mix 4 different colors of food coloring with the condensed milk in 4 separate paint cups. Keep the colors bright and pastel.

Use brushes or cotton swabs to generously paint the eggs in different colors as shown. While the paint is still wet, hang the eggs on a bulletin board with push pins, slanting the egg at an angle. Allow the egg paintings to dry. The paint colors will run together, creating designs that run in a diagonal direction. Allow them to dry for several days until the paint is dry and shines like enamel.

## MATERIALS

SCISSORS  
WHITE CONSTRUCTION PAPER  
FOOD COLORING  
SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK  
(ONE CAN)  
PAINT BRUSHES OR COTTON SWABS

# CRYSTAL GARDEN

An old-fashioned project that always provides wonder and excitement is the crystal garden. Gather several small stones or use barbecue briquettes. Either will work just fine. The bluing may be difficult to find. Look in the laundry supply section of grocery stores. It's in a small blue bottle, usually next to the starch and bleach products.

Place the briquettes or stones in the bowl. Mix all the other ingredients together, except the food coloring. Pour the mixture over the stones with a spoon. You may have extra; just store it in a covered container and add to the garden over the next few days to keep it growing.

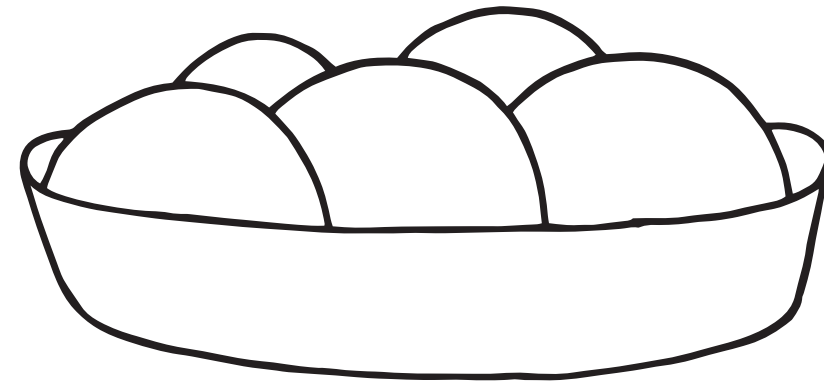
Drop food coloring over the coated stones.

Crystals will begin to form in about twenty minutes. Pour more solution and add more coloring every day, and the garden will continue to change and grow.

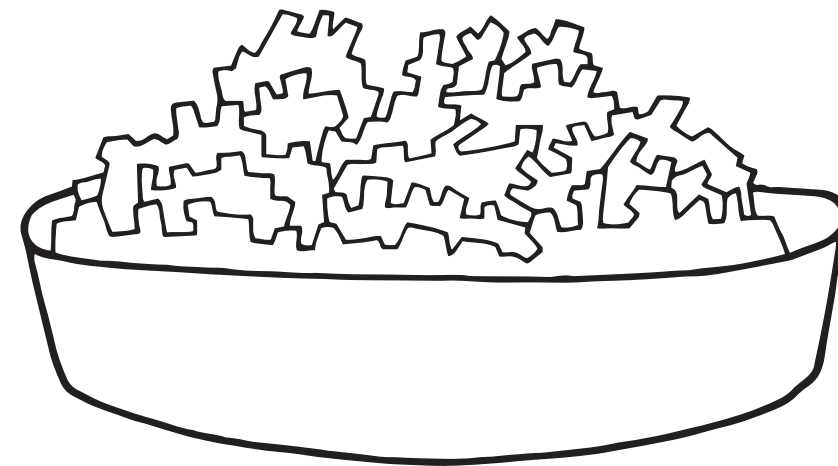
## MATERIALS

- 6 TO 7 CHARCOAL BRIQUETTES OR STONES
- SHALLOW BOWL
- 6 TABLESPOONS SALT
- 6 TABLESPOONS LAUNDRY BLUING
- 6 TABLESPOONS WATER
- 1 TABLESPOON AMMONIA
- FOOD COLORING

PUT STONES OR CHARCOAL BRIQUETTES IN A SHALLOW BOWL



ADD THE MIXTURE AND FOOD COLORING



THE GARDEN WILL MYSTERIOUSLY GROW

# WALKING SNAKE

You can make your own clever walking snakes that are sold at fairs and carnivals. As you walk, hold the wire in your hand and guide the snake along the ground. The wire will not be very visible, so the snake appears to walk alone.

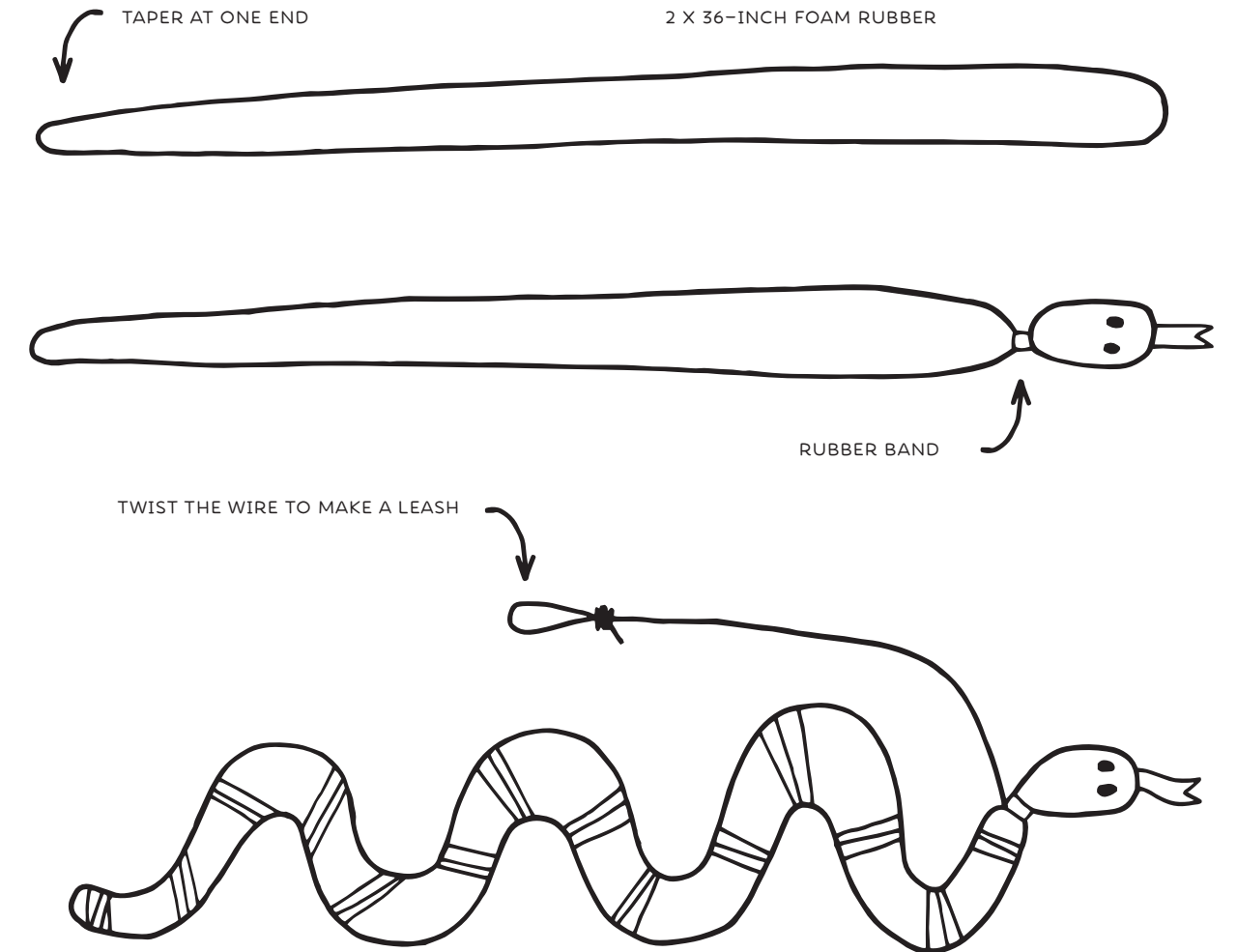
With scissors, trim the foam strip so it tapers to a point at one end. This will be the tail end.

Wrap the rubber band tightly around the other end, about 3 inches from the end. This will create a neck. Slip one end of the wire under the rubber band and twist it together firmly. With the snake on the floor and the wire in your hand, trim the wire, leaving 3 inches extra. Roll these 3 inches back and wrap it around itself to create a handle.

Decorate the snake with the markers, create a tongue out of felt, and glue it to the head. Draw on some eyes, and he's ready for a walk.

## MATERIALS

- SCISSORS
- FOAM RUBBER STRIP: 2 X 36 INCHES
- RUBBER BAND
- COPPER WIRE
- MARKERS
- SMALL PIECE OF RED FELT
- GLUE



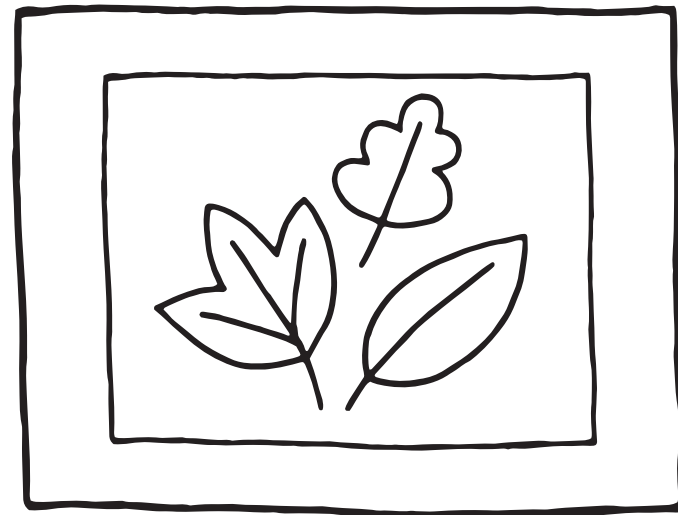
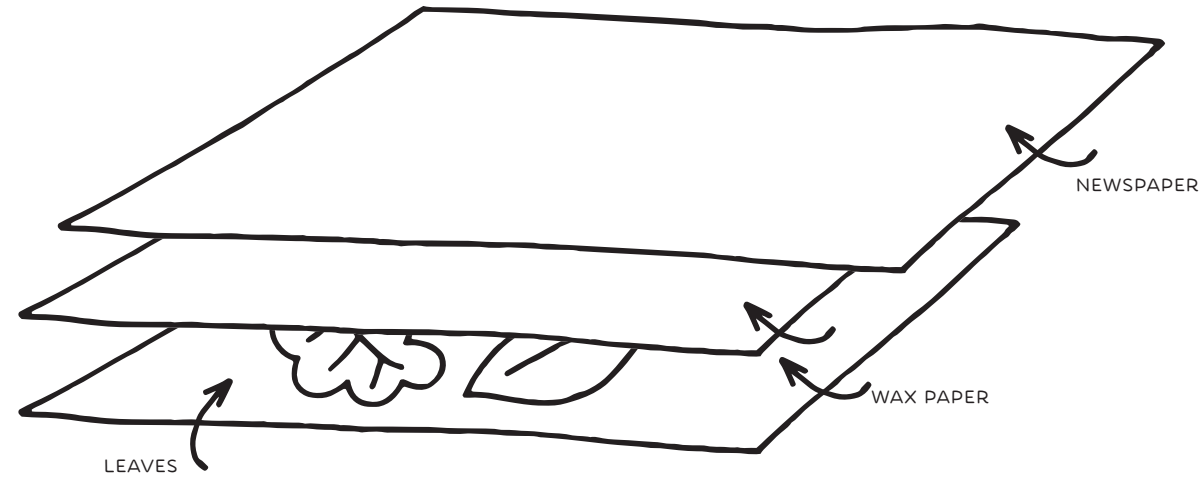
# STAINED GLASS LEAF PICTURES

Place a few leaves in an interesting arrangement between 2 pieces of wax paper. Lay a piece of newspaper over the wax paper. Press gently with a warm steam iron. The wax paper melts together, sealing around the leaf. Trim the wax paper edges with scissors and glue the construction paper strips over the edges, creating a frame.

These “stained glass” pieces look nice taped on windows so sunlight can shine through.

## MATERIALS

- COLORFUL FALL LEAVES
- WAX PAPER
- OLD NEWSPAPER
- STEAM IRON
- SCISSORS
- GLUE OR PASTE
- CONSTRUCTION PAPER STRIPS: 1 INCH WIDE



GLUE PAPER STRIPS TO CREATE A FRAME

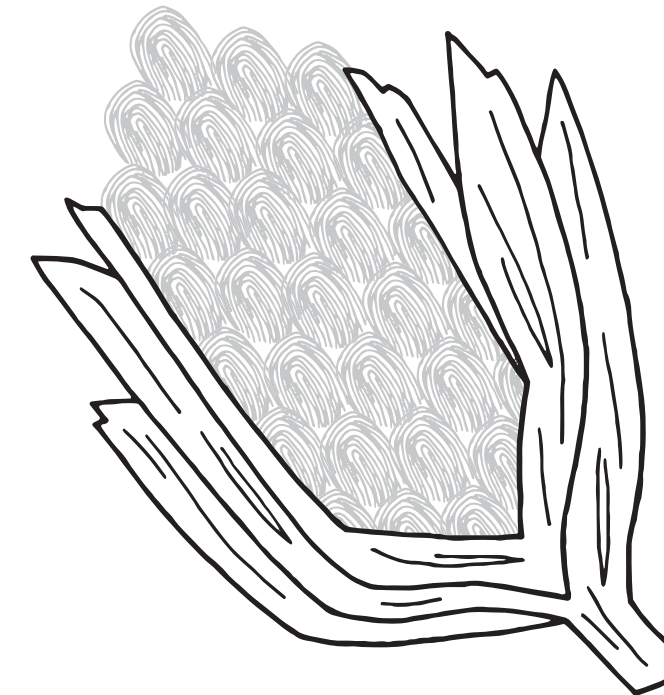
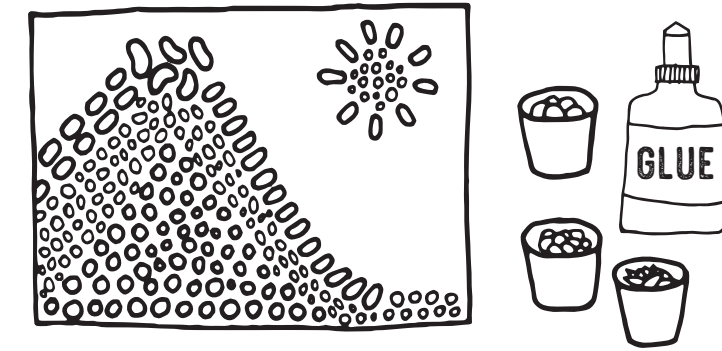
# SEED MOSIACS

It’s easier to work with a wide variety of seeds and pods if you sort each seed type into its own paper cup or small bowl. Then take out only what you need so they won’t get all mixed up. Start by spreading glue on a small area of the cardboard. Then set seeds into the glue in your own arrangement. You might want to create interesting patterns of shapes and colors or create a scene using the natural color and texture of the seeds to express your ideas.

## MATERIALS

- ASSORTED TINY SEEDS: CORN, BEAN, SUNFLOWER, FENNEL, DILL, WATERMELON, SQUASH, LENTILS, PEARL BARLEY, KIDNEY BEANS; ALSO SEED PODS FROM WEEDS, TREES, AND BUSHES
- PAPER CUPS OR SMALL BOWLS
- PIECE OF CARDBOARD
- WHITE GLUE

# NATURE ART



# INDIAN CORN COLLAGE

Draw an outline of a corncob if you choose, or do the printing freehand. Print kernels of corn by dipping your finger into the paint and pressing onto the paper. Keep changing colors without washing your finger, because Indian corn has blended colors. Press the paint spots in the shape of an ear of corn. When the paint dries, glue corn husks down so it looks more like a real ear of Indian corn. If you can’t find corn husks, cut out and glue on husks made from crepe paper or construction paper.

## MATERIALS

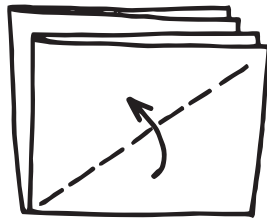
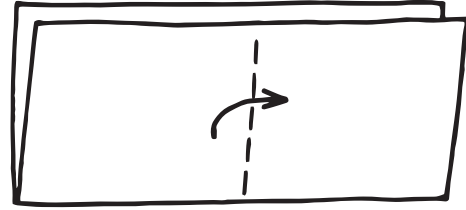
- CONSTRUCTION PAPER
- TEMPERA PAINT: ORANGE, YELLOW, AND BLUE
- DRIED CORN HUSKS (FROM LOCAL GARDENERS OR FARMERS, ROADSIDE STANDS, CRAFT STORE, OR MEXICAN FOOD SECTION OF GROCERY STORE)
- GLUE

# SNOW-FLAKES

When you think of winter, you probably think of snow! You can make decorative snowflakes out of lots of things. Folded and cut paper snowflakes are as easy or as complicated as you want to make them. Just fold a piece of white paper several times. Then make a variety of cutouts along the folds. Open up the piece of paper, and it's a snowflake. Just like in nature, no two are the same.

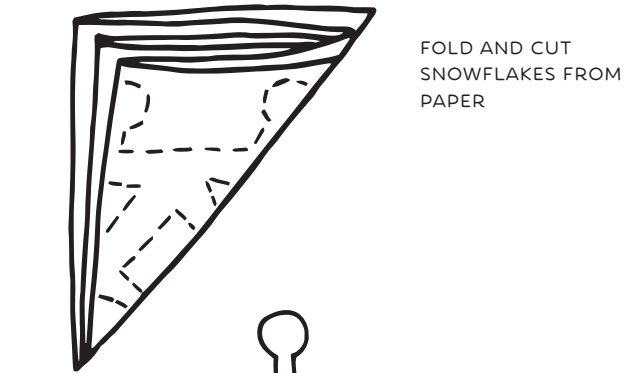
If you want to decorate your windows with painted snowflakes, do it the same way the window painters do for the holidays. Mix white tempera paint with a squirt of liquid dish detergent to make it easier to wash off the windows later. Use a paint brush and a corner of a sponge to dab on the white paint.

You can make snowflake decorations with toothpicks and miniature marshmallows. Insert toothpicks into marshmallows and connect to other toothpicks.

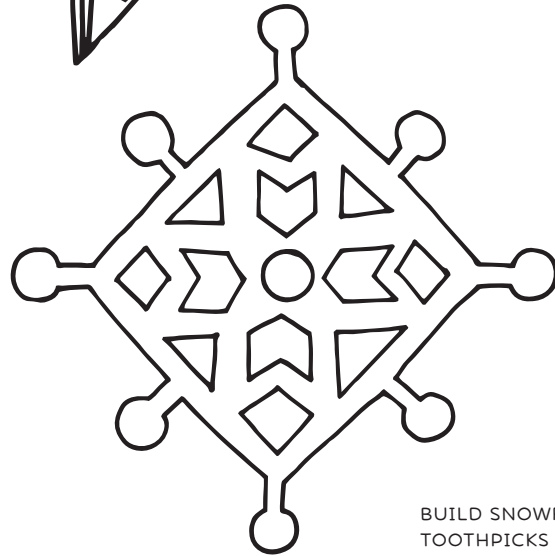


## MATERIALS

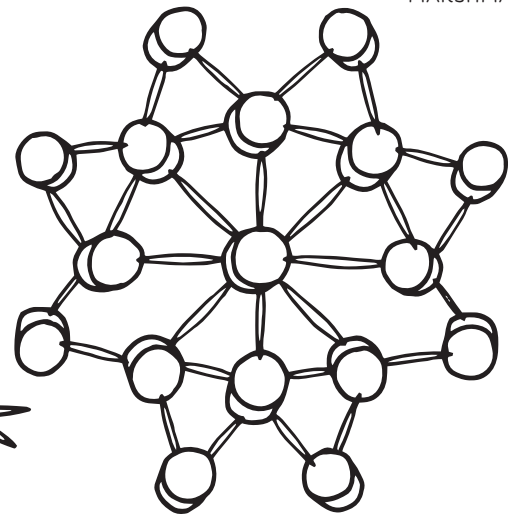
- PAPER
- SCISSORS
- WHITE TEMPERA PAINT
- DISH DETERGENT
- TOOTHPICKS
- MINI MARSHMALLOWS



FOLD AND CUT SNOWFLAKES FROM PAPER



BUILD SNOWFLAKES WITH TOOTHPICKS AND MINI MARSHMALLOWS



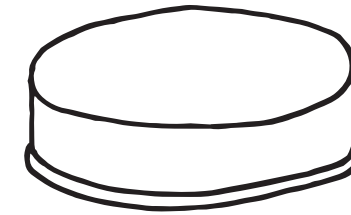
# SNOW GLOBE PAPERWEIGHT

Make one of those fascinating old-fashioned snowstorms in a jar for yourself or to give as a gift.

Put something interesting in the jar. You may want to use a small toy such as a tiny snowman or a tiny artificial pine cone and greenery. Use a hot glue gun to secure it to the bottom of the jar if you like. Fill the jar up to 1/4 inch from the rim with water. Spoon in some moth flakes. Put epoxy cement around the rim of the jar and on the jar lid. Screw the jar lid on firmly and let dry completely. When the cement is dry, turn the jar upside down and watch it snow!

## MATERIALS

- SMALL JAR WITH LID (A BABY FOOD JAR IS PERFECT)
- TINY TOY OR GREENERY
- HOT GLUE GUN AND GLUE
- WATER
- MOTH FLAKES
- EPOXY CEMENT



SHAKE UP A SNOWSTORM IN A JAR

