

# Arts & Crafts

## Gift Ideas

### A-Z Why I Love You

- Using the alphabet, tell your loved ones 26 reasons why you love them so much! (Frame it when you're done!)

### Favorite Memory

- Write up your favorite memory with your loved ones and explain why it is your favorite. Include pictures or a drawing to go with it!

### Collage of Pictures

- Gather pictures of you with your loved ones from the time you were a baby until now. Make a collage out of them and frame it for your loved ones.

### Coupon Booklet

- Make a book of different coupons your loved ones can "cash-in" anytime . Examples: Hug & Kiss, Movie Night, Dinner, Dessert, Breakfast in Bed, Washing the Dishes, Taking out the Trash, Folding Laundry, Babysit Younger Sibling, etc.

### Hand Lettering Art

- Design on a shape. On a piece of paper lightly sketch the shape. Write the same word or all different words within the shape. Use different types of lettering.



### Make Your Own Cartoon Strip

- Get creative and design your own cartoon characters and write a little comic strip to go with it!

# Tissue Paper Flower Bouquet

## Materials

- 12 Sheets of Tissue Paper (20"x26" or 20"x30")
- 12 Pipe Cleaners or other Flexible Wire
- Scissors
- A Vase

## Optional:

- Ribbon to decorate the Vase
- Scotch Tape to attach the Ribbon to the Vase
- A Ruler or Measuring Tape



## Step 1: Prep Your Paper

- Lay three sheets of unfolded tissue paper down on a flat surface. Stacking them on top of each other.

## Step 2: Fold Your Paper

- Place the tissue paper stack in front of you portrait style. Take the bottom edge and fold in over one inch. Then flip it over and fold it back on the other side. Continue folding your way up the paper one inch at a time.
- When you are done folding your tissue paper stack should look like an accordion.

## Step 3: Make Your Flowers

- Fold that accordion in half and fold an inch and a half of a pipe cleaner around it. Then twist the pipe cleaner together to secure the flower to the stem.
- Take two more pipe cleaners and attach them the same way, on each side, about 6-7 inches away from the center. The paper color at the top of the pipe cleaner will be your center color and the color at the base of the stem will be your bottom color. By placing the pipe cleaners in different directions you'll get opposite color combinations for your flowers. If you position your pipe cleaners all in the same direction your flowers will all be identical.
- Cut the paper into three equal sized pieces (about 6-7 inches long), the pipe cleaners should be in the center of each of the pieces. Adjust your pipe cleaners if necessary.
- Cut rounded edges on each end of your three flowers. You'll probably need to trim the outer edges a bit more than the inner edges to even them out. Catch paper trimmings in the bottom of the vase for decorative confetti.

- This is a great stopping point, if you want to prep all your tissue paper up to this point in advance. After this point your tissue paper flowers will take up more space and be more fragile.

#### Step 4: Fluff and Finish Your Flowers!

- While holding your stem (pipe cleaner), gently open up the flower accordion and begin pulling the top layer straight up all the way around the flower. Be careful not to rip the delicate paper. You usually can't tell if it's been ripped.
- Separate the other two layers by pulling the middle layer straight up toward the top layer, while pulling the bottom layer straight down.
- Finally, flip the flower upside down and gently run your fingers from the center stem to the edge applying gentle pressure, pressing the bottom layer down toward the middle layer.

#### Step 5: Arrange Your Flowers!

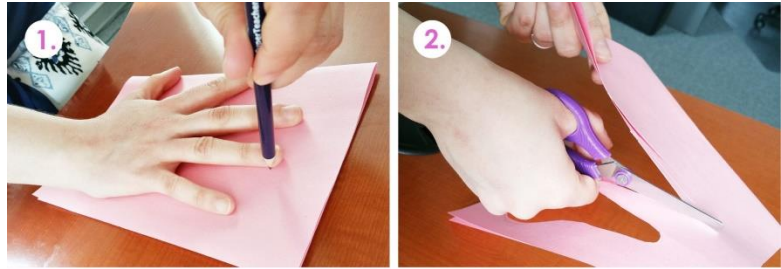
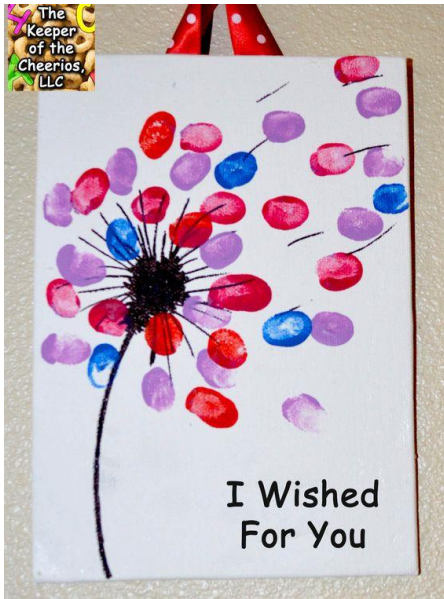
- For the first layer slightly bend your flower stems into the vase so your flowers are facing outward. Do the same with the second layer. For the top slide one to three more flowers on to the top. Adjust your flowers as necessary till you are happy with your arrangement(s).

\*If using ribbon it to decorate your vase. Cut a strip of ribbon and use double sided scotch tape to secure it to the vase.





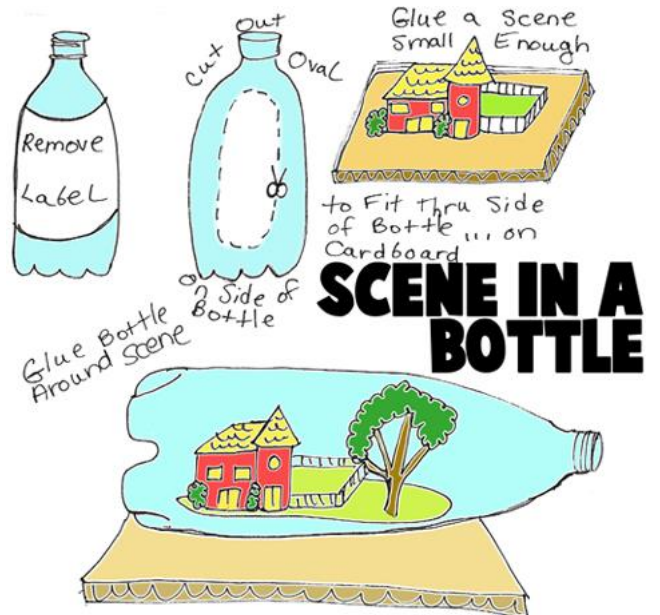
# Visual Examples & Ideas



## Easy Kids Egg Carton Art













# Macaroni Art

Dye or paint macaroni. Once it is dry use it to make different pieces of art. Make flowers, rainbows, deco-designs and more! (See the next page on tips to dying macaroni.)

## Materials Needed

- Different shapes of macaroni
- Food dye (liquid or gel; gel is more vibrant)
- Rubbing alcohol
- 2 ziplock bags per color
- Cookie sheets
- Wax paper
- Paper towels



## Instructions

1. Line a couple cookie sheets with wax paper and then a couple of sheet of paper towel.
2. Put some macaroni in a ziplock bag.
3. Add rubbing alcohol and food coloring. (~2 teaspoons rubbing alcohol and 10 drops of food coloring or if gel, enough food coloring scooped out with the tip of a steak knife).
4. Zip up the bag (be sure to let the air out) and insert it into a second bag.
5. Switch it around to mix up the macaroni and dye.
6. Do this for all colors.
7. When you have reached your desired colors, empty each bag in its own section of the cookie sheet.
8. Once the paper towel absorbs the extra liquid slowly remove it.
9. Let the macaroni sit until it's completely dry. If possible put it in the sun to dry.

For more in-depth instructions check out the website.



<https://hellosplendid.com/2013/08/how-to-make-the-best-dyed-pasta-ever.html>

# Homemade Play-doh

## Materials

- 2 cups plain flour (all purpose)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
- Up to 1.5 cups boiling water (adding in increments until it feels just right)
- food coloring (optional)
- few drops glycerin (optional- adds more shine!)

## Directions

1. Mix the flour, salt, cream of tartar and oil in a large mixing bowl.
2. Add food coloring to the boiling water then into the dry ingredients (color optional)
3. Stir continuously until it becomes a sticky, combined dough
4. Add the glycerin (optional)
5. Allow it to cool down then take it out of the bowl and knead it vigorously for a couple of minutes until all of the stickiness has gone. \* This is the most important part of the process, so keep at it until it's the perfect consistency!\*
6. (If it remains a little sticky then add a touch more flour until just right)
7. Store in ziplock bag or airtight container.





# Homemade Sidewalk Chalk

## Materials

- toilet paper or paper towel tubes
- scissors
- duct tape
- small bucket or disposable container to make the recipe
- waxed paper
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup warm water
- $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups plaster of paris
- 2-3 tablespoons tempera paint
- paper bag or a "mess mat"



## Instructions

1. If you are using paper towel tubes, cut each tube in half, so it is roughly the length of a toilet paper roll tube.
2. Cover one end of each tube with duct tape to hold the contents within.
3. Cut as many pieces of waxed paper as you have tubes, in pieces roughly 6 X 6 inches.
4. Roll each piece of waxed paper loosely and insert it into a tube so as to effectively line the tubes. The top of the paper will be higher than the end of the tube. The waxed-paper liner will keep the chalk mixture from sticking to the cardboard and will eventually be peeled off.
5. Pour the warm water into your bucket. Sprinkle the plaster of paris over the water and stir the mixture with a plastic spoon. The plaster of paris starts hardening within 20 to 30 minutes, so you need to work fast so that it does not harden too quickly.
6. Next, pour the tempera paint into the plaster of paris mixture and stir until it is mixed thoroughly. If you would like brighter colors, add more tempera paint to the mixture.
7. Stand each tube with the tape side down on a cookie sheet, flat baking dish, or box lid to make the project easier to transport to a drying location.
8. Pour or spoon the colored plaster of paris mixture into the waxed paper-lined tubes. Lightly tap the sides of the tubes to release the air bubbles (so you do not have holes in your chalk). When done, trim the excess wax paper so that it is closer to the cardboard tube.
9. It takes 3+ days for the chalk to dry. Make sure it is completely dry (not damp) before you peel the tube and wax paper off.
10. Go outside and use your chalk!

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/crafts-for-kids/homemade-sidewalk-chalk/>