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This darling craft makes a wonderful keepsake. Perfect for Mother's Day, Grandparent's Day or just to usher in spring.



### **What you'll need for the flowers:**

- Construction paper
- Acrylic paint
- Green chenille stems
- Scissors
- White craft glue

### **How to make it:**

1. Cut out simple flower shapes from construction paper.

2. Dip child's finger into acrylic paint and dab off excess, then press onto each petal. Dab a contrasting color into the center of the flower.
3. Cut chenille stem in half.
4. Glue chenille stem to the back of the flower.

### **Tips:**

- While this is a simple craft, if you are working with smaller children you may want to cut out the flower shapes ahead of time.
- If you don't have chenille sticks you can substitute with craft sticks or straws.
- You can use plain white paper and colorful paints if you don't have construction paper

### **What you'll need for the flower pot:**

- Styrofoam cup
- Small chunk of floral foam
- Colorful buttons
- White craft glue
- Yellow acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Scissors

### **How to make it:**

1. Paint cup yellow, inside and out and let dry completely.
2. Glue buttons around the rim of the cup and let dry.
3. Glue small chunks of floral foam inside the cup to insert stick flowers in to.

### **Tips:**

- Buy large bags of colorful buttons at your local craft store.
- Styrofoam cups and bowls are inexpensive and are great for craft projects.
- If using this project to hold paper flowers, shred or cut up some green construction or tissue paper to cover the flower foam.



This craft is an old favorite and we've given it a colorful twist. By using pretty water colors, you can make a large variety of beautiful blooms to decorate your home

### **What you'll need:**

- Basket coffee filters
- Water color paints
- Water
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- Green chenille stems (1 per flower)

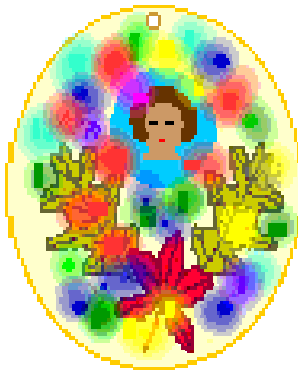
### **How to make it:**

1. Flatten coffee filter onto work surface (place some scratch paper or newspaper underneath).
2. Paint coffee filter with watercolor paint. Thin the paint more in some areas to make the color lighter. Use whatever combination of colors you like, we used two colors per flower. Let the filters dry completely.
3. Cut about 2" off the end of a chenille stem and set both pieces aside.
4. There are several different ways to make your flowers. You can fringe the ends in thin strips (leaving the center whole) to make the flower that resembles a pom pom. You can cut thicker strips, about 1" wide each, to make the petaled flower or don't cut the filter at all to make the rose.
5. Insert the large piece of green chenille into the center of the coffee filter about 1.5" in. Hold onto the small end and turn the flower upside down so that the long end of the chenille is sticking up.
6. Grasp the center of the coffee filter and gather it around the small end of the chenille.
7. Twist the smaller piece of chenille around the gathered filter to secure the flower in place. Turn the flower back over and fluff the petals as needed.

## Tips:

- No two coffee filters will look the same. Thin watercolors to make lighter shades and use thicker amounts for bolder shades.
- You can speed dry the coffee filters by laying them in a sunny window or blow drying them.
- Make your own designs by experimenting with different cuts and shapes

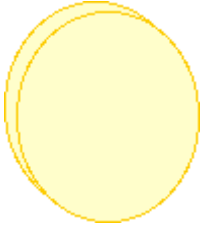
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## Pretend Stained Glass

This is an easy way to make pretend stained glass using:

- wax paper
- crayons
- crayon sharper (or a knife- to make crayon shavings)
- scissors
- any flat objects (like glitter, dried leaves, stickers, paper scraps, pictures from magazines, etc.)
- an iron. You'll encase the flat objects and crayon shavings in waxed paper, iron it, and then hang your masterpiece from a window!



Cut 2 pieces of waxed paper (the same size). Choose any size that you want your masterpiece to be. Cut them to be matching shapes.



Collect flat things that you want to encase in the waxed paper. Put one piece of the waxed paper on a flat surface. Arrange the objects on the paper. Add crayon shavings for color accents (these will melt later on). The easiest way to get crayon shavings is by using a crayon sharpener.



**This part is for an adult to do.** Put a few layers of newspaper on your ironing board. Put the waxed paper artwork on top of this. Put the second piece of waxed paper on top of the artwork. Carefully put a few layer of newspapers on top of the whole thing. Now iron it on medium heat, checking it frequently to make sure it isn't burning. Stop ironing when the waxed paper layers are stuck together and the crayon shavings are melted.

To help avoid unsealed parts, try to leave a rim of waxed paper around the edges without any fillings.



When the artwork has cooled off, trim the edges carefully; using pinking shears on the edges can look nice (don't trim right near any of the fillings). If there any unsealed parts, patch them with some transparent tape. Punch a hole near the top for hanging (or just use tape).

# MARY, MARY, QUITE CONTRARY



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Mary , Mary , quite contrary,

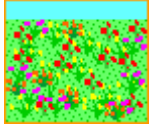
How does your garden    grow?

With silver bells  and cockle shells,



And pretty maids all in a row.  .

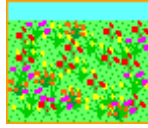




# Over in the Meadow

Written By: Olive A. Wadsworth (in the 1800's)

Over in the meadow,



In the sand in the sun,



Lived an old mother toadie,



@ZoomSchool.com

And her little toadie one,



"Wink!" said the mother;



@ZoomSchool.com

"I wink!" said the one,

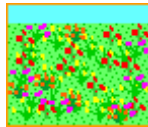


So they winked and they blinked,

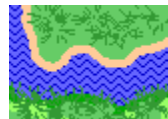
In the sand in the sun.



Over in the meadow,



Where the stream



runs blue,



Lived an old mother fish, 

And her little fishes two, 



"Swim!" said the mother; 

"We swim!" said the two, 

So they swam and they leaped,

Where the stream  runs blue. 

Over in the meadow, 

In a hole  in a tree, 

Lived an old mother bluebird, 

And her little birdies three, 

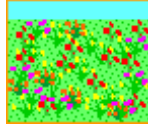
"Sing!"  said the mother; 

"We sing!"  said the three, 

So they sang  and were glad,

In a hole  in the tree. 

Over in the meadow,



In the reeds on the shore,

Lived an old mother muskrat,



And her little ratties four,



"Dive!" said the mother;



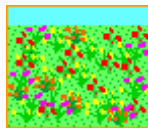
"We dive!" said the four,



So they dived and they burrowed,

In the reeds on the shore.

Over in the meadow,



In a snug beehive,



Lived a mother honey bee,



And her little bees five,



"Buzz!" said the mother;



"We buzz!" said the five,



So they buzzed and they hummed,

In the snug beehive.



## RELAXING FLOWERS

5 little flowers (hold 5 fingers up)  
Standing in the sun  
See their heads nodding (Nod fingers)  
Bowling 1 by 1 (Bow fingers)  
Down, Down, Down  
Falls the gentle rain (Flutter fingers down)  
And the 5 little flowers lift their heads again.

## THE FLOWER

Here is a green leaf (hold out hand)  
Here is another (hold out the other hand)  
That you see makes 2 (hold up 2 fingers)  
Here is a bud (cup hands)  
That makes a flower  
Watch it bloom (open hands slowly)

## FLOWERS

4 little flowers I did see  
I picked 1 and then there were 3  
3 little flowers pretty and new  
I picked another and then there were 2  
2 little flowers out in the sun  
1 picked another and then there was 1.  
I picked it too, and then there were none.

## Kool-Aid™ Painting Preschool Craft

Trying to do traditional tie-dye with a preschooler can be a disaster. This preschool everyday craft is age appropriate, non-toxic, and the results look great! Mix up a little Kool-Aid™ and vinegar, put it into squirt bottles and let your preschooler create a one of a kind t-shirt!



### What You Need

White Cotton T-shirt (or other garment you wish to paint)

4 Clean Empty Squirt Bottles (one for each color)

8 Packs of Unsweetened Kool-Aid™ (2 each of 4 flavours - dark colors work best)

2 Cups White Vinegar

2 Cups Water

Small Funnel

Glass Measuring Cup

Microwave

Iron



### How To Make It



#### Step One:

Mix ½ cup vinegar, ½ cup water, and 2 packs of the same flavour Kool-Aid™ in the measuring cup. Heat in microwave for 2 minutes. Water may be boiling so BE CAREFUL!! Preschooler can help to mix but parent should handle the hot liquid.

#### Step Two:

Use the funnel to pour the mixture into one of the squirt bottles. Set aside to cool.



### **Step Three:**

Repeat steps one and two for the other 3 flavours of Kool-Aid™.

### **Step Four:**

Hang your preschoolers t-shirt outside on a clothes line or you can lay it on the ground. After the mixtures have cooled to warm, let your preschooler squirt the t-shirt with the various color mixtures.



### **Step Five:**

Let the shirt dry outside. When dry, place between two towels and iron it to “set” the stain. Wait twenty four hours before washing in cold water. You may want to wash it separately for the first time in case color bleeds. Over time, the colors will fade.

## **Spring Blossom Tree Preschool Craft**

As spring arrives, the blossoms start to appear on the trees outside. Bring some of those blossoms indoors with this Spring Blossom Tree Preschool Craft. You’ll need to pop up some corn – for the craft and for snacking! This is a very quick and easy craft even for younger children. So sit down together with your preschooler and talk about the arrival of spring while enjoying a little snack!



### **What You Need**

Construction Paper for the Background

Brown Paint, Crayons, or Markers for the branches

Popped Popcorn

Glue

## How to Make It

**Step One:** Paint a tree with bare branches onto the construction paper with the brown paint. Or, you can draw one with brown crayons or markers.

**Step Two:** Have your preschooler glue pieces of popcorn onto the branches to make a blossoming tree.

**Step Three:** Eat the extra popcorn!

## Variations

Try using pink popcorn for a cherry blossom tree.



## MORE IDEAS

### Foot Flower

**What You Need:** Paint Paper

### **What You Do:**

Paint the bottom of the child's foot and let them put it on paper. They can then add a stem and what other decoration they choose to add to the picture.

### Butterfly Footprints

### **What You Need:**

- Large White Paper
- Paint
- Markers, Glitter, or Other Decorating Materials

### **What You Do:**

- Put the Children's footprints on the paper (separated to make wings of a butterfly) Then (after they have dried) let the kids design their own unique butterfly

## Grow Your Name

### **What You Need:**

- Small Box (roughly half the size of a shoe box)
- Grass Seed
- Potting Soil

### **What You Do:**

- Get small boxes, line them with plastic, and fill them with potting soil. Have your children scratch out their name in the soil. Have them sprinkle grass seeds into the name. Gently cover it with soil and soon you will have their name growing in a garden.

## Paper Plate Kite

### **What You Need:**

- Paper Plate
- Tissue Paper
- Streamers
- Crayons
- String
- Craft Sticks

### **What You Do:**

- Have your children draw a design (or make one with tissue paper) on the paper plate. Next have them glue foot long streamers on the paper plate. Finally punch a hole at the nose of the plate and tie a piece of yarn through it. Wrap additional yarn around a craft stick (tape the yarn to the stick) Now your children have a kite that will really fly on a windy day.

## Paper Plate Sunflower

### **What You Need:**

- Paper Plates
- Yellow Paper
- Paint
- Glue
- Sunflower seeds or Oatmeal

### **What You Do:**

- Give your children paper plates. Have them cut out pedals from the yellow paper and then attach them around the paper plate. They can then add sunflower seeds or oatmeal to the seed of the flower

## Rainbow From the Sky

### **What You Need:**

- Paper
- Crepe Paper
- Paint

### **What You Do:**

- Have your children cut a cloud from white paper. Next have them cut raindrops out of different shades of blue paper and lightning out of yellow paper. Have your children glue these on a piece of paper. Finally, have them glue strips of multi-coloured crepe paper on the cloud to symbolize a rainbow coming from the cloud. These turned out so cute!