

Spring Crafts

Coffee Filter Butterfly

These beautifully vibrant butterflies are a great way to welcome spring! Suspend them from the ceiling with fishing line, or make several and attach to a paper plate mobile.

What you'll need:

- ½ black chenille stem
- Paper coffee filter
- Water color paints
- Paint brush
- Water

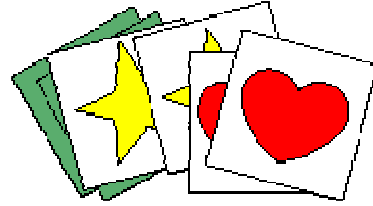
How to make it:

1. Flatten the coffee filter and place it on a plate or newspaper. Paint with water colour paints. The paint and water will soak through. Set aside on paper towels to dry.
2. Fold the chenille stem in half. Remember, you are only using half of a chenille stem to begin with.
3. Fold the coffee filter accordion style, in about ½" pleats.
4. Position the pleated coffee filter into the bent end of the chenille stem. Center the filter at the bend.
5. Twist the chenille stem around the filter to secure it in place.
6. Bend the tips of the chenille stems over about ¼" to create the antennae.
7. Fan out the butterfly wings.
8. If desired, hang with yarn or fishing line.



Memory Game

Kids can make their very own Memory Game with this easy cardboard craft--good for hours of educational fun.



What you'll need:

- Cardboard (gift boxes or cereal boxes)
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Crayons or markers
- Ruler

How to make it:

1. Cut the gift box so that it is just a plain flat surface that is the same size as the piece of construction paper.
2. Glue the paper onto the box and let it dry.
3. After it has dried, use the ruler to make an even amount of equally sized boxes.
4. Then, have the child draw sets of pictures in each box. For example: make two boxes have a star in them, and another two a heart, etc.
5. Cut out each individual box and the kids have made their own game of memory.

Paper Pinwheel

You only need a little wind to get your homemade pinwheel to spin around.

What you'll need:

- Square piece of sturdy paper
- Ruler
- Coin
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Thumbtack
- Dull or unsharpened pencil with an eraser on the end

How to make it:

1. Use the ruler to draw an X on the square piece of paper, from one corner to the other corner.
2. Place the nickel in the very center of the square and trace it.
3. If desired, decorate one or both sides of the paper, being sure you can still see your X and the circle in the middle.
4. Cut on each line of the X, beginning at each corner and stopping at the traced circle (be careful not to cut into the circle).

5. Fold every other point over, stapling the tip of that point to the center of the paper.
6. Push a thumbtack through the center of the pinwheel and attach it to the eraser at the end of the pencil.

Pet Rocks

Pet rocks are a fun way to express your creativity and your own personal style. Whether it's a cute animal or a creepy creature, this pet rocks craft for kids are lots of fun and have no limits!

What you'll need:

- Rock
- Acrylic craft paint
- Suggestion decorations: yarn, wiggle eyes, markers, glitter glue, sequins, beads, pom poms, etc
- White craft glue

How to make it:

1. Start by washing your rock with warm soapy water. If your rock is jagged or has nooks and crannies, use a scrub brush to get all the dirt out.
2. Decorate your rocks however you like using just about anything. If it will stick, use it!
3. To make our Pet Rock Piggie, paint a smooth oval shaped stone with pink acrylic paint and let dry.
4. Glue a pink button to the center of the rock and two miniature pink pom poms toward the top for ears.
5. Use the handle end of a paintbrush dipped in white paint to create the whites of the eyes. After that dries repeat the process with black paint to add the blacks of the eyes.
6. Add a little red paint to the pink paint in your palette and dip your finger in. Dab off excess and put a spot on either side of the "nose" as the rosy cheeks.
7. Use a black fine tipped marker to dot on freckles.
8. To make our Pet Rock Monster, paint a bumpy or odd-shaped rock green and let dry.
9. Paint a bean shape on for the mouth with black paint and let dry.
10. Use a toothpick and white paint to paint on pointy teeth onto the black mouth.
11. Use the handle end of a paintbrush to dot on eyes with white paint. Use a toothpick to add the black dots for the eyes after the whites have dried.
12. Use a black marker or a toothpick dipped in black paint to add eyebrows.
13. Cut yarn into ½" lengths.



14. Add some white craft glue to the top of the rock monster's "head" and thin it out with your finger. You should have a layer, but not too much or the yarn will slide off.
15. Gently place the yarn pieces, standing up, on top of the glue and let dry completely.
16. Use the handle end of a paintbrush to dot on yellow spots.
17. When projects are completely dry, spray with acrylic sealer spray.

Tips:

- Use your imagination; match your pet rock colors to your room or school colors.
- Cut ears out of felt to make a floppy eared puppy dog!
- Pet rocks are great for paperweights, so these make a great addition to any desk.

Spring Poems

What the Robin Told

The wind
told the grasses,
And the grasses
told the trees.
The trees
told the bushes,
And the bushes
told the bees.
The bees
told the robin,
And the robin
sang out clear:
Wake up!
Wake up!
Spring is here!



Little Brown Seeds

Little brown seeds so small and round,
Are sleeping quietly under ground.
Down come the raindrops
sprinkle, sprinkle, sprinkle.
Out comes the rainbow,
twinkle, twinkle, twinkle.
Little brown seeds way down below,
Up through the earth they grow, grow, grow.
Little green leaves come one by one.
They hold up their heads and look at the sun.



CATKIN

author unknown

I have a little pussy,
And her coat is silver-grey;
She lives in a great wide meadow
And she never runs away.
She always is a pussy,
She'll never be a cat
Because---she's a pussy willow!
Now what do you think of that?

