

Easy Paper Crafts in 5 Steps

Introduction:

This teacher's guide helps teach young children how to create paper crafts by using five simple steps. Children will use their imaginations and artistic abilities to create numerous crafts that can be used throughout the curriculums. The steps are clear and simple and can enable the child to demonstrate and express their ideas in their own unique ways. By using a star system each activity is categorized by difficulty level. This way you can provide a successful outcome for children of all levels and artistic abilities.

National Standards:

This series supports the Language Arts curriculum. Go to www.enslowclassroom.com or www.enslow.com and click on the Curriculum Correlations tab. Click on your state, grade level, and curriculum standard to display how any book in this series backs up your state's specific curriculum standard.

Classroom Activities

Activities for teaching the five curriculum areas: Reading/Language Arts; Math, Science; Social Studies; and the Arts, can be found in this teacher's guide.

Guided Reading Level: n/a

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Teacher's Guide

The following information on the history of paper can be used to help give children additional understanding of paper's origins and its use.

There were many predecessors to what we know today as "paper." In fact, the word "paper" itself comes from "papyrus," a plant used by ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans to produce a parchment-like material. Some historians maintain a type of material more closely resembling paper was invented around 100 BC by Ts'ai Lun, a Chinese government official.

It took centuries for the concept of paper to reach to different parts of the world. The knowledge of paper making eventually spread from China to India and central Asia. Papermaking skills were transmitted to Europe by Islamic craftsmen. An exponential growth of European paper production took place in the 15th Century, when the German printer Johannes Gutenberg created the first printed Bible. Paper making remained an artisanal occupation until the 19th Century, when the process became industrialized.

Suggested websites:

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/literature/paper.htm>

<http://users.stlcc.edu/nfuller/paper>

The Five Curriculum Activities

Safety Warning:

Before any activity, make sure your students do not have any allergies to any of the items you might use. Discuss the proper use of scissors and how to carry them and use them safely. Make sure an adult supervises all activities to ensure the students' safety.

Reading/Language Arts activity: Make the craft project "Day and Night". Extend the lesson by teaching the children about antonyms. Children can then go on to make their own pictures showing two opposites.

Math activity: Children can address the topic of measurement by asking questions while making their paper baskets. How long are the strips? How wide are they? Give the children specific measurements to use so they can practice using a ruler.

Science: Talk about the process of a caterpillar turning into a butterfly. Go over the steps in the process-. Have children make their own butterflies.

Social Studies activity: Using transportation as the activity's focus, children can make the paper bus. Discuss different means of transportation. What do you think is the fastest? What is the slowest? What form of transportation could you use to get from one city to another, one state to another, one continent to another? Have children make paper pictures of different forms of transportation. (Encourage them to be creative. For example, they can draw a hot air balloon, bikes, roller blades, etc.)

Art activity: Have children make surprise cards to thank someone in their school, community or family for doing something special for them. Explain the importance of saying thank you and doing things for others. Ask them how it makes one feel when someone says thank you. Ask them some things one can do to help others.

Handout

Match the antonyms. Draw a line to the matching opposite

1. big

A. light

2. pretty

B. sad

3. fast

C. little

4. dark

D. fat

5. day

E. ugly

6. long

F. slow

7. happy

G. short

8. thin

H. night