

SCHOOL AGE

Week

38

Smart Activities



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Suspension Bridge Part I

Materials: colored pencils, construction paper (white, black), crayons, glue, cardboard tubes (6), scissors, spray bottle, washable markers (blue, green), water

Preparation: Prepare area with newspaper. Gather materials. Cut two cardboard tubes in half. Add water to the spray bottle.

Instructions:

1. For water under the bridge, use blue and green washable markers and make wide stripes on large piece of white construction paper.
2. Lightly spray water over the stripes and notice how they blend. Allow to dry.
3. After drying, use glue and paste paper on a large piece of cardboard, ex: pizza box.
4. For the towers and anchorages, draw vertical stripes on black construction paper with colored pencils and crayons.
5. Utilize scissors to cut the construction paper to fit around paper towel rolls.
6. Glue paper around the rolls and allow to dry.



Balloon Animal Race

Materials: balloons, clip (chip clip or binder clip), construction paper, glue, googly eyes, scissors, string, straws, tape

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Blow up a balloon and clamp the balloon using a chip clip or binder clip.
2. Cut out ears, antlers, etc. for your animal.
3. Then, glue and/or tape the ears, googly eyes, etc. to the balloon.
4. Tape the straw to the top of the balloon and run the string through the straw.
5. Anchor the ends of the string to chairs, staircase banister, or something similar.
6. When you are ready, remove the clip and you are off to the races.



My Piñata

Materials: 2 cups flour, 2 cups water, bowl, 1 balloon, smaller balloons (optional), newspaper strips, paint, crayons or markers, tissue paper, colored crepe paper, string, candy (that will go inside)

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Blow up a large balloon and tie the end securely.
2. Mix flour and water together in a bowl until it makes a smooth paste.
3. Cut newspaper into long 1-inch thick strips and dip into the flour/water mixture, creating Paper Mâché strips.
4. Carefully place the strips of newspaper on the balloon in a single layer, patting the paper smooth until the balloon is covered. Leave only a hole at the top large enough for candy. Set aside and allow the balloon to dry completely overnight.
5. Place another layer of newspaper strips dipped in the mixture over the balloon and let that dry. Repeat with one more layer, making sure you leave the hole at the top. When completely dry, pop the balloon, and remove any balloon bits that remain.
6. Use wadded paper, lightweight wire shapes or smaller Paper Mâché covered balloons to create noses, ears, arms, legs, or other details to make your piñata into the shape you want.
7. Paint your piñata or cover it with layers of bright tissue paper in colors to match your party theme. If desired, hang colored crepe paper from the sides and bottom.
8. Punch 2 small holes in the top near the opening and string a large piece of string through the two holes.
9. Fill your piñata (through the hole you left at the top) with candy, toys, or any other fun surprises. Mix the treats with strips of newspaper or small wads of tissue paper to keep the treats spread throughout the piñata.



Suspension Bridge Part II

Materials: cardboard, colored pencils, construction paper, crayons, glue, markers, pipe cleaner (yarn is fine as well), scissors

Preparation: Prepare work area with newspaper. Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Glue towers to the water base. Allow to dry.
2. Construct cables by cutting small slits into each tower and anchorage.
3. Make a knot at the end of a pipe cleaner and lodge it into the slit so it will not come out.
4. Make additional cable length by wrapping pipe cleaners tightly together.
5. Hang cables in an arc from tower to tower and from tower to anchorage.
6. Do this on both sides of the bridge.
7. Then, measure the length and width of cardboard or construction paper for your bridge deck and cut out.
8. Create bridge deck seams with crayons or markers.



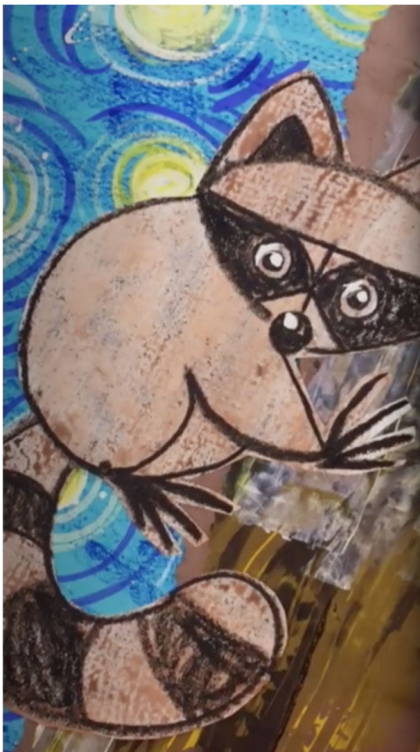
Raccoon at Night – Artist Inspiration: Charley Harper & Vincent Van Gogh

Materials: chalk pastels, oil pastels, paper, watercolors, acrylic paint (brown, black, white), glue, old credit card or piece of cardboard, scissors, textured items that are flat (ex: burlap, placemats, bubble wrap, etc.), internet access, website: https://youtu.be/NFkZoHOew_k

Preparation: This lesson will review art vocabulary: lines, texture, symmetry, collage. Preview the video for complete step-by-step instructions.

Instructions:

1. Prepare one piece of paper with a texture by making a rubbing with the textured item and light gray chalk pastel.
2. Draw the raccoon in the style of Charley Harper using the video tutorial step-by-step. Use the pause button if the instructions go to fast.
3. On another piece of paper, create the tree trunk texture by scraping the acrylic paints across the paper in one direction. When dry, carefully tear a tree trunk shape to fit the background paper. If needed, collage a few pieces of the tree trunk together to make it big enough.
4. On a third piece of paper, create the night sky background that is inspired by Van Gogh's painting "Starry Night."
5. Glue the tree trunk on the background paper, and then glue the raccoon onto the tree. Allow to dry. Then, hang to display.
6. The image below shows a raccoon in a different position. What else can you create with the new techniques in this activity?



For the Birds- Dinner is Served

Materials: bird seed, craft sticks (jumbo), hot glue gun (**adult assistance needed**), twine

Preparation: Gather supplies.

Instructions:

1. First, draw out your design. It can be simple or fancy. See pictures below for a few ways to build it.
2. Now, lay out at least six craft sticks (more if you want a bigger base) next to each other to create the bottom of your bird feeder.
3. Next, lay out two sticks across the six base sticks towards the ends of each side of the sticks. This will be your base to hold all of them together. Glue them down using your glue gun.
4. Then take two more sticks and place across the four corners of your sticks and glue on top. This will be going in the opposite direction. (See Step 4 picture below.)
5. Now it is time to build a perch for the birds. You will add glue to the middle of the craft stick. Then glue it the opposite direction of the last sticks you had glued. (See Step 5 picture below.)
6. Next continue building sticks around the outside in the square pattern alternating sticks and gluing. Until you get the height you want. If desired, you can also add sticks horizontal and a roof.
7. Once you have completed your pattern, add your twine. First, cut your twine into four pieces (each about 2 feet long). Tie each piece to the corner of the Popsicle stick one level down. This will distribute the weight of the filled bird feeder from the top sticks. Lastly, you will want to tie the ends. Create a simple loop by not pulling the ends through the knot fully. This will make a loop.
8. Fill it up with seed and set up in a place where you can watch the birds enjoy their treat.



Step 4



Step 5



Suspension Bridge Part III

Materials: glue, pipe cleaner (yarn is fine as well), scissors

Preparation: Prepare work area with newspaper. Gather materials and bridge.

Instructions:

1. Suspend the deck of your bridge. Bend the tip of a pipe cleaner around the cable on one side of the bridge. Then, pass it under the deck and bend the other tip to fasten it to the cable on the other side.
2. Repeat this for the entire bridge to hold up the deck.
3. Using construction paper, cut out caps for the towers and anchorages.
4. Glue caps on towers and anchorages.
5. Allow to dry.
6. Suspension Bridge is complete! Good Job!!



Rainbow Water Xylophone

Materials: food coloring, glasses (6, all the same size), pencil, water

Preparation: Gather materials.

Instructions:

1. Set out all your empty glasses.
2. Fill each of the 6 glasses with different amounts of water.
3. Now, add food coloring to each of the glasses making the colors of the rainbow (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple).
4. Picking up your pencil and gently strike each glass. What do you hear? What do you notice about the pitch sound? Did you notice the higher the water level in the glass the lower the pitch?
5. Now it is time to make your own music. Using your pencil (you can even try a metal spoon), carefully tap each glass and make up your own tune.
6. If possible, have other friends join in and make your own Rainbow Water Xylophone Band.
7. Experiment with different shapes and sizes of glasses.

