

**CRAFTY VISIONS**  
Newsletter

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Summer - 2002

# CRAFTY VISIONS

## Newsletter

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### Laurieann's Note

Hi Fellow Crafters, This issue is packed full of Summer Fun! Check out all the fun projects including a Bead Frog, pet rocks and more!

We would like to thank *Enterprise Art* for the fun [Beady Frog](#) project, *Pat's Web Graphics* for the crafty line breaks and Bluebonnet Crafters for their continued support for *Crafty Visions Newsletter*. Please check out all their web sites which are listed in the [Contributors](#) section.

Sincerely,

*Laurieann*<sup>TM</sup>



### Crafty Visions Classifieds

#### [Enterprise Art.](#)

You'll find the broadest range of beads and craft accessories as well as helpful hints and instructions for outstanding craft projects in our new Complete Craft Lovers' Guide..

<http://enterpriseart.com>

#### [Pat's Web Graphics .](#)

Pat's Web Graphics specializes in graphics for small business as well as personal home pages.

E-mail:  
<http://www.patswebgraphics.com/>



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Other Crafty Sites!



Everything Crafts!



Dolls! Dolls! Dolls!

On-line Shops, Bulletin Boards, Mailing List, Chat Rooms, Virtual Cards, Awards, Gallery, Free Patterns and Tips, Doll Challenges, Profiles, Books, Online Classes and more. All on [The Doll Net!](#) --->  
<http://TheDollNet.com>



Learn Arts, Crafts, and Dollmaking without leaving home! Visit the Online Campus or [Crafty College](#) - <http://CraftyCollege.com>



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[craftbooks@yahoo.com](mailto:craftbooks@yahoo.com).



**BluebonnetCrafts Mailing List** - A craft email list, sponsored by the *Bluebonnet Crafters*, where you can ask crafty questions, help us answer others and enjoy sharing talk about crafts.

[Sign Up Now!](http://bluebonnetvillage.com/happens.htm) - <http://bluebonnetvillage.com/happens.htm>

**Cats Paw Doll Accessories** - Many New Items..

Purse Frames, Locketts, Pendants, Sewing Accessories, Buttons and Clasps, Pins, Earrings, Trunk and Box Trim, Kits, Grooming Accessories and More!

New Book - Pin Cushion Dolls and Whimsies!

Visit us at <http://catspawonline.com>



## Announcements



[Everything Crafts!](#)



*Silk Ribbon Embroidery*

Silk Ribbon Embroidery Class Online!

[Click HERE for More Information.](#)

Online Craft and Doll Classes!

Crafty College

<http://CraftyCollege.com>

## "Primrose"

Dollmaking and Wet Felting Class!

by *Kathy Hays*



Click [HERE](#) for more info.

Crafty College

<http://CraftyCollege.com>

### The Results are In and Online!

There has been a great response to our newest class at Crafty College! The dollmaking and wet felting class was "Primrose" by Kathy Hays. This also was our first class that included optional VIDEOS!

The class results speak for themselves! Check out the dolls and comments made by the first graduates of Kathy's class at <http://dollnetcampus.com/alumnihall/primrose.html>

If you are interesting and joining us for the next class, registration is now open! Go to

<http://craftycollege.com/academics/dollclasses.html>

for more information on the class and to register today!



## Contributors:

*Bluebonnet Crafters*

e-mail: [bluebonnet@BluebonnetVillage.com](mailto:bluebonnet@BluebonnetVillage.com)

URL: <http://www.BluebonnetVillage.com>

*Enterprise Art*

URL: <http://enterpriseart.com>

*Pat's Web Graphics*

URL: <http://www.patswebgraphics.com/>

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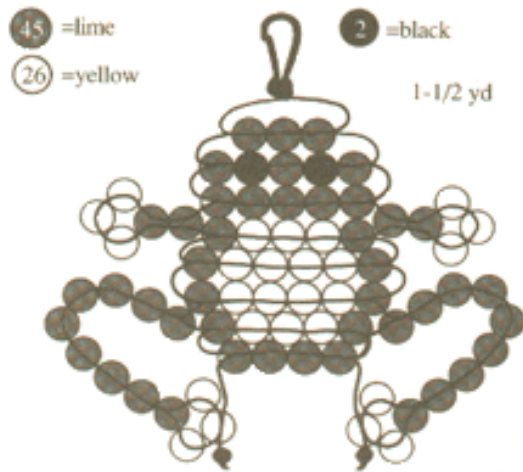


## Bead Frog



### Materials:

**45 Green Pony Beads # 1456-55**  
**26 Yellow Pony Beads # 1456-49**  
**2 Black Pony Beads # 1456-99**  
**1 Lanyard Hook # 21599-161**  
**1-1/2 yds Rattail Cord**  
**Tools Needed: Scissors, Glue**



**Instructions:**

- 1. Find the half way point on the cord and tie the lanyard hook on.**
- 2. Apply a drop of glue to the ends of the cord, this will stiffen the cord and keep the ends from fraying.**
- 3. Slip beads on and criss-cross cords through as shown in illustration.**
- 4. Tie a knot in each cord and glue knot to secure. Trim excess cord. Bend legs in and slip ends of cord through yellow bead on feet as shown.**

This project is provided by [Enterprise Art](#). Visit their site for online purchase of the beads.

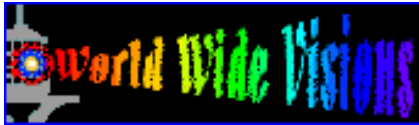
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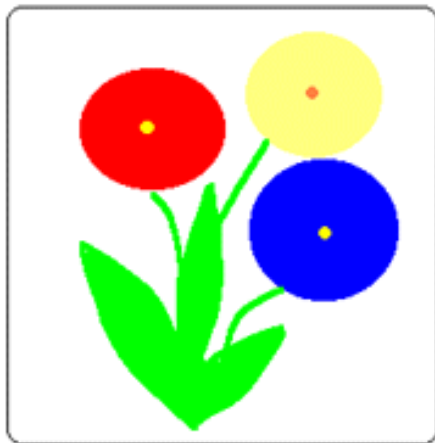
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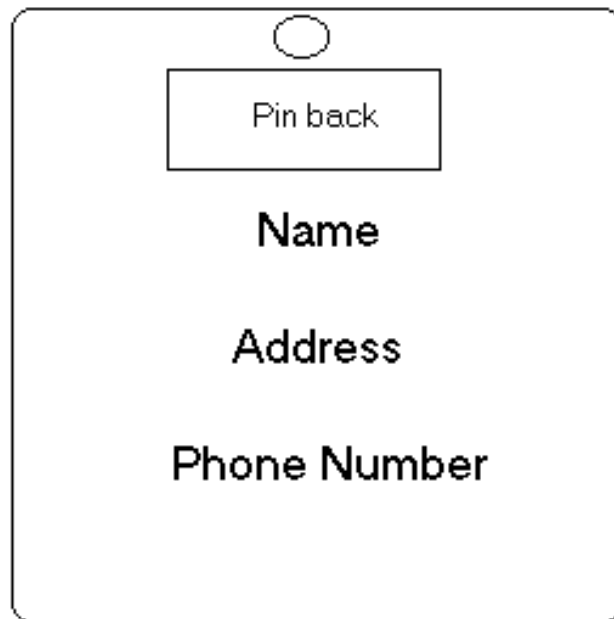


## Name Tag

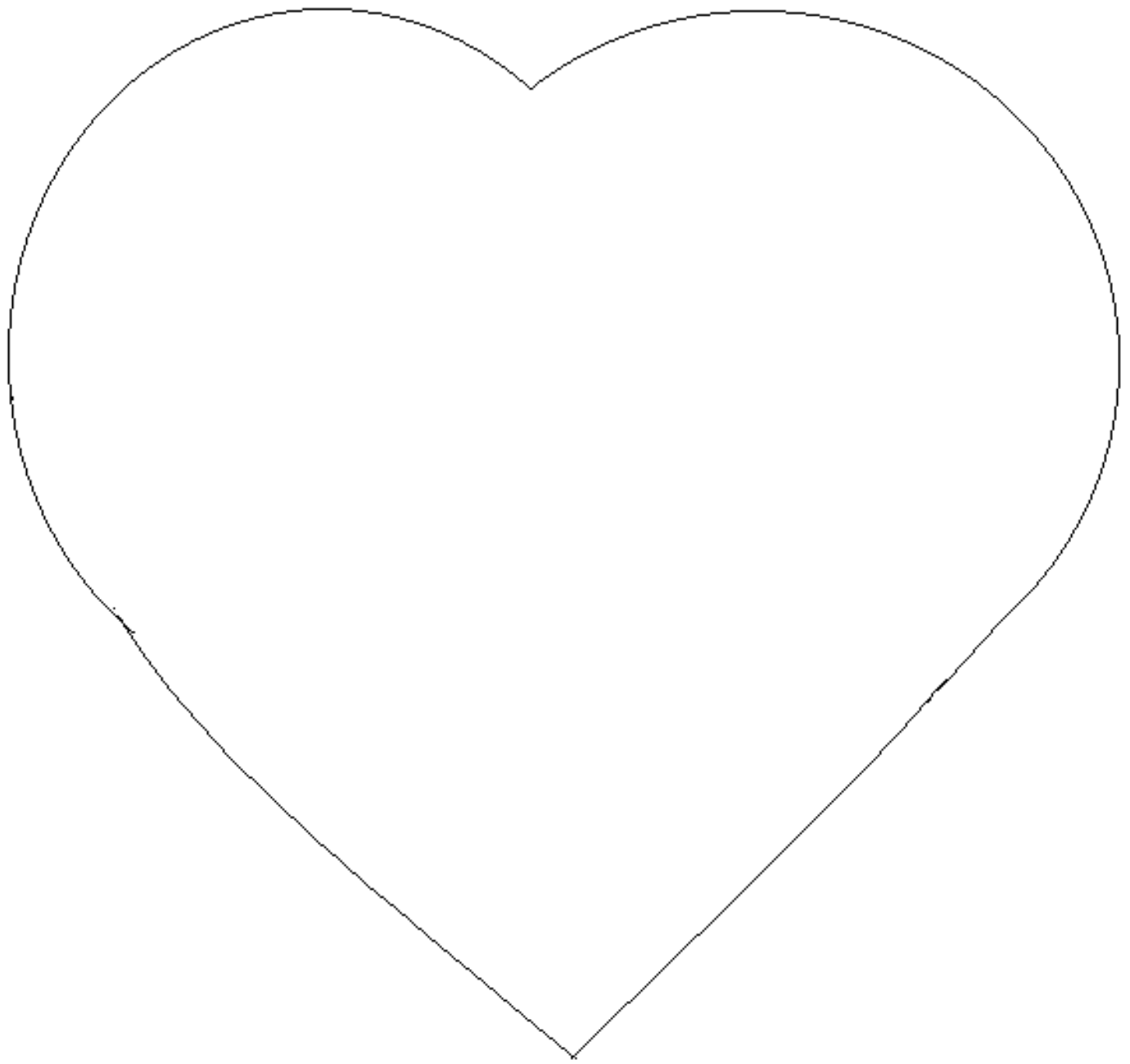
These tags can be made with name and address to be added to luggage, book bags or clothing. **\*\* Note:\*\*** It is not a good idea to place name tags or other identifying information where it can be read by the casual stranger. With a picture on one side and the name and contact information on the back the opaque name tag can be worn picture side out but if the book bag, jacket, etc. is lost then the contact information is available.



Front of tag



Back of tag



**Materials:**

**For each tag approximately 6" square piece of opaque Shrink Art plastic**

**Small piece of sandpaper**

**Colored pencils**

**Oven or toaster oven with adult supervision**

**Hole punch**

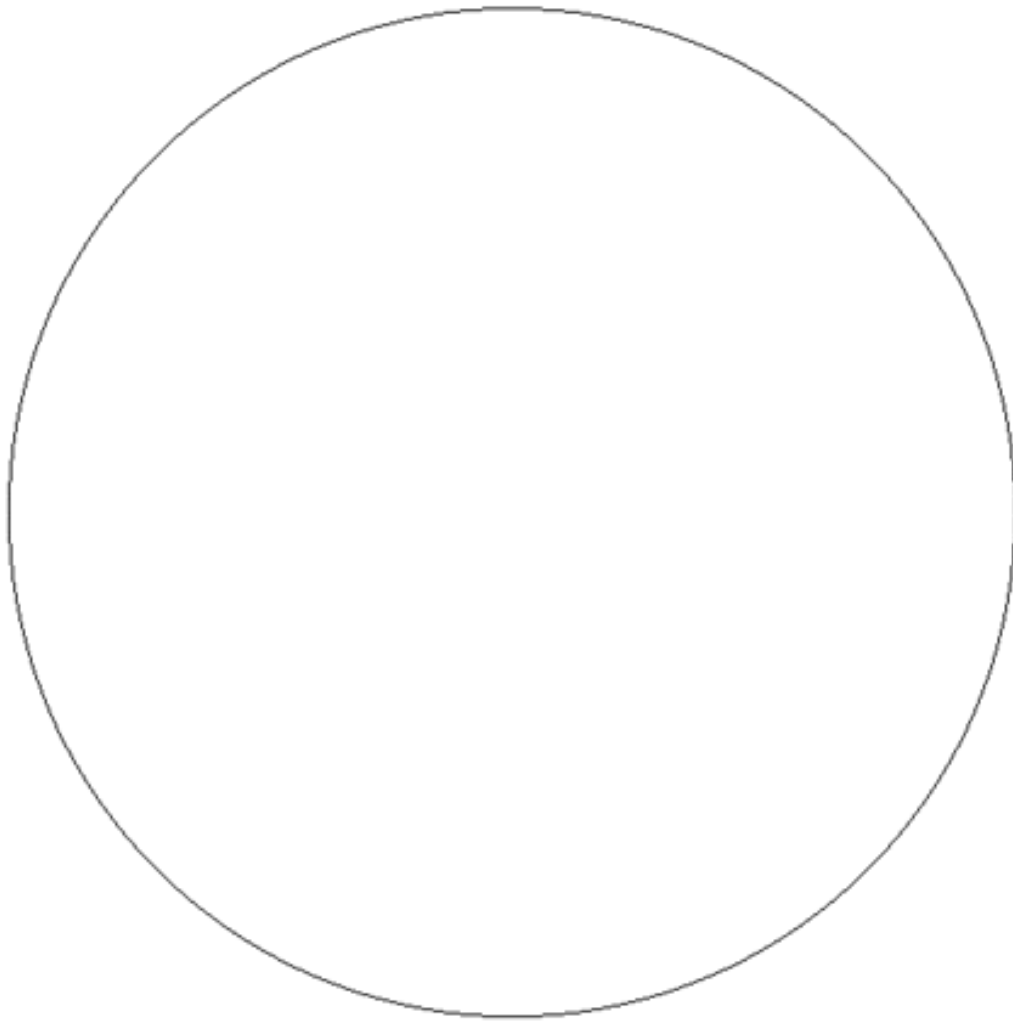
**Thick craft glue**

**Scissors**

**Key chain**

**Pinback**

**A shape to use as a template (round, rectangle or heart)**



**Instructions:**

**Copying the shape from one of the drawing or use a glass, box or other object as a template, trace and then cut out the tag shape of your choice from the shrink plastic. With the sandpaper lightly sand on both sides.**

**Trace a picture on one side of the tag. Draw your own or trace any picture you like. Color your picture using colored pencils. Note: As the plastic shrinks the colors will be darker. Using a fine point Sharpie pen write your name, address and telephone number on the opposite side from the picture. Punch a hole in the corner or at the top of the picture if using the keychain.**

**Following the manufacturers instructions place your name tags in the preheated oven and shrink until they lay flat. Remove from the oven, let cool and insert the key chain through the hole and your name tag is ready for use.**

**Option: In place of punching a hole and adding the key chain complete the name tag and glue the pin back on the same side as the name (when writing the information begin low enough to allow placement of the pin back above the name after the plastic is shrunk).**

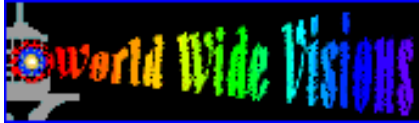
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## Uncle Sam Decoration and Party Favors



Although the directions are given for Uncle Sam dressed in a blue jacket, striped pants and wearing his striped top hat for the upcoming Independence Day celebration in the United States the colors can be changed and It can be any one in a tall hat. This can also be used as a treasure hiding place or special gift wrap when you use empty canisters.

The party favors are additional top hats. The party favors can be empty cans or unopened canisters can be decorated and the original contents used as the favor or part of the meal for a party. Pringle is the brand name of potato crisps come packaged in two sizes of cardboard cylinders. You can substitute with any cardboard tube that measures 10" tall for decoration and 4" tall for the hat.



**Materials:**

**1 1.8 ounce. Pringle can for centerpiece and one additional for each party favor**

**1 7 ounce. Pringle can for centerpiece only**

**Poster board cut as follows:**

**1 5" circle for hat brim**

**2 4" X 5" for arms and**

**1 4" X 5" for foot piece**

**Flesh colored black, white, red and blue paint, pencils or crayons\*\***

**Paint brush**

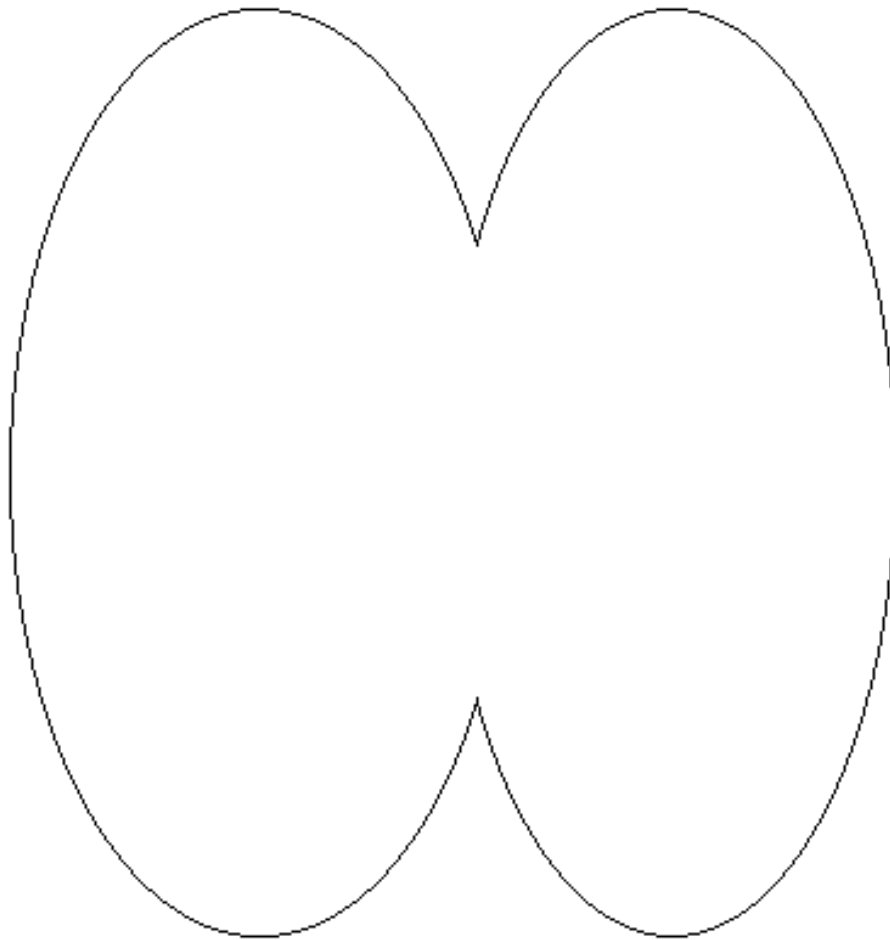
**Tacky glue and craft stick**

**Black Sharpie pen**

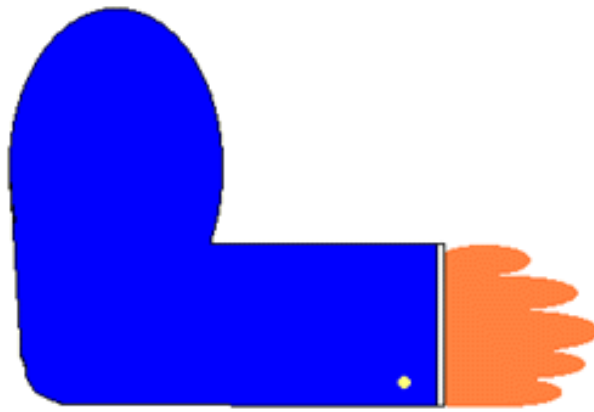
**Cotton batting or cotton balls for hair, mustache & beard 1/2" wide masking tape 10"**

**length of ribbon 3/8" wide for hat band (can be red, white, blue or striped or with stars)**

**Scissors Pencil to trace pattern pieces Paper plate for palette \*\*Everywhere we say paint you may use crayons or colored pencils in place of the paint if you like.**



**Feet**



Arms: Cut 2

### Instructions:

Base coat the Pringle canisters with white paint and allow to dry thoroughly (it may take two or three coats of white paint to keep the label from showing through). On the smaller can place strips of 1/2" wide masking tape from top to bottom leaving a 1/2" space between strips all the way around the can. With the red paint in the open spaces. When you finished painting very carefully peel off the strips of masking tape being careful not to smudge your paint and set aside to dry.

Using the pattern pieces cut out two arm shapes and one foot piece. Paint the foot piece black on top and let it dry. When dry paint the bottom and be sure the edge is painted. Set aside to dry again. With flesh color paint the hand part of the arm, then paint the rest of the arm blue. Again you need to paint one side, let it dry, then paint the other and let it dry making sure the edges are colored. On your 5" circle paint it blue, top, bottom and edges.

Place a circle of craft glue on the bottom edge of the dry painted hat part. Center that in the middle of the 5" circle making it a hat brim. Glue the ribbon around the base just above the hat brim to make your hat band. This would complete Uncle Sam's Top Hat as a party favor. When adding it to the centerpiece you would spread glue on the top of the large canister lid and center your completed party favor hat on top of his head.

Following the picture paint the top 2 1/2" on the front side of the large canister with flesh colored paint. Paint in blue eyes and add a few black eyelashes with the Sharpie pen. Mix a little red into a dab of white paint to make pink to paint his mouth and two small dots for nostrils. Paint a red bow tie at the neck area and allow all to dry.

Draw the outline of the jacket using the picture as your guide. Paint the jacket blue and allow to dry. With your Sharpie pen draw the detail marks on the bow tie and the jacket (center knot on the tie and lapels and buttons on the jacket). Using the 1/2" masking tape in stripes the same as you did on the hat do the bottom part from the edge of the jacket to the bottom of the canister leaving the 1/2" showing between the strips of tape and paint the white spaces with red paint. Being careful not to smear the paint remove the strips of masking tape and allow to dry thoroughly. With your tacky glue and craft stick spread glue on the bottom edge of the canister and center it on the pre painted foot piece. Position the prepared arms and glue to either side of the canister at the shoulder level arranging the arms the way you like best(option: a small American flag can be glued into one hand by spreading glue on the finger area and folding it back over the flag stick.

With your craft stick and a little glue, glue a thin strip of cotton above each eye to make eyebrows, between the nostril and the mouth to make a mustache and just below the mouth

to form chin whiskers. Glue cotton from the top of the canister around the face area and all around the back as his hair (you can make curls by using cotton balls unrolled and glued side by side leaving the ends loose to curl).

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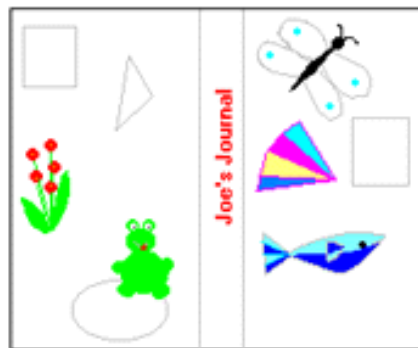
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## Summer Journal



### Materials:

A ring note book, scrap book or photo album

Lined paper to keep your notes and Unlined paper for drawing and patterns

Pictures, your choice of subjects to decorate the cover

Craft glue and plastic knife or craft stick

Either a pen or pencil to write with

Clear acrylic varnish

1 1/2" or larger foam brush

ribbons, buttons and trims or found objects

**\*\*Note: Since we will be covering it an old binder will work just fine. Cover can be fabric or plastic. We are going to form a collage as the cover of your journal.**

### Instructions:

**On a large piece of newspaper lay your opened binder or scrap book flat and trace all around the edge. This will make a template (a template is a pattern for the item you are making).**

**Set your book aside and begin arranging your cut out pictures and other items on the template. The pictures do not need to be square. It is okay if they overlap or if there are spaces between them. Some of the pictures can be round or triangles or just funny irregular shapes. You will arrange them on the template until you have it almost covered. Rearrange the pictures until you have them the way they look best to you.**

**Open your journal and turn it over so that the outside is laying flat in front of you. Lift the first picture off the template. Use the stick or knife to spread a thin layer of glue on the back of the picture and lay it down on the journal cover in the same way that you had it on the template.**

**Smooth the picture from the center to the outside edges so that it will be glued flat without bubbles. Continue with each additional picture until you have moved all the pictures from the template and have them glued on the outside of your journal. Leave the journal there until it has thoroughly dried, it is best to leave it overnight.**

**To make your cover more durable use a foam brush and apply a thin layer of water based acrylic varnish over the entire outside of the journal. Allow it to dry thoroughly and apply a second coat. It is a good idea when using water based acrylic varnish to brush on the first layer from right to left and brush on the second layer from top to bottom so that one layer crosses the other to prevent lumps and streaks.**

**Use your journal to record each new craft as you learn it, write stories or keep a record of the fun you have during the summer.**

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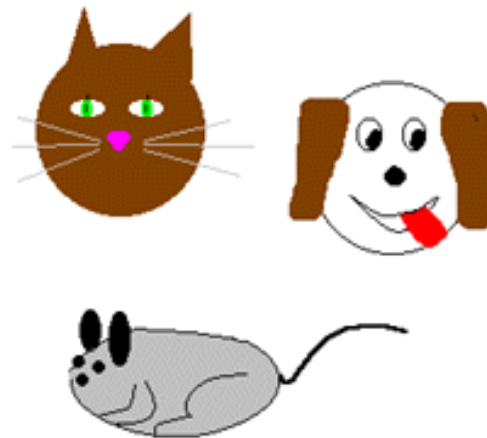
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## Pet Rocks



### Materials:

Clean smooth rock

Thick craft glue

Small craft sticks or toothpicks to apply the glue

Permanent Markers

Scraps of felt, pom poms, wiggle eyes, chenille stems and other craft items that can be used to design the Pet Rocks

Dish soap and water

Paper and Pencil

### Instructions:

Wash the rocks well, possibly even brush a little to remove all the loose dirt and allow to dry thoroughly.

While the rock is drying take a pencil and paper and draw the approximate shape of your rock and looking through the other supplies decide what will be used to decorate your new pet. Draw on the shape; the eyes where you think the eyes should go. Draw the front paws, the mouth, the kind of ear your pet should have, mark where the tail should go and draw the back legs and then draw in any other designs you think would look good on your pet rock.

When the rock is totally dry place it beside your picture and copy all the drawings from the picture onto the rock with the permanent markers. Glue ears, eyes, a pom pom nose and chenille stem tail to your rock where you have shown them in your drawing. Finish decorating with beads or other treasures glued where you think they will look best.

## How To Make A Rock

If you are unable to find a rock you can make your own.

Here are two recipes for a dough made from bread slices and glue or a salt and cornstarch dough. You can make a rock like shape from either dough. If you want to use the salt dough have a grownup help because it will need to be cooked.

After your dough is ready shape it with your hand into a smooth rounded "rock Shape" and let it dry all the way through. Because of the size it may take several days to dry all the way to the center. You should turn your rock over twice a day so it can dry on all sides.

### Bread Dough

#### Materials:

4 pieces of bread  
(remove crusts & make bread crumbs for cooking or feed the birds on your next nature walk)  
4 Tablespoons of white craft glue  
a small amount of acrylic paint to color  
zipper type plastic bag

#### Instructions:

Tear bread in small pieces and place in zip bag, add glue and paint. Mix well until it starts to form a ball. It will form a smooth ball collecting all scraps when ready to use. It takes a while so adult may want to start before time for project

Keep stored in zip bag in refrigerator until ready to use. Shape as desired and allow to air dry (depending on thickness of shape and humidity can take several days to cure. This can be made without color and finished shape painted if you prefer.

### Salt Dough

#### Materials:

2 cups of salt  
2/3 cup water  
1 cup cornstarch  
additional 1/3 cup COLD water  
acrylic paint or food coloring

#### Instructions:

Place salt and 2/3 cup water in small saucepan and heat until quite warm. Remove from heat.

Mix cornstarch and COLD water together, add to salt mixture stirring constantly. Return pan to heat and keep stirring until mixture forms a smooth mass.

**Turn out on a plate and cover with damp cloth until cool. work in color as desired or leave natural.**

**Place in a zip bag and refrigerated, Salt Dough will keep indefinitely.**

**Shape on foil covered cookie sheet and let dry (Several hours in a warm oven or several days at room temperature). You can sand rough edges with an emery board when dry.**

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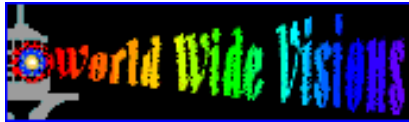
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## Veggie Platter



### Materials:

**Carrots**  
**Radishes**  
**Cucumber**  
**Broccoli**

**Cauliflower**  
**Black olives**  
**Squash**  
**Avocado**  
**Tomato**  
**Large lettuce leaves**  
**3 kinds of dressing for dipping**

**Instructions:**

**Clean and cut up the raw vegetables in sticks, slices or fancy shapes. Dry the lettuce leaves and arrange them to cover a serving plate. Begin arranging the raw vegetables in a pleasing design on the lettuce leaves.**

**Make the Pepper Cups and add the dressing to the cups.**

**Set the Pepper Cups on the plate or arrange them on a separate plate lined with crisp lettuce leaves. Place a spoon in each cup.**

**Cover all with plastic wrap and refrigerate until serving time.**

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## Pepper Cups



### Materials:

**1 Green Bell Pepper**

**1 Yellow Bell Pepper**

**1 Orange Bell Pepper**

**Sharp knife (have an adult help with the cutting)**

**Plate lined with crisp lettuce leaves**

**A white colored dressing like Ranch**

**a green colored dressing like Green Goddess**

**an orange colored dressing like French**

**3 spoons**

**You can use any flavor dressing and add food coloring if you wish.**

### Instructions:

**Cut a zig zag line around each pepper removing the top and leaving a scalloped edge. Clean out the center of the pepper as well as the underside of the pepper top.**

**Wash and dry well. Fill each pepper almost to the top with dressing, putting the green dressing in the orange pepper, the white dressing in the green pepper and the orange dressing in the yellow pepper.**

**Arrange the peppers on the Veggie Tray or on a lettuce lined plate of their own. Place the tops back on each pepper and refrigerate until serving time.**

To serve place the tops leaning against the pepper and place a spoon in each Pepper Cup.

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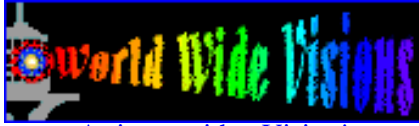
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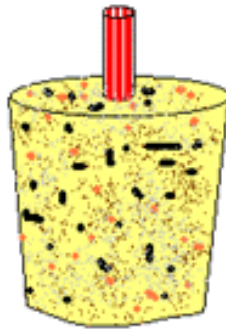
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## Bird Treat



During the winter months our feathered friends may have a hard time finding food. These "Treats" may be just what they need. They are fun to make, but get an adult to help. Then enjoy watching your tree or bush become the birds favorite restaurant.

### Materials:

1 1/4 lb. suet (available at meat department or save all fat trimmed from meat before cooking)

1/2 cup crushed peanuts

1/2 cup sunflower seeds

1/2 cup cracked corn kernels

Paper cups & piece of drinking straw same height as cup for molds (option may use decorative molds)

Option: 1 cup of wild birdseed can replace sunflower seeds and cracked corn

### Instructions:

Be sure you have adult supervision when melting the suet.

Melt the suet in a pan in the oven or a saucepan using a low heat (will yield approx. 2 cups liquid fat). Carefully stir the peanuts, seeds and corn into the liquid fat, mixing to completely coat all the seeds.

Place a straw in the mold and gently spoon the mixture into your mold evenly all around the straw. Press firmly to remove holes in the treat so it will un mold in a solid block when chilled. Place in the refrigerator to cool and completely harden. When mold is solid (several

hours) remove from the refrigerator, place the molds in a ziploc bag for storage in a cool dry place until ready to use.

When you are ready to hang your Bird Treats outside, twist the straw to remove it from the center of the seed and un mold the individual treat cakes. Thread a piece of cotton string (kite string works well) or cord through the center and use it to hang your treat in a tree. Move away and then watch the different birds that come by for a snack.

Record the names of the different birds or draw a picture of what they look like so you can ask their names.

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