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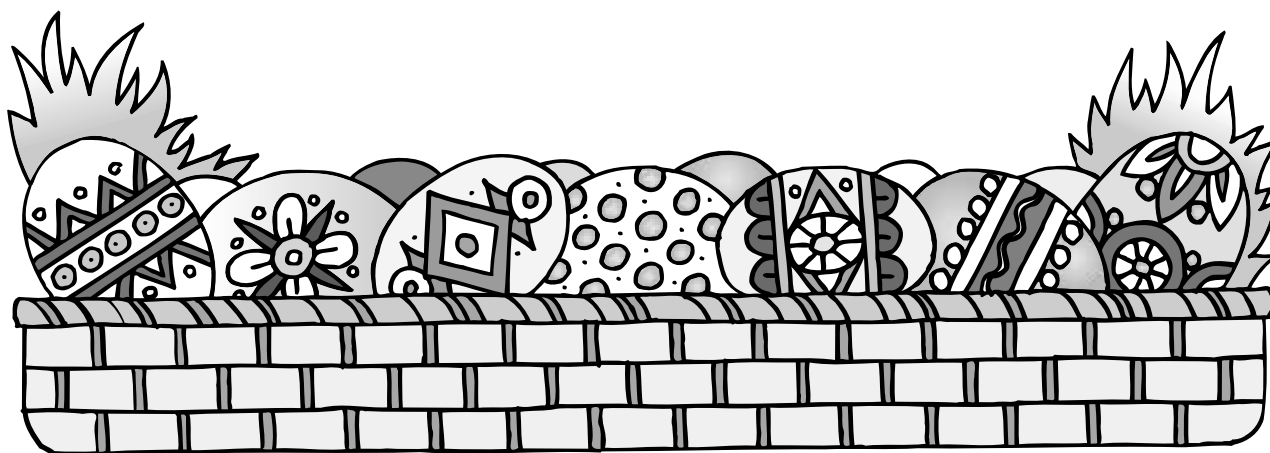


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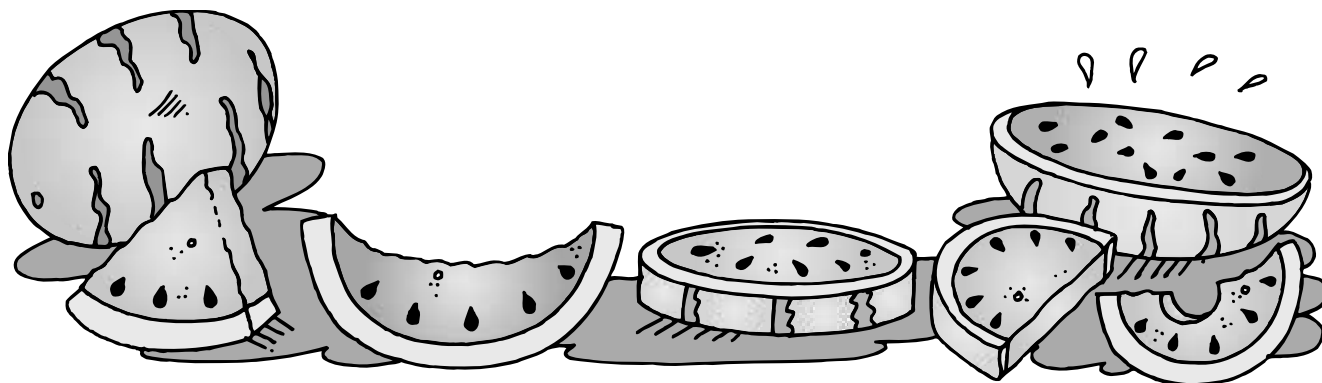
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Dog Week Dalmatians

Creative crafting encourages children to view ordinary things from a different perspective. Showing them how to reuse cardboard tubes with this Dalmatian project will start their creative juices flowing. What other projects can they envision making with cardboard tubes?

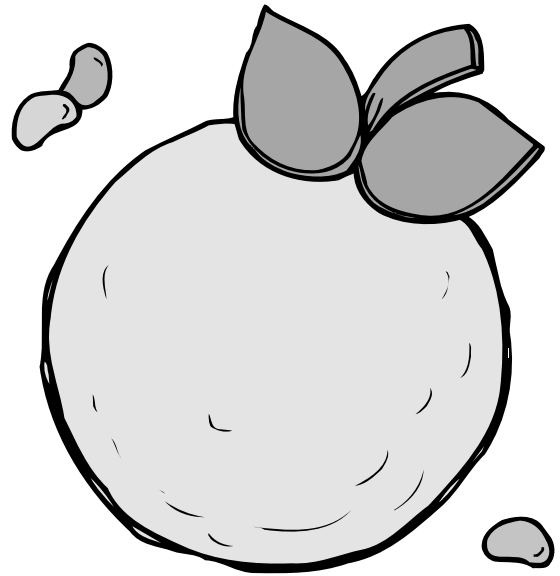
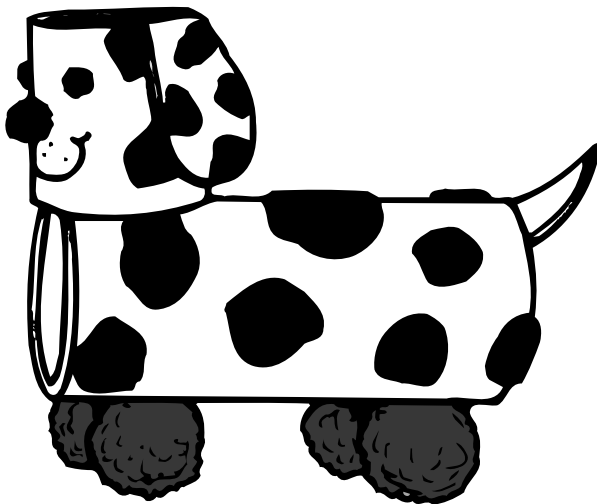
Supplies

bath tissue tubes, white tempera paint, felt scraps in white and black, large black pom-poms, black tissue paper, paintbrushes, markers, scissors, glue

Instructions

1. Each child will need one and a half bath tissue tubes. Let children paint their tubes white.
2. Have children cut and glue black felt "spots" to the large tube; then glue four black pom-pom legs/feet to one side to make a Dalmatian body. Set the body on its legs, then glue the half tube to the top to create a head. If necessary, use a clothespin to hold the head in place until the glue dries.
3. To complete the head, have children draw, cut, and glue on white felt ears, crumpled tissue paper eyes and nose, and black felt spots. Use a marker to add spots to the ears.
4. Cut and glue a white felt tail to the opposite end of the tube.

Use: Have children name their dogs; then write a story about their pets. You may want to discuss pet owner responsibilities and ways in which dogs help us.



Apple Beanbags

Sing "Happy Birthday" to Johnny Appleseed; then invite your students to create apples of their own for developing motor coordination and skills.

Supplies

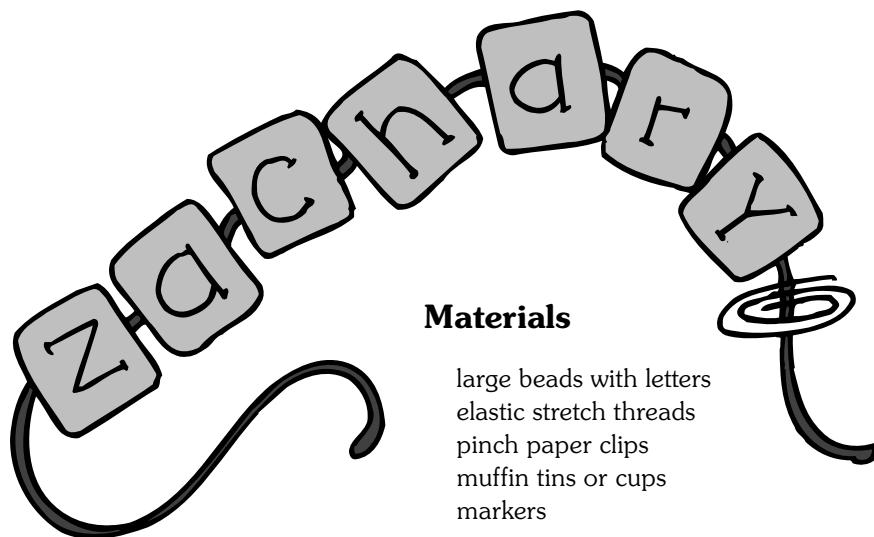
red felt, brown and green felt scraps, rice or beans, glue, scissors, chalk

Instructions

1. Have children use chalk to draw two circles on red felt. You may want to prepare cardboard patterns so the circles will be large enough and of uniform shape. Have children cut these circles out.
2. Have children draw and cut out brown stems to glue at the top of one red circle. Have children draw a line of glue around the edge of this circle, leaving a 1" space unglued. Top with the second red circle and press the glued edges together.
3. Let children draw and cut out one or two green felt leaves to place on the front of the apple near the stem. Glue these in place and allow the glue to dry.
4. Help children partially fill their apples with rice or dried beans. You may want to roll a piece of paper into a funnel shape to make the job easier. Afterward, glue the open section closed and allow glue to dry.

Use: Johnny Appleseed is usually portrayed using a pot for a hat. Let younger children take turns tossing their beanbags into a large pot. With older children, use several numbered pots. Have children throw three or four beanbags; then add up their total number of points.

Back-to-School Name Bracelets



Materials

large beads with letters
elastic stretch threads
pinch paper clips
muffin tins or cups
markers

Let's Make It

1. Label the letter name on the outside of the cups.
2. Have children help put the letter beads in the appropriate cups.
3. Have children take an empty cup and fill it with the letters of their name.
4. Help children attach a pinch clip to one end of their bracelet string as a holder.
5. Children may need assistance to thread the letter beads on the string in the correct order, holding the free end up so the beads do not fall from it.
6. Once all the letters have been threaded, the paper clip can be removed and the ends tied together to form a bracelet. Children may need assistance.

Harvest Moon

This is a glow-in-the-dark harvest delight. In Chinese tradition the moon is thought to symbolize perfect joy and the cycle of life.

Materials

white construction paper
gray paint
small sponges and paint bowls
glow-in-the-dark paint
tagboard circle or wooden moon shape to trace
pencils
scissors

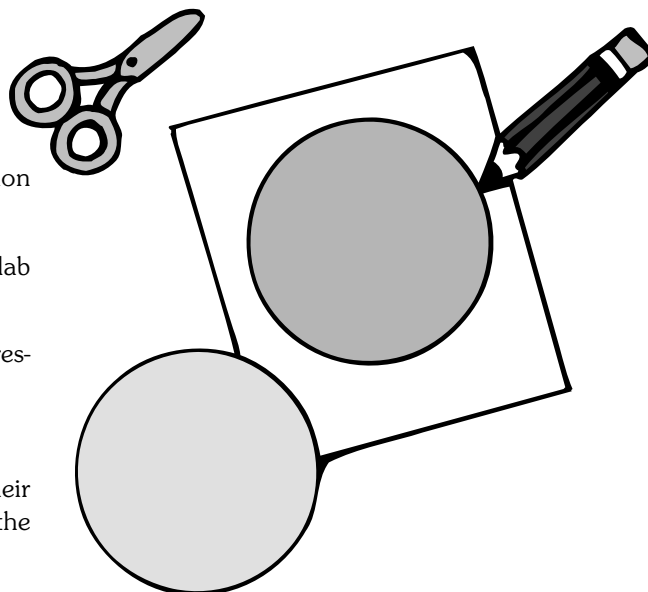


Let's Make It

1. Have children trace the moon shape onto the construction paper, and then cut out the shape.
2. Instruct children to dip the sponge into a bowl, and then dab it onto their moon shape.
3. When the gray paint dries, children can sponge phosphorescent paint over their moon.

Try This

Pull the blinds to darken your classroom. Have children hold their moon shapes up to the lights for 30 to 60 seconds. Turn off the lights and have children wave their harvest moons in the air.



by Robynne Eagan

Dot Trees

Colorful leaves are a natural part of the fall experience in many areas. Help your children explore this event by making colorful wall hangings.

Supplies

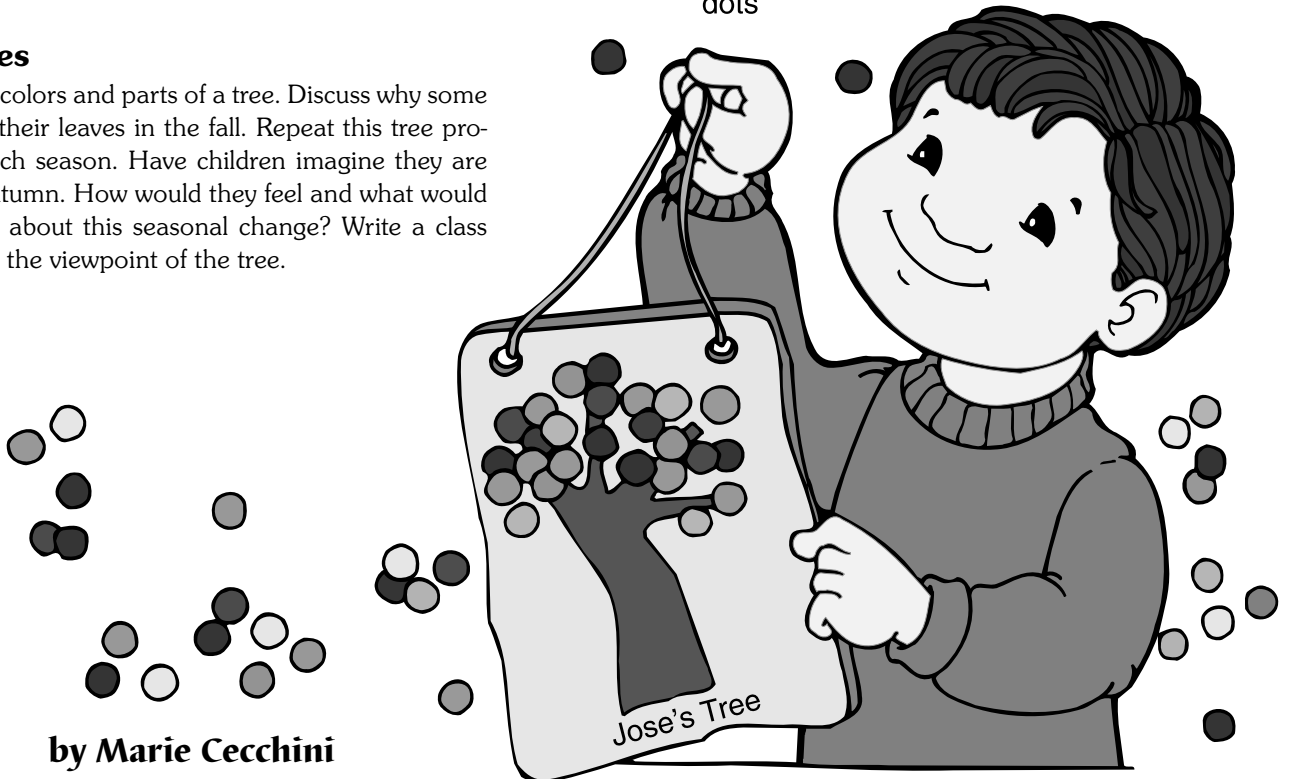
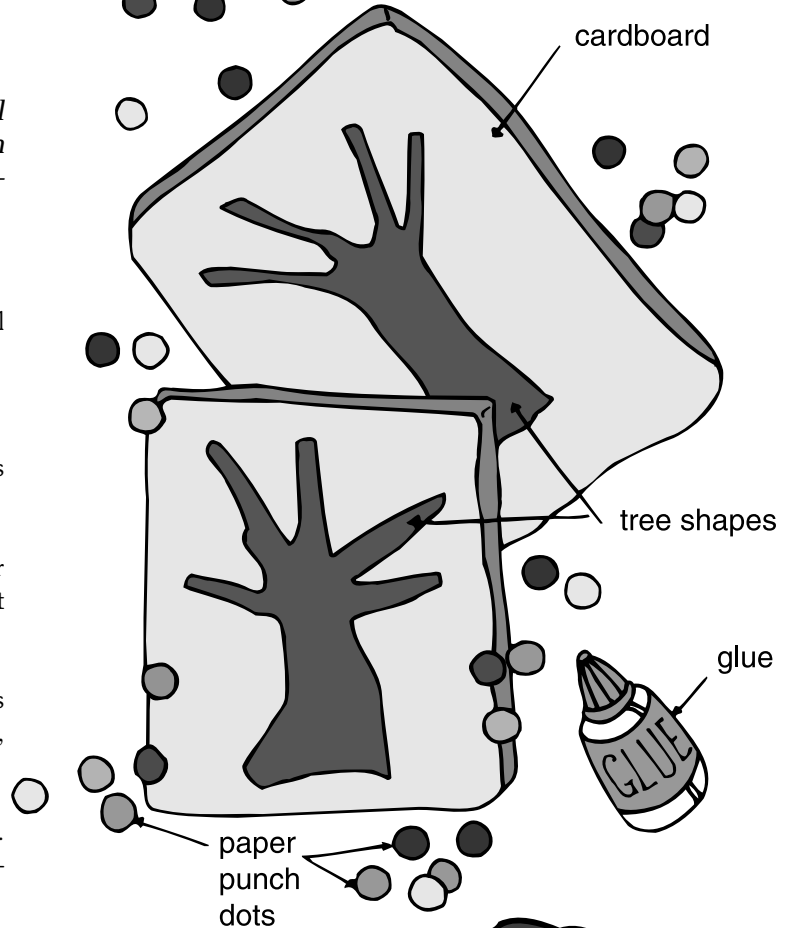
cardboard boxes, brown construction paper, colorful construction paper scraps, yarn, paper punch, glue

Instructions

1. Tear cardboard boxes apart, creating various sizes and shapes.
2. Have children rip brown construction paper pieces to create a simple tree shape. Instruct them to glue these trees to a cardboard piece.
3. Have children use a paper punch to make dots in various colors, spread glue over their trees, then sprinkle the colored dots over the glue.
4. Punch two holes at the top of each picture. Thread yarn through the holes and knot to create a hanger.

Activities

Name the colors and parts of a tree. Discuss why some trees lose their leaves in the fall. Repeat this tree project for each season. Have children imagine they are trees in autumn. How would they feel and what would they think about this seasonal change? Write a class story from the viewpoint of the tree.



by Marie Cecchini