Stanislaus County
Office of
Education

Child/Family Services

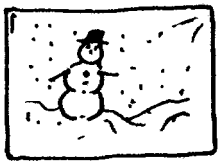
Tom Changnon, Superintendent
1324 Celeste Drive • Modesto, CA 95355 • (209) 558-4030 • FAX (209) 558-4061

Winter Art Activities

By Jean Warren

Resource & Referral Handout

FROST PICTURES



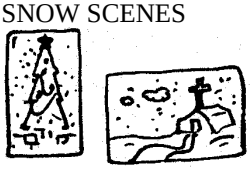
Materials: Colored construction paper, crayons, Epsom Salts, water, wide paint brush.

Activity: Have the children draw an outdoor picture or design on a colored piece of construction paper.
Make a solution of half Epsom Salts and half water. Have the children paint their picture with the mixture. As the mixture dries on their paper, shiny crystals will appear, making a frosty picture.

SNOWBALLS

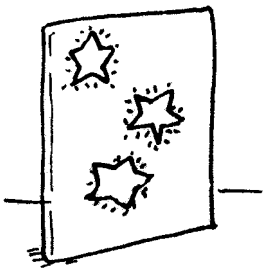
A fun project for children this time of the year is pasting or gluing cotton balls.
Make a large snow mural for the wall and let the children cover it with cotton balls.
Or else, give them a large piece of construction paper and have them make one large snowman by gluing together many cotton balls. Pieces of different colored construction paper could be glued on top of the snowman to make eyes, nose, etc.

SNOW SCENES



Do not throw away those old Christmas cards. Let your children create snow scenes. Have the children select a Christmas card and cut off the verse side of the card (or you cut it off, depending on the age of the child). Give the children some white liquid glue and a small brush (or Q-tip). Have them brush the glue over the Christmas picture. Next have them sprinkle salt over the glue. When the salt dries you have instant snow scenes!

STAR PRINTS



Materials: Star cookie cutter, flour and water mixture, dark construction paper, salt.

Procedure: Make a paste out of flour and water and pour it into a saucer or meat tray.

Activity: Have your children dip the cookie cutter into the paste mixture and then make a print with it on a piece of dark construction paper. Have them fill their paper with start prints and then sprinkle some salt on their paper to make the stars sow up better or perhaps even glitter. You could have them sprinkle on real glitter if you have the silver kind.

Variation: If you do not have a star cookie cutter, you could make a star stamp out of a large carrot or potato. Or you could cut a star stamp out of a piece of sponge.

SNOW SCAPES

Materials: Plastic lids (margarine lids are good), playdough, small pine cones, snow spray.

Activity: Have the children fill a plastic lid with playdough. Next have them stick three or four small pine cones securely down into the playdough.
Then with your help, have them spray the cones with snow spray. Miniature figures such as people or animals could also be stuck in the snow scene, but it is not necessary.
Children love admiring their scene, especially if it is give a place of honor up high on a mantel or a favorite table.

SNOW SCENES

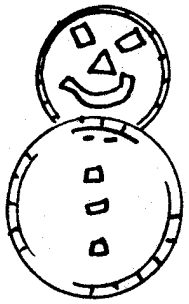
Materials: Waxed paper, small glass or plastic jar, water.

Activity: Your children can make a simple snow scene by tearing tiny pieces of waxed paper and placing them in a small jar.
Help your children to fill the jar with water and securely screw on the lid.
Children can shake and shake their snowflakes and watch them dance around.

Variation: You can make the snow jar into a snow scene by putting clay in the jar lid and attaching tow small styrofoam balls (held together with a toothpick). When the lid is screwed on and the bottle turned upside-down, the snowflakes dance around the snowmen.

Variation: You can really get fancy if you want to and invest in some waterproof glue and glue small plastic or wooden figures onto the inside of the jar lid to make different scenes. You could also experiment with using clear glitter for the snowflakes.

SNOWMEN



Materials: Large and small paper plates, colored paper, paste or glue, stapler and scissors.

Procedure: Staple together a small and a large paper plate for each child.

Activity: Let your children decorate their snowmen by tearing or cutting pieces of different colored construction paper and gluing the onto the paper plates.
Personally, I prefer children's own paper decoration to precut eyes, nose, hats, etc. You could also set out beans, material scraps or buttons for your children to glue onto their snowmen.

© Jean Warren, 1985
Totline Parent Flyer January, Series C

Ideas for the "Totline" Parent Flyers are taken from back issues of the "Totline" Activity Newsletter
WARREN PUBLISHING HOUSE · P.O. Box 2255 · Everelt, WA 98204