#FamilyFriendlyWeek
19 Oct – 26 Oct

Get Creative
Crafts Activities
Paper Plate Crowns

Every prince and princess needs a crown! Make your very own!

What you will need:
- Paper plate
- Paint and paintbrush
- Crayons
- Stickers
- Sequins or Gems
- Scissor
- Glue

Step-by-step:
- Draw four lines dividing the plate into eight triangular segments, like a pizza
- Fold the paper plate in half along one of the lines
- From the centre, cut along the lines towards the edge of the plate leaving, stopping approximately 1 inch from the edge
- Unfold the plate and cut the last line
- Decorate your crown using paint, crayons and stickers and by gluing on the sequins and gems
- Once dry, fold up the triangles to make the points of the crown
Cornflour Gloop

Have fun with your children with this amusing and easy to make mixture which changes consistency as you move it around and add water.

What you will need:

- Cornflour
- A jug of water
- Spoon

Step-by-step:

- Pour a cup full of cornflour into a tray
- Slowly add a little water and stir
- Add more water to adjust the consistency
- Try feeling it with your fingers and enjoy the strange feeling
- See if you can make marks in it or write your name!
Halloween Egg Carton Bats

With Halloween just around the corner, why not make some egg carton bats to decorate the house. These spooky bats are simple to make, child friendly and look great hanging around the house.

What you will need:

- Egg Cartons
- Scissors
- Black Paint
- Googly Eyes
- Glue
- Ribbon

Step-by-step:

- Cut out 3 cups from an egg carton
- Cut out triangles at the bottom of the two outside wings to resemble bat wings
- Paint the carton black
- Glue googly eyes onto the carton when dry to make eyes
- Glue ribbon to the top of the bat and hang them up!
Leafy Hedgehog

Autumn is a beautiful time to enjoy parks and the outdoors. Combine your creative inspiration with a little outdoors trip to make these charming hedgehogs.

What you will need:

- Autumn leaves – collected on the way from the nursery, school or the park
- 2 pieces of card
- Pen
- Coloured pencils or crayons
- Glue

Step-by-step:

- On a piece of card draw the outline of a hedgehog and add details to its face
- Colour it in
- Carefully cut out the hedgehog and glue to another piece of card
- Start gluing the leaves on the hedgehog's body. Overlap the leaves as you stick them down
- Carry on adding leaves until your leafy hedgehog has a warm coat for hibernating in winter!
Wooden Spoon Puppets

Making wooden spoon puppets is a great way to combine craft making and storytelling together. Children can have fun creating their puppets then use the puppets to act out exciting stories.

What you will need:

- Wooden kitchen spoon
- Yarn or thin strips of paper
- Buttons
- Markers
- Glue

Step-by-step:

- Choose a wooden spoon to make into your puppet
- Cut strands of yarn or thin strips of paper and glue them onto the top of the spoon to make hair
- Glue buttons onto your spoon to make eyes
- Using markers, draw a mouth and noise
- Make a puppet family and tell a story with the puppets
Cling Film Painting

Finger painting without the mess! Cling Film Painting is a fun painting technique for younger children who want to use their hands to make colourful paintings.

What you will need:

- Plastic cling film
- Spoons
- White paper
- Paint

Step-by-step:

- Use a spoon to dribble paint onto a paper. Try different colours and combinations
- Place a sheet of cling film over the paper, making sure the whole surface of the paper is covered
- Using your hands, smooth the cling film over the paper
- Carefully peel off the cling film and let the paint dry
Pasta Prints

Crafting with pasta is a classic activity children can enjoy over and over again. This time, it’s ok to play with your food!

What you will need:

- Uncooked pasta
- Cardboard
- Wood glue

Step-by-step:

- Draw a print on the cardboard. This can be anything your child likes – an animal, their name, a farm or anything that would be fun to fill out with pasta
- Help your child cut out the drawing with a pair of scissors
- Cover a section of the cut out with glue and cover it with pasta shapes
- Once you finish the section, apply glue to an empty section and cover it with pasta. Continue to do so until the whole of the cut out is decorated with pasta
Pasta Necklace

Still have some pasta leftover? Make a colourful necklace! This activity is a great way for children to measure and mix ingredients without the need for cooking.

What you will need:

- Uncooked hollow pasta, like penne
- Vinegar
- Liquid food colouring
- Biscuit rack
- Plastic containers with lids
- A small bowl
- String

Step-by-step:

- Place a handful of pasta in a plastic container
- Mix 1 tsp of vinegar and several drops of liquid food colouring in a small bowl
- Pour the mix over the pasta and close the container with the lid
- Shake, shake, shake the container!
- Once the pasta is well coated in colouring, spread the pasta out flatly on a rack or biscuit sheet
- Rinse out the plastic container and small bowl and repeat with a different colour
- When you’ve made enough colours and your pasta has dried, cut out a long length of string
- Thread your pasta and tie both ends of the yarn together in a knot.
Button Tree

Children can get to both draw and craft when creating a Button Tree. Making a Button Tree is a great way to make use of loose buttons and a simple way to create a beautiful art work you can hang up.

What you will need:

- Cardboard or a blank canvas
- Loose buttons
- Strong glue
- Colouring pens

Step-by-step:

- Draw a bare tree onto your cardboard or canvas
- Place all your buttons into a large pile where you can easily reach them. You can also sort out buttons by colour, shape and size if you want to practice colours and shapes with younger children
- Glue buttons individually onto the cardboard or canvas to give your tree colourful leaves
**Bottle Press Tree Painting**

Paint pressing is simple, quick and fun! You can make some lovely tree paintings with your child using this technique.

**What you will need:**
- Paper
- Empty plastic soda bottle
- Plate
- Paint and paintbrush

**Step-by-step:**
- Paint a bare tree onto your paper
- Pour the paint colour you want to use for leaves into a plate, forming a thick layer of paint
- Press the bottom of the soda bottle into the paint then press the bottle onto your paper to give your tree leaves
Paper Plate Masks

Make your own paper plate mask to play with and show off!

What you will need:

- Paper plate
- Paint and paintbrush
- Buttons
- Stapler
- Scissor
- String
- Glue

Step-by-step:

- Cut the paper plate in half
- Hold up the plate your child’s face and mark where the eye-holes would meet your child’s eyes
- Cut out the eye-shaped holes
- Decorate your mask using paint and by gluing buttons
- After your mask is decorated, cut out two lengths of string
- Staple each string to a side of the paper plate and knot the two loose ends of the string to make a wearable strap
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Have fun!

You can always share your creations with us:

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