

Popsicle stick crafts



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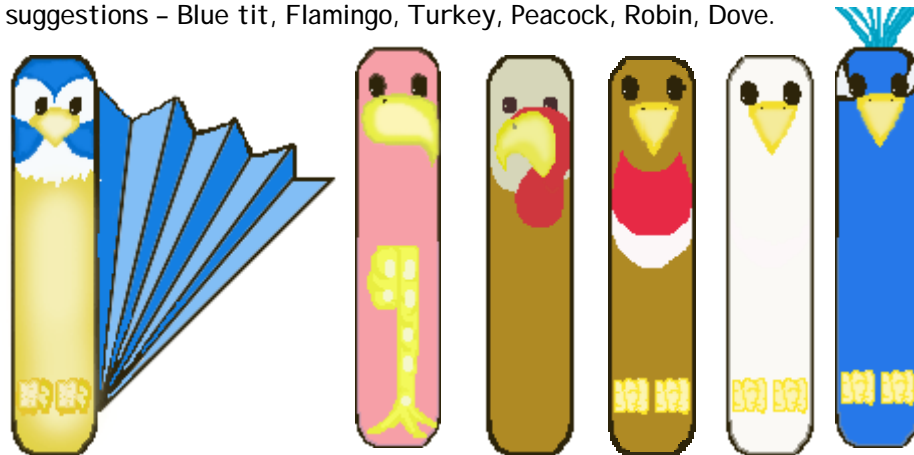
Collect used sticks from your children ice creams or purchase lolly/popsicle sticks in crafting shops. Tongue depressors are also available! These crafts can be great fun but are probably more suitable for older children as the youngest ones may find that the sticks are not large enough for them to express themselves properly if this is the case cut out huge stick shapes from brown card and allow the babies to decorate/paint their own version.

Birds.

1. Cut a piece of colored card or paper
2. Fold over the short edge, Forwards and backwards on itself to make a concertina shape.
3. Hold one end of the fan and staple the pleats together.
4. Spread out the top part of the fan.
5. Glue one edge to the back of your lolly/popsicle stick.
6. To hang the bird up - Drill a small hole at the top of the stick and knot a piece of thread through. Alternatively you could sticky tape a piece of thread to the top.

If you are covering Birds in any topic form, research the colors needed and instead of using pens to color in the stick glue feathers of pieces of shiny foil to it instead.

Here are some bird suggestions - Blue tit, Flamingo, Turkey, Peacock, Robin, Dove.

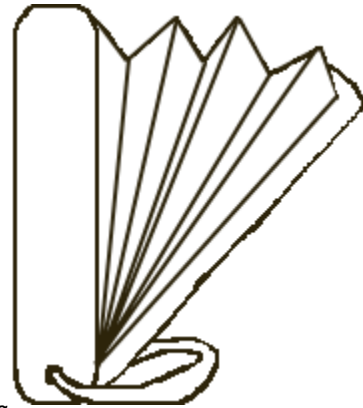


Boxes and Holders.

Arrange and glue ends of sticks together to build boxes and holders of all sorts of shapes.

Traditional Fan

1. Fold a piece of paper backwards and forwards. Make a good crease on each fold of the paper.
2. Staple together one end of all the pleats.
3. Glue the end flat edges to 2 popsicle sticks.
4. Drill a small hole through the bottom of the sticks and thread a piece of ribbon through. Tie off.
5. Decorate as you wish.



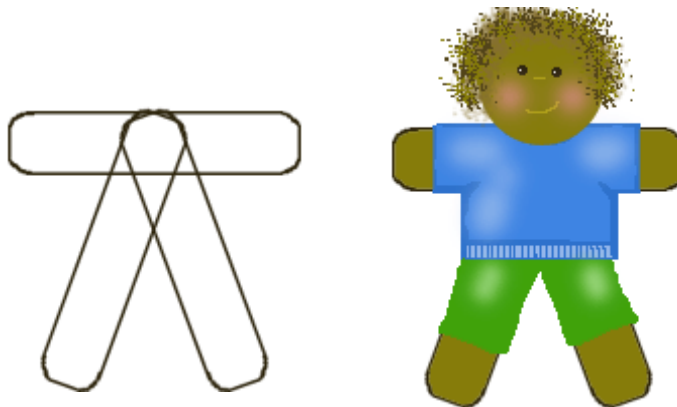
Photo/Picture frames

Color in sticks with, pens, crayons, food dyes or experiment with natural dyes e.g. Onion skins to stain the wood. Paint or collage. Allow your children assemble the frame in any way they choose. It does not necessarily have to be square! Decorate with jewels shiny paper etc and glue in a photo of the child or a nice picture they have chosen for themselves.



People

Use this simple assembly format to create a multitude of different people. Use felt, fabric or coloured paper. Cut out circles for faces and triangles for skirts, Squares for shirts and oblongs for trouser legs. With wool, threads etc. make hair. Ideas could range from a circle of multiculturally dressed children to a fairy for a Christmas tree, Puppet characters like Rapunzel or creating the child's own family members!



Bookmarks

Decorate sticks with any medium and use as bookmarks. Ensure that all glue is dry before you put it inside a book!

Bodies

Use as insect bodies -

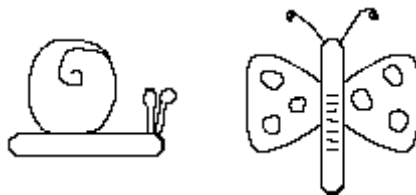
butterfly body with paper wings

Snail undercarriage with rolled playdough or clay shell

Slug body - use brown and black playdough to model a 3d effect upper body.

Caterpillar body - use wool etc to create a fluffy upper body.

Dragonfly body - cut 4 wings and decorate



Magic wands

Use the sticks to create wands or dancing sticks.

Stick a shape to the top and decorate with shiny and glittery collage material. Key it into your topic, theme or festival event of the day eg. A heart for Valentines Day, a bat for Halloween! Cut lengths of ribbon and streamer paper to make magical dance sticks that the children can twirl about with to music!



Mobiles

Glue the centres of 2 sticks together to form a cross. Tie string around the middle and hang up.

Attach works of art to the cross as your child creates them.