

4-H MOTTO

Learn to do by doing.

4-H PLEDGE

I pledge

My HEAD to clearer thinking,

My HEART to greater loyalty,

My HANDS to larger service,

My HEALTH to better living,

For my club, my community and my country.



4-H GRACE

(Tune of Auld Lang Syne)

We thank thee, Lord, for blessings great

On this, our own fair land.

Teach us to serve thee joyfully,

With head, heart, health and hand.

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Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada



AGRICULTURE COUNCIL
OF SASKATCHEWAN INC.

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Introduction

Goal

The overall goal and product of this project is the creation of a minimum of seven crafts using the member's own digital photos.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this project, members will be able to:

- Demonstrate basic photo editing techniques.
- Display at least seven crafts incorporating their own digital photos.
- Have an awareness of the potential of using digital photos in a variety of ways.
- Work cooperatively with other members on activities.

Materials/Equipment Required

- Resource book and activity guide (provided)
- Computer with internet access
- Good-quality colour printer access
- Smart phone or digital camera
- Materials necessary for each particular craft (listed with activity)

How to Get the Most from the 4-H Experience

- Attend club meetings.
- Complete activities.
- Listen and ask questions.
- Participate in discussions.
- Be a team player.

Achievement Requirements

- A completed record book
- Six crafts using the member's own digital photos
- A virtual collection on the "Pinterest" website

Note to Project Facilitators

Adequate computer access is crucial to the successful completion of this project. The project facilitator in conjunction with the club may need to secure the use of computers for those members who do not have the required equipment at home, that is a computer and a good quality colour printer. Some possibilities could include a school computer lab after school hours or the public library.

Some of the supplies for this project will need to be purchased well in advance, e.g. the fabric items – tote bags, cushion covers, etc. – will probably need to be ordered online and will require several weeks to arrive from the U.S.

Activity 10 is designed with the 4-H mandate of community involvement and volunteerism in mind.



Activity 1: Photo Editing

What you will learn

The basic photo editing functions available on your computer.



What you will need

- A computer with an Internet connection and/or
- A printer and your own digital photos.

Instructions

1. Choose a photo from your own collection and edit it using each of the following tools:
 - Cropping
 - Switching from colour to black and white
 - Experiment with contrast and brightness
 - One other editing feature of your choice
2. Share with the group your before and after photos on a computer if possible or prints if not.

Let's Talk

- Which editing program do you have on your computer?
- Which editing tools do you find most useful?
- What tool would you like to have that isn't available on your computer?

Time

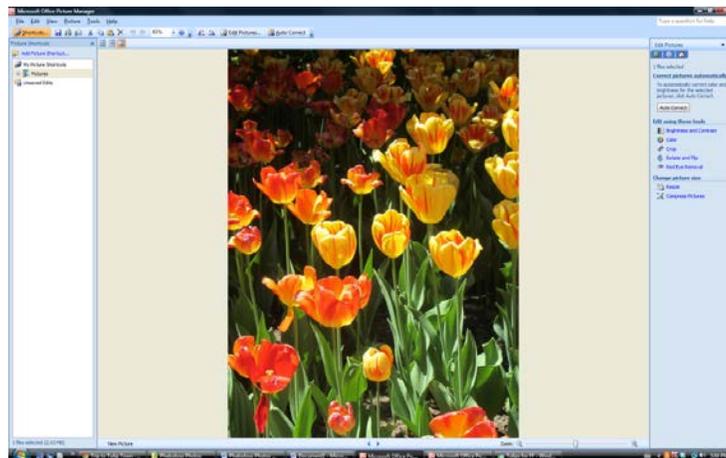
- 60 minutes for editing
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

The Crafty Crafter: Fooling with Photos

Almost every computer software suite has a basic photo file management tool with basic editing functions. PC computers usually have a version of Microsoft Windows installed. Windows XP has a program called Photo Editor while newer versions of Windows include Microsoft Office Picture Manager. Mac computers come with a program called iPhotos. There are dozens of other photo editing software programs available too from the pricey Adobe Photoshop to free ones available online. The more expensive programs are very capable and provide thousands of features that the ordinary person would never use. Online photo management tools like Picasa and Flickr also include basic photo editing functions.

As mentioned in the project outline this project is about crafting with photos. It isn't a photo editing project but you will want to be able to manipulate your photos – make them bigger or smaller, crop out specific sections, tweak the colour, get rid of red eyes– when you are using them in your crafts.

This photo is ready to be edited using Microsoft Office Picture Manager.



This photo is ready to be edited using Apple iPhoto.

Free Photo Editing Software

- GIMP at <http://www.gimp.org>
- Paint.NET at <http://www.getpaint.net>
- PhoXo at <http://www.phoxo.com>
- Funny Photo Maker at <http://www.anvsoft.com/>
- IrfanView at <http://www.irfanview.com>
- Photoscape at <http://photoscape.org>
- PhotoFiltre at <http://www.photofiltre-studio.com>
- PixBuilder Studio at <http://www.wnsoft.com>
- Chasys Draw at <http://www.jpchacha.com>
- Pix!r at <http://pixlr.com>
- Picasa at <http://picasa.google.ca>
- PhotoPlus at <http://www.serif.com>
- iPiccy at <http://ipiccy.com>
- Photoshop at <https://www.photoshop.com> (There is a free version.)
- fotor at <http://www.fotor.com>

Free Photo Storage and Sharing Sites

- Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com>
- Picasa at <http://picasa.google.com>
- Photoshop at <http://www.photoshop.com>
- Photobucket at <http://photobucket.com>
- Fotolog at <http://us.fotolog.com>
- iCloud at <http://www.apple.com/icloud>
- RedBubble at <http://www.redbubble.com>
- deviantART at <http://www.deviantart.com>
- Pict at <http://pict.com>
- DropShots at <http://www.dropshots.com>
- Fotki at <http://www.fotki.com/Canada/en/>
- Shutterfly at <http://www.shutterfly.com>
- Snapfish at <https://www.snapfish.com>
- 23 at <http://www.23hq.com>

Some of the sites also sell numerous products incorporating your photos, e.g. books, clothing, calendars, etc. which is how they are able to provide such valuable software and storage space for free.

Activity 2: Magnets, Mobiles and More

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Members do their own
- Members share their creations with group

What you will learn

How to make bottle cap fridge magnets or corkboard tacks.

What you will need

- 1-inch circular craft punch
- Craft glue
- Bottle caps
- Mod Podge or similar product
- Contact cement
- Small magnets or thumbtacks

Instructions

1. Using the craft punch, cut out pictures.
For appropriately small images, try cutting details from large photos. Or reduce pictures to the size of the cap.
2. Using craft glue, attach one picture to the inside of each bottle cap. Let dry.
3. Cover a work surface to protect it from spills, and lay caps on top. Cover with a thin layer of Mod Podge. Let dry overnight.
4. Using contact cement, attach magnets or thumbtacks to the backs of the bottle caps. Let dry overnight before using.



Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?
- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Other Crafts Using Similar Method

- Mobiles
- Jewellery



The secret ingredient
– Mod Podge

The Crafty Crafter: The Magic of Mod Podge

All crafters are familiar with Mod Podge. That is the brand name of a substance that is a glue, sealer and finish in one. Manufactured by the U.S. crafting giant Plaid Enterprises it has been a go-to product for serious crafters for almost forty years now. Because it is water-based it is non-toxic and easy to clean up which makes it perfect for use with children.

Mod Podge has been the go-to medium of choice for decoupage and collage for years and crafters come up with more uses every day. Remember, though, that Mod Podge is a brand name and there are many similar, and maybe better, products on the market.

Decoupage is the French word for “to cut up or out” and is the art of gluing paper pictures or designs to an object and then covering with several coats of a clear finish until the pictures appear encased in finish and the object feels very smooth to the touch and the pictures look like they were painted on the object. The traditional technique used 30 to 40 layers of varnish which were then sanded to a polished finish. This was known in 18th century England as the art of Japanning after its presumed origins.

Amy Anderson is an online blogger who loves Mod Podge and her blog, “Mod Podge Rocks” features dozens of crafting ideas using the stuff: <http://modpodgerocksblog.com> She has even written a book by the same title featuring over 40 simple, inexpensive projects that showcase the versatility of this celebrated product.

You can decoupage almost anything:



Furniture



Gourds



Eggs



Flowerpots

Activity 3: Funky Frames

Converting a tin can (unopened) or jar into a frame.

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Members do their own
- Members share their creations with group

What you will learn

How to make a can frame.

What you will need

- An appropriate photo — Panoramas work best, but regular photos that can be cropped wider than they are tall also work well.
- Unopened metal can or plastic jar
- Acid-free rubber cement
- Scissors or X-acto cutting blade
- Tape measure
- Rubber bands

Instructions

1. Use a tape measure to measure the height and circumference of your can. These will be the approximate dimensions of the image you need to print.
2. Resize your photo to the dimensions you measured earlier. Your image height should match the height of your can, and the length should match the can's circumference or make your image a smidge taller and about a half inch to an inch wider than you measured. Giving yourself extra width is particularly important, as you'll want some overlap to help the glue set properly. The thinner the paper your photo is printed on, the more willing it'll be to conform to the curvature of your can.
3. Once printed, use scissors or a cutting blade and ruler to trim your photo to match the height and circumference of your can. Remember to leave yourself at least a half inch of extra width for overlap and a little extra height. (You can always trim away the excess later if you need to.)



4. To affix your photo to your can, you can use any kind of strong glue that will bond paper. Apply your cement to your can and let it dry. As it dries, apply a good coat to the back of your photo. Make sure to glue the overlapping part of the photo so it'll stick to itself, and press the wet photo to the dry can.
5. To help the photo bond to the can label, wrap the can tightly with several rubber bands. Make sure you've worked out all the air bubbles, and leave the rubber bands and can overnight to ensure a good, solid seal.

Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?
- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Other Crafts Using Similar Method

- Use your image editor to chop your photos into multiple pieces and use a stack of cans to display them. Each photo needn't be long enough to wrap around a can, and you can build a whole wall of cans if you can blow up your photos large enough.
- Open and empty your Can Frame and use it as a vase! Taller cans work best.
- Use your Can Frame or a row of Can Frames as plant pots.



Other Funky Frame Ideas



Photo frames from old chair backs!
<http://allthingsthifty.com>



Old pie pans as photo frames.
<http://homerestylerek.blogspot.com>



Transform old books into interesting frames!
<http://www.bhg.com/decorating/do-it-yourself/fabric-paper-projects/easy-crafts-with-photos>



A black & white photo in a mason jar of olive oil!
<http://funkybeardecor.com>

The Crafty Crafter: Cutting

Crafting tends to involve a lot of cutting and specialized cutting tools:

- Scissors

Crafters need to keep a good sharp pair of scissors on hand. If you are cutting fabric you will want a sharp pair of dressmakers shears. If you are doing needlework, a small pair of scissors for snipping threads will come in very handy. All craft stores and office supply stores will have a wide selection depending on your purpose.

- Craft Knife

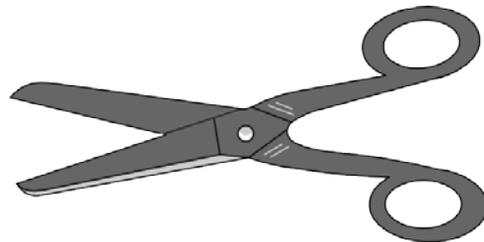
These very sharp little knives can either be retractable or not but all have replaceable blades. They are best used on a special cutting mat and with a steel ruler if you want a straight line. They are ideal for precise clean cuts, especially on paper.

- Cutting wheel

Quilters and other crafters who work with fabric often prefer using a rotary cutter on a previously mentioned cutting mat. They are especially useful when cutting curved patterns and small details. Cutting mats are marked in helpful grid patterns to make measuring and straight lines easier.

- Paper cutter

Photographers and crafters who work with paper often prefer a paper cutter, sometimes called a paper trimmer or guillotine. The heavier and sharper the blade, the more reliable the accuracy. Like cutting mats, paper cutters are also marked with a measuring grid.



Activity 4: Kid Stuff (fun for big kids too)

Making a jigsaw puzzle with one of your own photos

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Members do their own
- Members share their creations with group

What you will learn

How to make a basic jigsaw puzzle

What you will need

- An appropriate photo
- A puzzle the same size and number of pieces as the puzzle you want to make
- Heavy cardboard
- Rotary cutting wheel or X-acto cutting blade
- Cutting mat
- Dry-mounting spray



Instructions

1. Find a pre-made puzzle the same size and number of pieces as the puzzle you want to make. Choose a puzzle with large pieces if your puzzle is for small children. Select a photo and print it as close to the desired final size as possible. Prepare your picture and your cardboard to match in size.
2. Apply a light coat of the dry-mounting spray to the back of the picture and to the cardboard. Affix the picture to the board by starting at one end and slowly working toward the other. Work out any air bubbles as you go; pull up part of the picture carefully if an air bubble will not press out. Spray the board and picture with a light coating of the dry mounting spray. Let the piece dry completely.
3. Carefully trace around the pieces of the pattern puzzle on your prepared photo. Cut puzzle using the rotary cutting wheel or X-acto cutting blade on cutting mat.
4. Sand the edges of all pieces lightly to remove any jagged edges. Put the puzzle together and sand the back side until it is smooth.

Tips

- Use good quality paper of a medium-light weight for the picture print. Heavy paper will fray and light paper will not hold up when treated with the dry mounting spray.
- Practice cutting puzzle pieces on a plain cardboard to get the feel of the process. You can draw shapes onto the board to help learn the best techniques.

Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?
- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Other Crafts Using Similar Method

- Photos can also be glued to all four sides of wooden blocks using the same adhesive plus a sealer like Mod Podge.



The Crafty Crafter: Craft Material for Kids

Most of us are involved with crafts for children at one time or another: babysitting, Sunday School, camp counselling, etc. As any primary school teacher or parent of young children will tell you, one of the best sources of craft material for kids is what used to be called “junk” but are now called “recyclables”:

- Egg cartons
- Paper towel and toilet tissue rolls
- Yogurt containers
- Milk cartons and jugs
- Fabric scraps
- Aluminum cans
- Glass jars
- Cardboard boxes
- Magazines



You get the idea. Just raid the recycle box! This material plus a little imagination need only be supplemented by a few purchased supplies to keep your young charges entertained for hours.

Basic purchased supplies can include:

- White glue, glue sticks, and/or glue gun (with close supervision)
- Paint
- Markers
- Sparkles
- Felt
- Construction paper
- Scotch tape

Then all you need are scissors, a stapler and a work surface and you are set! Make sure that all supplies like glue, paint and markers are water-based/washable to avoid stains.

Some Websites with Great Ideas for Crafty Kids

- <http://www.thecraftycrow.net>
- <http://www.dltk-kids.com>
- <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts>

- <http://www.themotherhuddle.com>
- <http://pinterest.com/maryannrizzo/crafty-kids>
- <http://pinterest.com/tinywhitedaisy/children-s-craft-ideas>
- <http://spoonful.com>
- <http://www.activityvillage.co.uk>
- <http://www.firstpalette.com>
- <http://www.kidspot.com.au>

You can often incorporate photos in kid's crafts too!



Activity 5: Crafty Christmas

Photo crafts make excellent gifts!

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Member do their own
- Members share their creations with group

What you will learn

How to make a snowglobe



What you will need

- An appropriate laminated photo
- A jar with a lid of appropriate size and shape
- Waterproof (plastic, ceramic) accessories in appropriate size
- Sandpaper
- Water
- Glitter
- Waterproof glue
- Glycerin
- Paint or fabric for lid

Instructions

1. Find a jar with a lid of appropriate size and shape.
2. Find some waterproof (plastic, ceramic) figurines, etc. Try thrift and craft stores for little winter-themed figurines and tiny decorations. (Aquarium gravel makes cool “rocks”.)
3. Print a photo of a friend, pet, your home or whatever, cut out and laminate it. If you don’t have a laminator, most copy stores have lamination services that don’t cost much. Or you can do cold laminating with contact plastic. Make sure when you cut around your lamination, you leave a tiny border so it stays sealed up.
4. Rough up the inside of the jar lid with sandpaper before you start so the glue adheres better. Create a scene on the underside of the jar lid using a hot melt glue gun. Keep

things away from the edges so you can still screw the lid onto the jar. When everything is dry turn it upside down and shake it a few times to make sure nothing falls off.

5. Fill your jar with water, almost to the top and add one tablespoon of glitter.
6. Add one tablespoon glycerin, which makes the glitter float down a little slower than it does in plain water.
7. Put the lid on and tighten it. Leave your globe un-glued in case you have to open them up to fix or change something. You can put hot glue or coloured electrical tape on the edge of the jar when you are ready to seal it up. It's best to display them somewhere that won't be damaged if a little water leaks out especially at first.
8. Paint or cover the jar lids with contact plastic or fabric to hide any labels.



Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?

- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Another Christmas Photo Craft

- Cookie Cutter tree ornaments. Trace around cookie cutters on photos glued to cardboard like in Activity 4. Cover back of cardboard with foil Christmas wrap. Use a hole punch to

make a neat hole for ribbon or string to hang your photo ornament on your Christmas tree.



Bookmarks made with your own photos! Choose a photo that lends itself to being cropped vertically. Laminate or cover both sides with clear contact plastic like the snow globe figures. Hole punch the top and add a ribbon. Voila!

The Crafty Crafter: Inexpensive Christmas Craft Materials

- Ribbon
- Glitter
- Pine cones
- Felt
- Branches, evergreen and bare
- Dollar store candles
- Garage sale finds, esp. glass articles
- Fruit
- Polyester fibrefill (fake snow)
- Paper bags and paper plates
- Hard candies
- Pipe cleaners
- Foil gift wrap
- Recycled CDs



Nature provides some of the best and most affordable craft materials. Above: pieces of small birch logs with tea light surrounded by cedar and fir branches, pine cones and glass ornaments.

Do a Google “image” search using the terms “Christmas” “craft” and “materials”. You will be amazed by the number of really attractive things that can be made using inexpensive or free materials.

Here are just a few sources of some cool ideas:

- <http://www.craftynest.com/2010/08/inexpensive-handmade-holiday-gift-ideas>
- <http://www.allfreechristmascrafts.com>
- <http://www.bhg.com/christmas/crafts/low-cost-christmas-projects>
- <http://www.marthastewart.com/275049/affordable-christmas-crafts>

Activity 6: Jazzy Jewellery #1

Wear your photos!

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Members do their own
- Members share their creations with group

What you will learn

How to make a photo pendant



What you will need

- An appropriate photo about 2 cm x 2 cm
- A square glass tiles about 2.25 cm x 2.25 cm
- A bail (the component used to attach the pendant to the chain)
- Diamond Glaze glue and sealer
- Super Glue
- Chain

Supplies should be available at most craft stores and online craft supply merchants.

Instructions

1. Print and cut out an appropriate photo in the appropriate size.
2. Put a tiny drop of the Diamond Glaze on your tile. Use a small paint brush to spread it out a little. If you have too much just brush some off.
3. While the Diamond Glaze is still wet, set your picture face down on your tile. Rub the back of your paper to get a really good seal. Let it dry for 5-10 minutes. Then squirt some Diamond Glaze on the back of the photo. Spread it out with a brush to seal your paper. Let it dry for several hours.
4. After they are dried, use super glue to attach the bail to the back.
5. Thread chain through bail and wear proudly or give as a gift to someone special.

Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?
- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Other Photo Jewellery Ideas

There is a huge range of jewellery settings available at crafts stores which require only the installation of an appropriately sized photo.



Activity 7: Jazzy Jewellery #2

Wear your photos!

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Members do their own
- Members share their creations with group



What you will learn

How to make earrings, bracelets, key fobs and more

What you will need

- An appropriate photo
- Inkjet-printable shrink plastic (clear or white)
- Oven or toaster oven
- Cookie sheet
- Parchment paper
- Scissors and/or X-acto knife
- Hole punch

Instructions

1. Your pictures will shrink significantly, so choose ones that will be easily recognizable at a very small size.
2. Since the plastic may not shrink proportionately, cut the photos into shapes that can stand a little wobbliness. Ovals and circles are best. Crop them into the shape you want in the computer, or do it by hand after they print out.
3. Resize your chosen images using your photo editing program and make them 2-3 times larger than you want the final pieces to be.
4. Arrange the images so they will print on a letter-sized piece of paper. You can fit several images on a sheet so you don't waste materials.
5. Since the colors will darken and saturate as the plastic shrinks, adjust the output on your printer to nearly the minimum colour intensity. All other printer settings should be the same as printing on plain paper.

6. Print the images on a sheet of shrink plastic and let it dry for a minute or two before handling it.
7. Cut the images out using scissors or X-acto knife. You can cut the pieces into generic shapes like ovals, or cut out the silhouette of an object.
8. If you need to have holes in the final piece (for attaching to key rings, chains, etc.) punch holes in the piece before baking it. A standard hole punch works fine, but if the final hole needs to be really large, you should cut it out with a knife.
9. Preheat the oven to 300° F — toaster ovens work just as well as big ones for this.
10. Put a piece of parchment paper on a cookie sheet and arrange the plastic pieces on it so they're not touching each other. Place another sheet of parchment paper on top. Don't bake the plastic on bare metal — it'll stick.
11. Bake for approximately 2-5 minutes. It's best to turn on the oven light and watch to see when they're done (It's also kind of neat to watch). The plastic will curl up, then flatten out.
12. Don't remove the baking sheet until the pieces have flattened (and don't forget to use an oven mitt). If they're still a tiny bit curled when you take them out, you can flatten them with a spatula if you work quickly. Use gloves if you handle the plastic pieces before they're cool.

How to Make Magnets

Fridge magnets are probably the easiest thing to make out of little plastic photos. Make a few round or oblong-shaped photos, bake them as described above and glue magnets to the back of them.

How to Make a Zipper Pull

Choose a tall, narrow photograph and crop to make it even longer and thinner. Resize the photo (a 2-inch long zipper pull will have to be printed at least 4 inches tall) and print it out. Cut it out and punch a hole near the top of the picture. When baked, shrunken and done, attach the piece to your zipper using a metal jump ring.

How to Make Earrings

Make two round photos and punch a hole in the top of each one. When they're done, slip them onto a pair of hoops and you're finished. Try big hoops with tiny little discs or wee little hoops with big plastic discs: they'll all look good.

How to Make a Necklace

To make a horizontal necklace, make a wide oblong photo and punch holes in each side. Once it's baked and finished, thread a fine chain through the holes, or attach jump rings to the holes

and thread the chain through those. To make a vertical necklace, make a tall, narrow photo and punch a hole in the top. Attach a jump ring and slide it onto a chain.

Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?

- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Activity 8: Fabric Photos

Print YOUR photo on fabric

- Leader demonstrates crafts
- Members do their own
- Members share their creations with group

What you will learn

How to use fabric as a photo medium.

What you will need

- An appropriate photo
- A pre-made cotton or cotton-linen fabric article
- Iron-on transfers for Inkjet printers
- Scissors
- Iron and ironing board



Instructions

1. Select an item which you would like to decorate with one of your photos. This may need to be decided and ordered as group. It needs to be made of plain light-coloured cotton or a cotton-linen blend. See list which follows.
2. Resize your photo to the best dimensions for your article and print on iron-on transfer paper following the package directions. (Remember if there is any text in your photo you will need to reverse it before printing so it will appear the correct way around on your finished product.)
3. Once printed, use scissors to trim the photo and place upside down on your article and iron with a DRY iron following transfer package directions. Be very careful not to move the transfer while ironing!
4. Remove the transfer paper and let your article cool before handling.

Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?
- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Good sources for articles appropriate for iron-on transfers

- Local stores and suppliers
- Local seamstresses/tailors
- The following online suppliers:
 - Tote bags:** <http://www.llbean.com>
 - Make-up bags:** <http://store.americanapparel.net>
 - Cushion covers:** <http://www.craftycomputerpaper.co.uk>
 - Cushion covers:** <http://www.ebay.com>
 - Bib aprons:** <http://www.amazon.com>

You will need an adult with a credit card who is comfortable with online shopping to make the above purchases for you. UK vendors can often be as prompt as U.S. for delivery.

The Crafty Crafter: Fabrics

The following fabrics are the most useful to crafters:

- **Cotton**

The king of crafting fabric is available in many weights from canvas to gauze, in dozens of colours and millions of prints and designs. This is the go-to fabric for quilters and folk art folks. It has the added bonus of being a natural material and relatively inexpensive.



- **Felt**

Traditionally, felt is a fabric made from matting and pressing wool. In fact, making real wool “felt” has become a craft in itself. However, the felt used for many inexpensive craft projects is made from synthetic fibres. In fact, much of the craft felt available today is made from recycled plastic bottles.



- **Tulle**

Tulle is a lightweight, very fine netting, which is often starched. It can be made of various fibres, including silk, nylon, and rayon. Tulle is most commonly used for veils, gowns (particularly wedding gowns) and ballet tutus as well as crafts and comes in a wide array of colours, patterns and embellishments like glitter.



- **Plush**

Plush is a textile having a cut nap or pile the same as velvet. Modern plush is commonly manufactured from synthetic fibres such as polyester. One of the largest uses of this fabric is in the production of stuffed toys but crafters use it for a large variety of things.



- **Burlap**

Burlap or Jute or Hessian is a woven fabric usually made from the jute Henequen plant or sisal fibres. It may also be combined with other vegetable fibres to make rope, nets and similar products. A dense woven fabric, it has been historically produced as a coarse fabric, but more recently it is being used in a refined state known simply as jute as an eco-friendly material for bags, rugs, and other products.



- **Vinyl**

Vinyl is a type of plastic that is made from ethylene (found in crude oil) and chlorine (found in regular salt). When processed, both the substances are combined to form Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) resin, or as is commonly referred to - Vinyl. It is inexpensive and, like felt and tulle, it has the added advantage of providing a cut edge that doesn't require hemming to prevent raveling plus it's completely waterproof and washable.



Activity 9: Transparent Treasures

See-through photos!

- Leader demonstrates crafts.
- Members do their own.
- Members share their creations with group.

What you will learn

How to print your photos on vellum.

What you will need

- An appropriate photo
- Vellum paper available from office supply stores
- Three identical inexpensive frames
- Cloth Tape
- Votive Candle (real or battery operated)

Instructions

1. Disassemble three identical frames, setting aside their fronts and discarding their backings.
2. Upload or scan photographs into a computer. With editing software, make the images black and white, and resize them to fit your frames. Print them onto vellum paper with an ink-jet printer.
3. Slip the images into the frames.
4. Using cloth tape, hinge frames together to form a triangle. Stand frames around a candle in a protective glass holder.



Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?
- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 30 minutes for demonstration
- 30 minutes to make your own
- 30 minutes group sharing and discussion

Another Vellum Photo Craft

Edit your photo as above and resize to fit an inexpensive clear glass cylinder vase. Print your photo on vellum and place inside of vase. Add a votive candle and voila!



Yet Another Idea

Prepare photos the same way but attach to the inside of an inexpensive white lampshade with a transparent adhesive. Try a collage.

The Crafty Crafter: Vellum



Yes, afraid so, vellum is indeed “calf skin” or at least it used to be. Vellum is the translucent material produced from the skin of a young animal; usually a calf but sheep, goat, etc. also work. The skin is washed with water then lime. Any remaining hair is removed and the skin is dried by attaching it to a frame. Once the skin is completely dry, it is thoroughly cleaned and processed into sheets. The number of sheets extracted from the piece of skin depends on the size of the skin and the given dimensions requested by the order. For example, the average calfskin can provide three and half medium sheets of writing material.

The difference between vellum (or parchment) and leather is that the former is not processed using tanning techniques. The distinction between vellum and parchment has been made in several different ways, and no one definition can be considered correct, but vellum has always denoted the better quality. In the usage of modern practitioners of the artistic crafts of writing, illuminating, lettering and bookbinding, “vellum” is normally reserved for calfskin, while any other skin is called “parchment”.

Lasting in excess of 1,000 years, animal vellum can be far more durable than paper. For this reason, many important documents have been traditionally written on animal vellum, such as diplomas. Referring to a diploma as a “sheepskin” alludes to the time when diplomas were written on vellum made from animal hides.

British Acts of Parliament are still printed on vellum for archival purposes, as are those of the Republic of Ireland. It is still used for Jewish scrolls, of the Torah in particular, for luxury book-binding, memorial books and for various documents in calligraphy. Today, because of low demand and the complicated manufacturing process, animal vellum is expensive and hard to find. A modern imitation is made out of cotton. Known as paper vellum, this material is considerably cheaper than animal vellum and can be found in most art and drafting supply stores. Some brands of writing paper and other sorts of paper use the term “vellum” to suggest quality.

From: <http://en.wikipedia.org>

Phabulous Photos | 33

Activity 10: Brainstorm Blizzard

Craft Ideas!



What you will learn

Ideas for future crafts, where to find them, how to organize them and how to share them.

What you will need

- A computer with Internet access

Instructions

1. Register on the “Pinterest” website. <http://pinterest.com>
2. Create a “board” on which to “pin” your crafts ideas.
3. Search the Internet for potential future crafts using digital photos.
4. Craft Criteria:
 - Craft must use digital photos.
 - Craft must be inexpensive/affordable.
 - Materials for the craft must be readily available.
 - No special equipment or skills are required.
5. Start “pinning” your ideas to your “board”.
6. Share your ideas with the group.

Let's Talk

- Would you do this differently next time? How?

- Other crafts you could make using similar method?

Time

- 60 minutes to collect ideas
- 60 minutes group sharing and discussion

Good Places to find Ideas for Photo Crafts

- <http://photojojo.com>
- <http://pinterest.com>
- <http://www.bhg.com>
- <http://www.marthastewart.com>
- <http://www.brighthub.com>
- <http://www.moneycrashers.com>



OR



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Activity 10: Care and Share

Support your community!

What you will learn

The value of using your time and talent to support your community.

What you will need

- A digital camera
- An appropriate photo
- A craft idea
- Necessary materials



Instructions

1. Take a photo of a recognizable landscape, landmark or building in your community.
2. Incorporate this photo into a craft which will be offered for sale in conjunction with a local bake sale or craft fair with the proceeds going to a community fundraising project.
3. The group leader will act as a liaison between your group and another for this joint activity.
4. Group members will share their ideas and finished products prior to the sale.

Let's Talk

- What did you choose to photograph?

- What craft did you choose?

Time

- 60 minutes to photograph your landmark and select a craft ideas
- 60 minutes group sharing and discussion

Some suggestions

- Historic house
- Church
- Town hall
- Arena
- School
- Hospital
- Care home
- Playground
- Park
- Cenotaph
- Statue
- Tree



Your community might not have the pyramids or the Statue of Liberty but it does have some buildings and spaces that are special to the people who live there.



The Crafty Crafter: Successful Craft Fair Tips

If you decide to have your own craft fair independent of another event your group may find the following tips helpful:



1. **Be visible, friendly and approachable.**

Don't hide behind your merchandise and do make contact with shoppers. One thing shoppers consistently

say is that their favourite aspect of a craft show is meeting the artist. Shoppers like talking to artists face-to-face, so smile and encourage them to browse.

2. **Create an inviting set-up.**

We all respond to visual stimulation, so you need to create an inviting booth set-up. You don't want to distract from your work, so try to craft a theme that will enhance your products. Also, shoppers like to know the name of your business at a glance, so a banner or sign is recommended. Think of your booth as your storefront. You may have to spend a bit of money on booth props and signage initially, but it's a wise investment that is sure to enhance your business. And show functional items in use by utilizing props. For example, if you make bookends, bring books to place between them to showcase that they are in fact bookends.

3. **Invite shoppers to sign up for your e-mailing list.**

This is a great way to target shoppers that are obviously interested in handmade items. You can even send your subscribers a special offer for each event. Example: Visit my booth at the 3rd Annual Funky Finds Spring Fling and mention "newsletter" to receive a free gift.

4. **Wrap up sales as quickly as possible.**

It's great to spend time with customers; however, once you have made a sale, you need to quickly get back to paying attention to other potential customers.

5. **Have takeaway promo items available.**

While some shoppers may not purchase an item from you at an event, they may want to make a purchase online at a later date. Having eye-catching business cards, postcards, etc. are a great way for shoppers to remember you once they leave an event. Advertising in event booklets is another great way for shoppers to find you once they return home.

6. **Have plenty of change.**

Many shoppers bring cash, so you want to have plenty of change available.

7. **Accept credit and debit cards.**

This used to be a tricky one, but now, thanks to products like Square, artists can easily accept credit and debit cards at events. Learn more about this product via NPR.

8. **Be prepared.**

It's always best to have some emergency supplies on-hand, such as tools (e.g. scissors, hammer, tape). Long extension cords, power strips and extra light bulbs are also good additions. My mantra is "better to be over-prepared than under-prepared!"

9. **Bring snacks and (non-alcoholic) beverages.**

We always encourage vendors to bring snacks and a small cooler with plenty of water or sports drinks. You need to stay hydrated so you will be at your best all day. Even though a concession stand may be available, it's more convenient (and affordable) to bring items you can easily access within your booth space.

10. **Price your items.**

Shoppers don't always feel comfortable asking the artist how much a particular item costs. Have your prices visible so you won't lose out on sales. There's lots of debate about this, but in my opinion I like to see the prices when shopping.

11. **Promote events you are participating in.**

This is where mailing lists come in handy, but also be sure to promote events you're participating in via social networking sites, your blog, online shop and/or website. Also,

don't hesitate to send a press release to local media outlets 3-4 weeks prior to the event. Be sure you have all the details listed, including location, dates and times, and anything else that will set the event apart from other events (charitable aspect).

12. Loading and Unloading.

Allow plenty of time to unload and set up your booth space. When allowed to drive into a venue, be courteous and unload as quickly as possible and move your vehicle before arranging your setup. This will free up space so other vendors can do the same.

13. Scope out the venue beforehand.

It's always wise to locate the bathrooms, concessions, ATM, etc. before the event begins. This will benefit you, as well as any shoppers that may ask you for directions.

14. Use your time wisely.

Take advantage of slow times to replenish your items, move things around to fill in holes left from items sold, sweep up, and keep busy. If your potential customers see you just sitting on a stool looking around, they may get the impression that you aren't very interested in being there.

15. Bring a camera.

Many craft show applications require that you submit a photo of your booth set-up, so be sure to bring a camera to events so you can photograph your space.

16. Have fun!

While craft shows are LOTS of work and you are there to make a profit, you still want to have fun and enjoy the experience. Stay positive, make friends and look happy!

17. Stay off the phone.

This includes talking AND texting/surfing the 'net.

From <http://funkyfinds.com>





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