

Aim:

To teach children some basic cooking techniques and recipes. Cooking with children is a good way to help them develop healthy eating habits. Most children enjoy helping in the kitchen and helps them to see that they are able to help cook delicious treats.

Activity 1 Toffee Apples

Aim:

Creating the very best Toffee Apples!

Equipment:

Recipe for children working as a pair (2 apples each):

- 4 Granny Smith apples
- 200g golden caster sugar
- ½ tsp vinegar
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- Saucepan
- Bowl
- Wooden Skewers (per apple)
- Measuring Jug
- Thermometer
- Baking Paper
- Cooker

Instructions:

- Place the apples in a bowl, then cover with boiling water. This will remove the waxy coating and help the caramel to stick. Dry thoroughly and twist off any stalks.
- Push a wooden skewer or lolly stick into the stalk end of each apple.
- Lay out a sheet of baking paper and place the apples on this, close to your stovetop.
- Tip the sugar into a pan along with 100ml water and set over a medium heat. Cook for 5 mins until the sugar dissolves, then stir in the vinegar and syrup. Set a sugar thermometer in the pan and boil to 140C or 'hard crack' stage. If you don't have a thermometer you can test the toffee by pouring a little into a bowl of cold water. It should harden instantly and, when removed, be brittle and easy to break. If you can still squish the toffee, continue to boil it.
- Working quickly and carefully, dip and twist each apple in the hot toffee until covered, let any excess drip away, then place on the baking parchment to harden. You may have to heat the toffee a little if the temperature drops and it starts to feel thick and viscous.
- Leave the toffee to cool before eating.



20 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Always be aware of the risks to children in the kitchen. Make sure you have appropriate supervision and help.



25 minutes (plus 35 mins cooking)



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Always be aware of the risks to children in the kitchen. Make sure you have appropriate supervision and help.

Activity 2 Pies, Pies, Pies

Aim:

To make a pie, choosing choice of meat and vegetables.

Equipment:

The following recipe is for a group of 3 to make a pie each:

- 500g puff pastry , plus flour for dusting
- 250g diced meat (chicken / beef)
- Vegetables (as required for fillings, each child can choose)
- 6 tbsp double cream
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 egg , beaten
- Oil (or brushing)
- Rolling Pin
- Knife
- Scissors
- Mixing Spoon
- Oven

Preparation:

Turn the oven on to 180C/160C fan/gas 4.

Instructions:

- Roll out the pastry on a floured surface and trim to make a rectangle about 24 x 36cm.
- Cut the pastry in half, lengthways, then cut each half into 3 equal squares, about 12cm along each side, using a small knife or scissors.
- Push each square into the oiled tin, making sure it is pushed right into the edges
- Use scissors or a small knife to cut the chicken into strips, then cut into chunks. Put chunks in a bowl. Add the sweetcorn, peas, cream and mustard. Mix together.
- Divide mixture between the pies. Fold the tops of the pies over roughly and press together. Don't worry if they don't cover all the filling.
- Brush the pastry with the beaten egg. Put them in the oven (a leader should do this) for 35 minutes or until they brown and the filling bubbles.

Activity 3 Pancakes Galore

Equipment:

To make the batter you will need the following:

- 100g (4oz) plain flour
- 1 egg
- 300ml (1/2 pint) milk
- Optional pinch salt

Additional ingredients/equipment:

- Fillings (as required – see list of suggestions below)
- Oil (for frying)
- Frying Pan
- Cooker

Instructions:

- Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Add the egg and beat well. Then add the milk gradually and beat to make a smooth batter.
- Heat a little oil in a large frying pan until hot and then pour enough batter to thinly coat the base of the pan. Cook for a couple of minutes each side.
- Add your choice of filling (some examples of fillings below).

Some ideas of fillings are:

Sweet fillings: chocolate spread, lemon, sugar, strawberries, bananas, golden syrup, sprinkles, ice cream, honey, apples & cinnamon, marshmallows, cherries.

Savoury fillings: cheese, ham, spinach, tomatoes.

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

Pancake Cafe – Following on from this activity you could run a Pancake Cafe as a fundraising activity. Let the children make pancakes for family, friends and supporters.



15 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Always be aware of the risks to children in the kitchen. Make sure you have appropriate supervision and help.





Aim:

To create some stunning, fun and colourful art projects that can be taken home and kept.

Introduction:

Children naturally love art – painting, drawing, creating things from their imaginations. Through art children learn to think creatively, to observe and interpret what they have been shown or told. Art helps children to express their feelings, with or without words and have fun – craft and art can be a learning opportunity.

Children with physical, emotional or learning difficulties can express themselves and be very stimulated by art.

Activity 1 Post Box Money Box

Aim:

To make a Post Box money box.

Equipment:

- Cylindrical crisp or biscuit tube
- Scissors
- Black marker pen
- PVA glue
- Tissue paper or toilet roll
- Water

Preparation:

Prepare the craft table.

Instructions:

- Take a crisp or biscuit tube that is cylindrical.
- Draw a slot about an inch down from the lid wide enough to post money in and cut it out.
- Cut out a card square for an information board and stick it to the front of the post box.
- To strengthen the post box, mix PVA glue in equal parts with some water, and paint it all over the tube.
- Onto the glue smooth on strips of tissue paper or toilet roll. Do this so that are two layers of glue and tissue paper.
- Leave it to dry. Don't forget to let the tube dry separately from the lid.
- Once it is dry use poster paint to paint the box red.
- When the paint is dry, paint on other details onto the information board or draw with a marker pen.
- Outline around the money slot and any other details with a black marker and get the children to personalise their money box.
- Post some money through the slot. To retrieve it, open the lid.

Tips/Advice:

You could pre cut the post hole for the children to save time.



30 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.



20–30 minutes



No maximum number
depending on
adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate
supervision when
using scissors and
glue.

Activity 2 Make Your Own Game

Aim:

To take the role of game designers.

Equipment:

- Coloured card or stiff paper
- Scissors
- Colouring Pens/Pencils
- Glue

Instructions:

- Tell the children that they are games designers today.
- Give each of the children a piece of card which will make the base of the game.
- Then each child must decide what shape their game is going to take. It can be a square, a winding road, a snake shape or a large circle.
- They will then need to cut out a shape for each of their game squares, circles, triangles etc. They will need about 15–20 of these cut from a different coloured card or a few colours.
- These game squares will then need to be stuck on in the shape that that they have chosen for the game to be played.
- Then the children need to decide what they will write on each segment. Will it be move on two spaces, miss a turn, go back to the start etc.
- Each segment could be numbered with only some having directions on them. The first and last could have Start and Finish on them. They can also decorate the area around the game board and then write Designed by ...Jo Smith on the bottom of the board. If you have time the children could play their games together at the close of the session.

Activity 3 Tin Foil Figures

Aim:

To use imagination to create animals from tin foil.

Equipment:

- Sellotape
- Newspaper
- Tin Foil
- Cardboard Box Card
- Scissors

Preparation:

Have an example prepared to show the children, but explain that it is only an example and the children do not need to copy it.

Instructions:

- Use plenty of Sellotape to hold the shape.
- Twist 4 strips of newspaper into arms and legs.
- Then use Sellotape to hold the four limbs in shape.
- Bend each of the legs to make feet.
- Scrunch up a small ball of newspaper to make the animal's head.
- Use Sellotape to hold it in place.
- Once you have made all the parts Sellotape them together in the form of animal.
- To make the animal stand securely cut out a cardboard base and put a scrunched up piece of newspaper on it – then tape the animal to the base.
- Next let the children cover their creation with tin foil to make it look like it is made from metal.
- Sellotape can be used to secure the foil – try to hide the Sellotape under the foil or use double sided tape.



20 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors.



Introduction:

Drawing is a powerful way to develop children's perception and thought and is a skill that can be improved through practice and direction. Drawing can encourage children's observation and recollection and encourage creative expression of ideas and feelings.

Activity 1 Upside Down Heads

Aim:

To get the children to enjoy drawing and unlock their creativity and imaginations.

Equipment:

- Paper
- Pens/Pencils

Preparation:

Lay the table with chairs facing opposite each other and with pens accessible. Put one piece of paper between each pair with a large oval shape already drawn on it. Use a marker pen to draw this.

Instructions:

- The children work in pairs to create a top and bottom drawing of a person's face.
- The children sit opposite each other with one piece of paper. Tell them that they are artists and that they will be drawing a portrait of a person today.
- Tell them that the oval on the paper is a face and that they must in turn draw features on paper.
- They need to use what the other person has drawn to make up the face that they see from their side of the paper.
- So one child may draw a smile on his side which the other child may use as an eyebrow for his face. Because each child's view is upside-down in relation to the others features added will take on a different meaning for each child. If one draws a mouth it could be frown lines from the other child's perspective. In the same way, the eyebrows that one child draws could look like bags under the eyes of the others face.
- By the time they have completed their drawing, the children will have created two completely different faces. Who knows which will be the right way up?

Tips/Advice:

You could get two leaders to do this first so that the children can see what they need to do.



10 minutes



4+ No maximum
number depending on
adequate supervision.



20 minutes



3+ No maximum
number depending on
adequate supervision.

Activity 2 Doodlemania

Aim:

To learn to draw with your eyes closed and to have fun doing it!

Equipment:

- Flip chart
- Pens

Preparation:

Have some words written on paper and hand them out to each child.

Instructions:

- This is a doodling activity that the children will love – it is also a game so they will have fun and enjoy the challenge. It can be done in two ways – either by using a flip chart or by using pens and paper at tables. It can be an individual exercise or a group game for all ages.
- If playing individually get a leader or child who may not be able to participate to call out an object (a bus, banana, hanger, rocket, dog etc) and the children must then with eyes closed try to draw the object.
- Encourage the children to keep their eyes closed and not be tempted to cheat.
- When the drawing is finished, get everyone to look at their picture and enjoy the results – they will be funny.
- If you are doing this as a group then give each child a word and they will come and draw it on the flip chart and then the group must try to guess what the child was drawing. Use a blindfold for this group activity.

Tips/Advice:

Encourage the children to laugh at themselves and enjoy this as fun and non competitive.



Activity 3 My Body

Aim:

To get an outline of each child and to get them to be creative and draw themselves as they think they are.

Equipment:

- Rolls of old wallpaper
- Pens, coloured pens, black marker pens
- Scissors

Instructions:

- Children work in pairs to draw around each other on the paper.
- You can then cut that piece of paper off the roll and each child can go away and work on their body adding features, a face, fingers, clothes, hair etc.
- They may like to do this lying on the floor or at a table. Because of the size of each piece of paper it will be easier to work on the floor if that is possible.
- Give the children the choice to cut around their bodies if they want a cut out.
- If they are stuck for ideas give them a theme for themselves. Pirate, Cowboy, Fairy etc.

Tips/Advice:

Give the children plenty of time to make their drawings. This is a very self expressive exercise and will give you a good idea of how the children see themselves. Try not to influence them but just go around and encourage each child.

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

The pictures could be displayed on the wall (if you have space) for a few weeks and then they can take them home. If you have teams the pictures could be put together where you show their points on the wall.



20 minutes



5+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors.

Activity 4 Animation Flipbook

Aim:

To get the children to create a small animation book.

Equipment:

- Small notebook or pad of paper
- Colouring Pens/Pencils

Instructions:

An animated cartoon is made up of a series of drawings that are shown quickly, one after the other, so that the figures appear to move. Your children can bring their own drawings to life by making a flipbook.

- Tell the children to choose an action to draw in their flipbook. Ideas run from a face changing from sad to happy, a person walking, a dolphin playing to a boy kicking a ball.
- On the last page of the flipbook, have the children draw the first picture in their activity sequence (e.g. the sad face).
- On the next page, they draw the same picture but with a small difference (e.g. the mouth turning up a little).



15 minutes



4+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.

- Then draw each picture slightly changed from the previous until the activity sequence is complete.
- Demonstrate how to flip the pages back to front to see their handmade personal animation.

Tips/Advice:

It may be hard for some to think creatively so it is good to stimulate them with ideas. If you can make a few flip books for them to see first that would encourage them.

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

- If it is possible to show the children some animation it would be good to give them an idea that this is how the flipbook becomes one of their favourite movies. Go to www.pixar.com/shorts/index.html and you can show them a short film. There is also a "How we do it" page.
- If technology is not possible then show them some images of flipbooks and make one before to show them. They can be very, very, simple.
- If you are interested in getting a book on this then - Flipbook Animation and Other Ways To Make Your Cartoons Move Written and Illustrated By Patrick Jenkins

Devotion Links:

For Activity 3 -Psalm 139

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

God knows each one of us by name because He created us individually and perfectly. He loves each one of us because He made us and he wants us to know Him too.

**Aim:**

To develop their creativity and imagination and to work with a variety of different materials.

Introduction:

Monster crafts are a great way for children to be imaginative and creative as they are not bound by having to make the item look realistic. The ideas below can therefore be changed and any sort of leftover craft materials can be used to decorate the monsters.

Activity 1 Grow A Grass Head Monster

Aim:

To be creative in designing a monster and to learn about how to grow things (in this case grass)

Equipment:

- A nylon sock or a foot from tights or a stocking.
- Grass seed
- Sawdust
- Elastic band
- Old yogurt pot
- Wiggly eyes
- Paper, buttons, ribbon etc to decorate

Instructions:

- Fill the toe of your sock with grass seed.
- Top up with sawdust until you have a ball shape.
- Fasten tightly with the elastic band.
- Decorate the yogurt pot as the body using, paper, ribbon, and whatever else you can find in your craft box!
- Stand the stocking ball in the pot with the grass seed at the top.
- Add some eyes and any other decorative bits you like.
- Keep the yogurt pot topped up with water.
- After a few weeks the head should grow hair!



15 minutes



No maximum number
depending on
adequate supervision.



15 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors, needles and glue.

Activity 2 Felt Toy Monster

Aim:

To create their own monster and decorate it creatively and to learn simple sewing skills.

Equipment:

- Felt Needle and embroidery thread
- Toy stuffing
- Fabric glue
- Wiggle eyes/gems/sequins/
- Scraps of felt/fabric
- Paint/buttons/wool scraps – whatever you can find to decorate your monster
- Monster template (or design your own!)
- Pen (to draw on felt)
- Scissors

Preparation:

The leader needs to be able to sew using a basic running stitch.

Instructions:

- Give each child a sufficiently large piece of felt.
- Ask them to draw two monster outlines using the template.
- Cut out the two monster shapes.
- Teach the children how to thread a needle.
- Teach the children the running stitch by demonstrating it until most of them are able to copy it. Let them practise it on a spare piece of felt.
- Sew the two monster halves together around the edge using running stitch, leaving a small gap at the bottom. The children may require some assistance.
- Use the small gap to stuff the toy.
- When the toy is full, sew up the gap.
- Glue on buttons, wool scraps and anything else you have to make your monster look really scary. E.g. put a button as a nose, red felt scrap as the mouth and cut out teeth shapes from white paper to stick them on.

Activity 3 Plate Puppet Dragon

Aim:

For the children to create and decorate their own puppet.

Equipment:

- Sticky tape
- Glue
- Pink and white coloured paper/card
- Three paper plates per child - two green and one red
- Scissors

Preparation:

If you cannot buy coloured paper plates you may need to paint the plates beforehand and dry.



30 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.



Instructions:

- Fold the red plate and green plate in half to make a mouth and head.
- Use some glue around the edges to stick the back of half the green plate to the back of half the red plate and leave to dry.
- Cut the other green plate in half.
- Stick one of those two halves to half your red plate – making sure that you only use glue around the edges.
- From the left over half of the green plate, cut out two pointy dragon's ears.
- Stick the ears on the dragon using sticky tape.
- On white paper draw two eyes and two pointy, sharp teeth and cut them out.
- On the pink paper draw a long tongue and two nostrils and cut them out.
- Stick all the bits onto the puppet using sticky tape or glue.
- Put your hand inside the mouth to play with the dragon puppet.

Tips / Advice:

When they are finished making the puppets, give the children adequate time to play with them.

Activity 4 Make A Big Head Mask

Aim:

For the children to create and decorate their own monster mask.

Equipment:

- Rulers
- Coloured paper
- Silver card (or white card and silver/grey pens)
- Glue sticks
- Sticky tape
- Scissors
- Pens
- Big head mask template

Instructions:

- Put the two strips of paper together in one long line and add some sticky tape at the join.
- Pick up the long strip and put it around your head.
- When you find a good fit hold it in position, take it off your head and add some sticky tape to fix it in place.
- You should now have a loop that fits around your head. The children may require some help with this stage.
- Now using a new piece of coloured card, draw a shape starting at the bottom. Cut the shape out. This is the monster's head.
- For the hair take a different piece of coloured paper and tear some little jagged pieces.
- Stick these on top of the monster head.
- For the eyebrows tear out some bushy eyebrow shapes from the same piece of paper that you used for the hair.
- Stick these to the monster head using the glue stick.
- Using the black pen draw some wavy lines on the monster's forehead.
- For the bolts, take some silver card and draw two 'T' shapes.
- Cut these out and glue them to either side of the monster's head.
- Take the loop that you made earlier and glue the monster head to it.



15 minutes



No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.



15 minutes



No maximum number
depending on
adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate
supervision when using
scissors and glue.

Activity 5

Hilarious Rubber Glove Monster Hand

Aim:

To create and decorate their own monster hand.

Equipment:

- Old Rubber glove
- Glue
- Coloured Card
- Tissue Paper
- Cotton Wool
- Pipe Cleaner
- Old Long Sock
- Wooden Spoon
- Furry Material
- Scissors

Instructions:

- Put the wooden spoon inside the rubber glove, then fill it with cotton wool and tie with a pipe cleaner at the bottom.
- Draw some creepy, pointy fingernails (triangular shapes) onto some coloured card.
- Cut out and stick onto the glove.
- Stick on some scary monster fur and scrunched up tissue paper as warts.
- Draw on some wrinkles/lines using a black marker.
- Cut the end off of a sock (carefully) and stick it onto the cuff of the glove.

Devotion Links:

Did you know there are 'monsters' in the bible? Tell the story of Jonah who was 'eaten' by a giant fish (Jonah 1: 17) or David fighting the 'giant' Goliath (1 Samuel 17).



Introduction:

Some children are good at working in groups and others are more focused on working alone. A drama activity will help children to learn to be part of a group and how to work with other children. Most activities will involve the cooperation of all the children. Drama activities can build self confidence which is something that most children can benefit from, even for those who appear to be quite sure of themselves.

Activity 1 Tell The Story

Aim:

To get the group to work together to tell a story, one word or one sentence at a time. The activity will encourage creativity, help develop listening and storytelling skills and build the group dynamic.

Instructions:

- Get the children to sit in a circle.
- The story is started by one child and they start with one word.
- Each person in turn then adds one word.
- You can start the story with once - upon - a - time or In - the - beginning - or something similar.
- Get the children to respond promptly after the previous child to keep the flow of the story going.
- Some children will take their opportunity to make the story silly but you can let the children enjoy the fun and then restart using a sentence at a time.
- If the group is too big, divide up into smaller groups. This ensures that people are more attentive; although you should make sure everyone is included.
- Try playing the game in pairs, where both participants act the story out as it is told. In this case, tell the story in the present tense and as 'we'. For example, 'We - are - climbing - a - mountain. - Look - a - giant - spider - coming - towards - us. Quick - run!' You can soon create an adventure story in this way. You can also use the one word at a time technique to create characters made up by two or more people - great fun for interview scenes!

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

A variation is to throw a ball round the circle so that each person that catches the ball says the next word.



15 minutes



6+ No maximum
depending on
adequate supervision



10 minutes



2+ No maximum
depending on
adequate supervision.



20 minutes



6+ No maximum
number depending on
adequate supervision.

Activity 2 Mirror Images

Aim:

To concentrate on a partner's actions.

Instructions:

- Put all the children into pairs.
- They should then stand opposite each other.
- One is A and the other is B
- A will create a movement and B will follow.
- Start with simple hand actions and let them slowly move on to more complicated movements.
- They can mime washing their hands, cleaning teeth, brushing hair, putting clothes on, eating etc etc.
- After a few minutes get the children to swap around and B will initiate the mime.
- Get them to swap over a few times to keep interest.

Activity 3 Super Scenario Machine

Aim:

To get the children thinking creatively and to act out scenarios as an ensemble.

Instructions:

- This is a good activity for generating creative thinking and physical movement
- Explain to the group that they are going to create a machine around a topic.
- Give the children a scenario and let them each think of an action and a sound that is linked to the theme.
- Invite anyone to start and to walk into the middle of the circle and to start their action and sound
- Then let the children join in one by one. The actions and sounds are repeated as in a machine.
- Allow the children to connect to each other if they choose and link their action and sound together.
- Examples could be a supermarket – scanning items, pushing a trolley and saying woosh, stacking shelves, calling for a spillage in aisle 7.
- Some children may choose not to join in – you could make suggestions for them to carry out.

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

Other themes: At an ice rink, Christmas morning, at the doctors, at the dentist, eating a meal.



Aim:

Understand a broader range of musical styles.

Activity 1 Clapping

Aim:

To compose a short piece of clapping music for performance to the rest of the group/or leaders.

Instructions:

- Split your group into smaller groups of 2 to 4 children.
- Then ask each group to make a 30 second routine by clapping. An example could be one child claps slowly with a regular pulse whilst the other claps twice between each clap.
- After giving the children five minutes to complete this ask one or two groups to perform to the rest.
- Then put two groups together and give them 5 minutes to combine their routine or come up with something new.

Tips/Advice:

Ensure there is sufficient time to practise.
They could try a well known theme like 'Match of the day'



20-30 minutes



4 No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.

Activity 2 The Graphical Score

Aim:

To understand and compose a graphical score.

Equipment:

- Paper
- Pens
- Tables



Preparation:

Check out some graphical score videos on the internet.

Instructions:

- A graphical score is a score which instead of using ordinary notes uses pictures or symbols to determine which sounds should be used.
- Any sound that can be made can be used all the children have to do is design a score and put sounds to it. A typical one is pictured, this just uses shapes, words and lines if an item is above the line then it is a high sound if it is below then it is a low sound if it crosses the line it goes from low to high.
- After looking at the example the children should then spend around ten minutes writing and practising their own graphical score, for performance at the end of the session.

Tips/Advice:

Any sounds work for this so the more inventive they are the better.



10-20 minutes



10+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



10 minutes



4+ No maximum
number depending on
adequate supervision.

Activity 3 Musical Numbers

Aim:

To enjoy music and have fun.

Equipment:

- Numbered large paper from 1-10 (could extend this according to group size)
- Small slips of numbered paper 1-10 in a hat or box

Instructions:

- Place the large numbered pieces of paper around the room.
- Put the numbered slips of paper in a hat.
- Get the children to dance around the circle to the music.
- When the music stops, ask the children to stand by the closest numbered paper on the floor.
- Get a leader to pull a slip of paper from the hat.
- Call out the number and the children on that number leave the game.
- Continue until one only child is left and they are the winner.
- You could record some of the music created by the children in an earlier activity and use this.



Activity 1 Mother's Day Flowers

Aim:

To get the children to make flowers for their mothers or carers on Mother's Day.

Equipment:

- Coffee Filters
- Water colour paints
- Jars of water
- Paint brushes
- Scissors
- Wired coloured pipe cleaners one for each flower (green)

Preparation:

- Put newspaper out on the tables or use a plastic tablecloth as your craft cloth. Have jars of water ready and plenty of paint. Flatten a coffee filter paper for each child to start.
- You could have an example already made.

Instructions:

- Flatten the coffee filter onto the table.
- Then paint the filter using water colour paint.
- To make different effects thin the paint with water in places to make the colour lighter. The children can use any combination of colours –best to use two colours per flower.
- You need to let the filters dry completely before cutting them.
- Cut about 2" off the end of a pipe cleaner and set both pieces aside. There are several different ways to make the filters into flowers.
- You can fringe the ends in thin strips (You can cut thicker strips, about 1" wide each, to make the petals or don't cut the filter at all to make a rose.
- Insert the large piece of pipe cleaner into the centre of the coffee filter about 1.5" in.
- Hold onto the small end and turn the flower upside down so that the long end of the pipe cleaner is sticking up.
- Hold the centre of the coffee filter and gather it around the small end of the pipe cleaner
- Twist the smaller piece of the pipe cleaner around the gathered filter paper to secure the flower in place.
- Turn the flower back over and fluff the petals as needed.

Tips/Advice:

- Make flower shapes by experimenting – have some real flowers for the children to use as ideas and make a few sample flowers ahead of time for the children to see and look at whilst they are working.



20 minutes



3+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors.



20 minutes



3+ No maximum
number depending on
adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate
supervision when
using scissors and
glue.

Activity 2 Door Name Plates

Aim:

To make a name plate for their bedroom door.

Equipment:

- Scraps of thick card for the backing board
- Scraps of thin coloured card
- PVA glue
- Foam or paper shapes, (if available)
- Stickers
- Scissors
- Colouring pens/pencils
- Ruler

Preparation:

- Prepare your craft area and have a few boxes of paper and stickers around the area so that children can see and choose what they want to use for their name plate.
- Have some different shapes for the children to draw around on the thick card.

Instructions:

These are very simple to make. Use templates for the actual backing part of the name plate. This could be wood if you are able to get hold of some thin balsa wood. Otherwise use card.

- Draw around one of the shapes onto thick card for the backing board.
- Cut a piece of coloured card, felt or other material the same size and glue onto the backing board to cover.
- Cut another piece of thin card in a contrasting colour and slightly smaller than the first piece.
- Glue centrally on top of the first piece.
- Write a name onto the name plate or use foam letters or sticky letters and add a few simple decorations around the edge either with felt-tip pens or by sticking on foam, stickers or paper shapes.

Tips/Advice:

You can use any materials but this something the children will love working on and taking home to put on their doors or bed. You can use Bluetack or double sided tape to give them to stick it on their doors.



Activity 3 Hand Print Verse Frame

Aim:

To create a Bible verse frame with the child's handprint on it to hang at home.

Equipment:

- Card
- Paper
- Paint
- Scissors
- Stickers
- flowers
- Glue
- Colouring pens/pencils
- Tissue paper
- Lolly pop sticks

Preparation:

Prepare your craft area and put out craft materials. When the child is making their hand print prepare some paint on a plate or on a sponge so that they can do this easily and then wash their hands so that paint does not get on clothes or tables.

Instructions:

- You can use any craft materials and any Bible verse that you feel is appropriate.
- The children make a hand print on the card.
- Write the bible verse onto the card, below the hand print.
- Decorate the card.
- Use lolly pop sticks to make to make a frame around the card's edge.

Some ideas are:

Psalm 139:13

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Isaiah 40

Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Tips/Advice:

This is a great way to repeat a verse that you may have been learning or that you may be using as a church. It could also be used for Father's Day or Mother's day.

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

You can add holes into the top and put some string in to hang the frame.



20 minutes



5+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.





Aim:

To make different objects out of balloons.

Introduction:

Balloon modelling is a fun activity that requires skill and concentration. Although balloon modelling can be associated with clowns it is something that anyone can do.

Activity 1 Basic Animal

Aim:

To make an animal out of balloons.

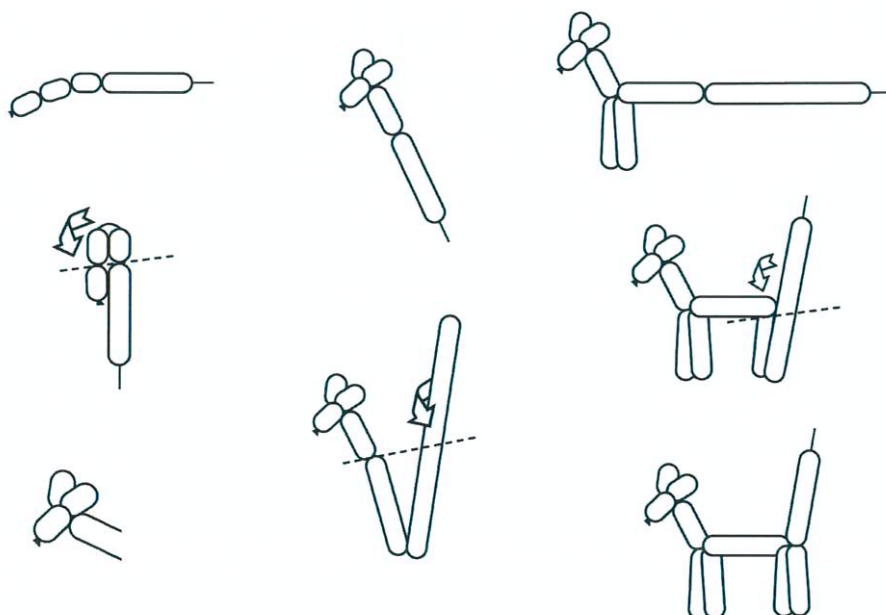
Equipment:

- Modelling balloons (sufficient for children + spares)
- Balloon pump

Instructions:

Follow the instructions step by step (see diagram below):

1. Inflate a balloon and leave about ten centimetres un-inflated at the end. Tie the end.
2. Then twist three small bubbles at the tied end of the balloon.
3. Fold the top two bubbles over as illustrated and then twist bubbles 2 and 3 together.
4. Give it several twists to lock it and you will see the head shape for an animal.
5. Twist lower down to make a neck
6. Twist further down to make a front leg.
7. Fold the balloon back up and pinch the top of the front two legs together and twist them together to lock the two front legs.
8. Measure a bubble for the body, twist and measure another bubble for the back leg.
9. Form the second back leg as in the same way as you made the front legs.
10. Use a black marker pen to draw eyes and a face on the balloon.



10 minutes



No maximum number
depending on
adequate supervision.



10 minutes



No maximum number
depending on
adequate supervision.

Extension Tasks/Adaptations:

Ideas on how to progress the basic animal on to something more difficult can be found on the internet (check out You Tube at www.youtube.co.uk).

Activity 2 Sword Of The Spirit

Aim:

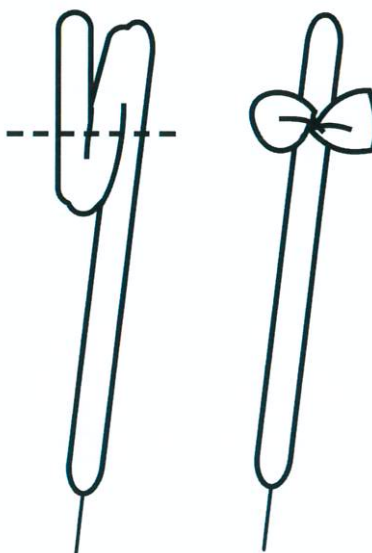
To talk about the armour of God and use balloon modelling as a visual aid.

Equipment:

- Modelling balloons
- Balloon pump

Instructions:

- Read Ephesians 6:10-18 - The Armour of God
- Try making the sword before the children meet so that you have an example of what the children are trying to make and so you are able to help them. If the sword is easy to make and the group respond well you could then make the armour of God.
- Blow up one balloon twist the balloon as you see in the diagram.





Aim:

To create crafts that give opportunities for children to go outside.

Introduction:

Crafts can be an effective development tool for children and a source of personal satisfaction when children are able to finish a task. Creativity is accessed and these outdoor crafts allow children to create something very unique out of recycled and raw materials.

Activity 1 Parachutes

Aim:

To make a model parachute and parachutist.

Equipment:

- Parachutes template
- String
- Plastic bags – supermarket fruit bags are just right
- Hole punch
- Pens
- Colours
- Sellotape
- Glue

Preparation:

Print/photocopy the template on to card.

Instructions:

- Cut out Parachute man or woman, then get them to colour. Have one made up so that they can copy it. Get them to glue the front and the back together.
- Wrap a small piece of Sellotape around each of the hands. This will give the parachutist a lot more strength.
- Use the hole punch to make a small hole in each hand.
- Cut two equal pieces of string. Tie one string onto each hand and then tie each end to the handles of a small plastic bag.
- Now when everyone has finished they are ready to go outside and make their Parachutist fly.

Tips/Advice:

Don't just use a front for your Parachutist. The front and the back glued together give it the right amount of weight to work properly.



20 minutes



2+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.



20 minutes



5+ No maximum
number depending on
adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate
supervision when
using scissors and
glue.

Activity 2 Garden Puppets

Aim:

To make garden puppets to play with outside.

Equipment:

- 1-1/2-inch-diameter foam balls cut in half
- Scissors
- Glitter glue
- Craft foam
- Pipe cleaners
- Glue
- Children's gloves (this is the essential item for each child)
- Small black pom-poms
- Pom-poms (variety of colours)
- Paint
- Black marker pen (to draw animal features)

Instructions:

- Take a small halved foam ball
- Cover the halves with glitter glue for eyes.
- Cut out the body, wings, and mouth from craft foam.
- For the antennae, make two small holes in the body near to where the eyes will be positioned. Fold a pipe cleaner in half and from the bottom, push the stem ends up through the holes.
- Glue the flat side of the foam body to the back of a glove so that the glove fingers which will be your creature's legs stick out beyond the face.
- Glue other body parts in place.

Tips/Advice:

You may need to use a glue gun or stronger glue to get parts to stick.

Activity 3

Bitz And Bobz

Aim:

To get the children outside looking for twigs and natural things to make their own Bitz or Bobz.

Equipment:

- Wiggly eyes
- Glue

Instructions:

- Get all the children outside, whether on a trip to the park or in your outside space looking for stones, rocks, sticks, nuts, anything.
- Tell them that we are going to make pets for them today – special pets that they can call Bitz or Bobz. They can make rock pets, stick snake pets, nutty friend pets - whatever they like.
- Tell them to collect some Bitz and Bobz and then everyone will get some wiggly eyes and some glue to put them together to make a special pet.



- Children can use a variety of natural materials to create and paint their own pet.



25 minutes



2+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using glue.





Aim:

To teach the children model making and learn patience and focus in the process.

Introduction:

Model making is great fun and a good activity for children to use their imagination and work towards a final goal. These are some great ideas for budding designers and junior engineers.

Activity 1 American Indian Tepees

Aim:

To create an individual tepee and to make a group settlement.

Equipment:

- Paper
- Paint
- Sellotape
- Scissors
- Thin long sticks
- Pens/Pencils



Preparation:

Make one first so that you can see how to do it. Decorate it and this will help the children to understand how good it looks and stimulate their imagination.

Instructions:

American Indians lived in tepees, made from animal hide stretched over a frame made out of trees.

Today we are going to make some Indian tepees.

- Roll a piece of paper into a cone shape.
- Secure the cone with a small piece of Sellotape.
- There needs to be a space at the top.
- Trim the bottom of the cone so that it will stand up.
- Tape three sticks that are long enough to poke out of the top of our tepee, to the inside of the tepee.
- Decorate the outside of the tepee leaving a blank part for the doorway.
- Cut a short line up from the bottom to create a door space and fold back the doors.



20 minutes



2+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors.



10 minutes



4+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.



Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.

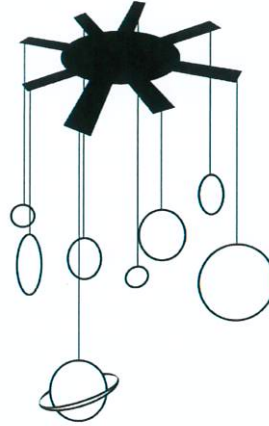
Activity 2 Solar System Model Craft

Aim:

To think about the Solar system and to make a model of it to hang somewhere in the hall.

Equipment:

- Cardboard
- CD's
- Foam balls in different sizes
- Paper
- Paint
- Colouring Pens/Pencils
- Information on the planets
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Thread or plastic thread
- Pencils
- Cardboard, hangers or a frisbee.



Instructions:

- Ask children to make different stars and planets from the Solar system.
- You will need to make close to these sizes to create a realistic idea of the different sizes of each planet etc.
 - Sun: 6"
 - Mercury: $\frac{3}{4}$ "
 - Venus: $1\frac{1}{4}$ "
 - Earth: $1\frac{3}{8}$ "
 - Mars: 1"
 - Jupiter: $4\frac{3}{4}$ "
 - Saturn: $3\frac{5}{8}$ ", with rings $7\frac{3}{4}$ "
 - Uranus: $1\frac{3}{4}$ ", with rings $2\frac{3}{4}$ "
 - Neptune: $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", with rings $2\frac{3}{4}$ "
 - Pluto: $\frac{1}{2}$ " - Discuss with the children whether Pluto is a planet.
- This big model is best made one planet at a time that will then need to be strung together to make the Solar System Mobile. If you have a large group you could do individual projects over a number of sessions.
- You can either attach all the planets with plastic thread to two wire hangers put together to make a mobile frame or you can make a cardboard frame from a sturdy cardboard disc.
- Use up materials that you have and help the children to be creative.
- For example with Saturn - you can either have the children make the rings or cut a foam ball in half and place a CD in the middle. Glue it together again and paint the CD as rings.



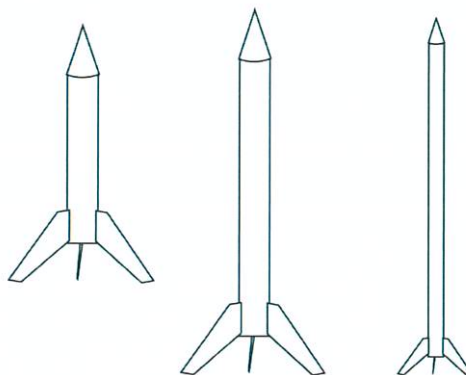
Activity 3 Spaceships And Rocket Models

Aim:

To create rockets, spaceships etc from odds and ends.

Equipment:

- Toilet roll tubes
- Kitchen paper roll tubes
- Wrapping paper roll tubes
- Paint
- Scissors
- Glue
- Stickers
- Silver foil
- Cardboard



Preparation:

- Have glue put out in jam jars with paint brushes, cover the table with newspaper and prepare all the craft materials.
- Create a few rockets so that the children can see what they are making and give them some decorating ideas.

Instructions:

- Each rocket or spaceship needs to be built from one of the rolls (toilet/kitchen/wrapping paper).
- They will also need three pieces of stronger cardboard for the landing gear.
- There will need to be three cuts in the cardboard. It will be good to go through this in stages so that each child can keep up.
- Once the basic body is made they can work on their own and be creative.
- Slide the pieces of cardboard with some glue on into the three cuts.
- Create a cone shape out of cardboard and place into the top of the roll – either stick with glue or Sellotape.
- Decorate the rocket as desired using materials available.

Devotion Links:

Genesis – God made everything - Genesis 1:14

And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.



20 - 30 minutes



2+ No maximum number depending on adequate supervision.

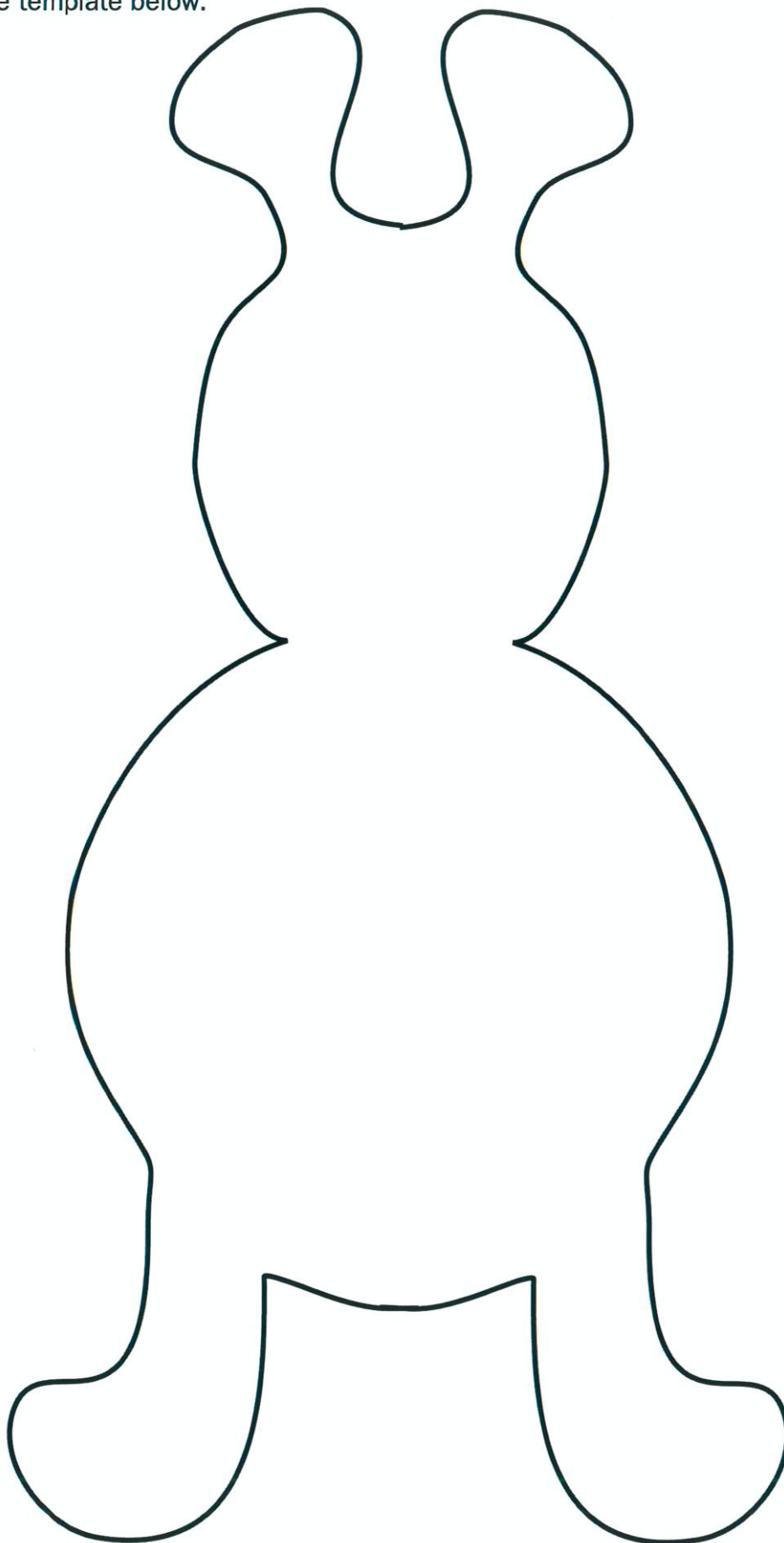


Ensure adequate supervision when using scissors and glue.



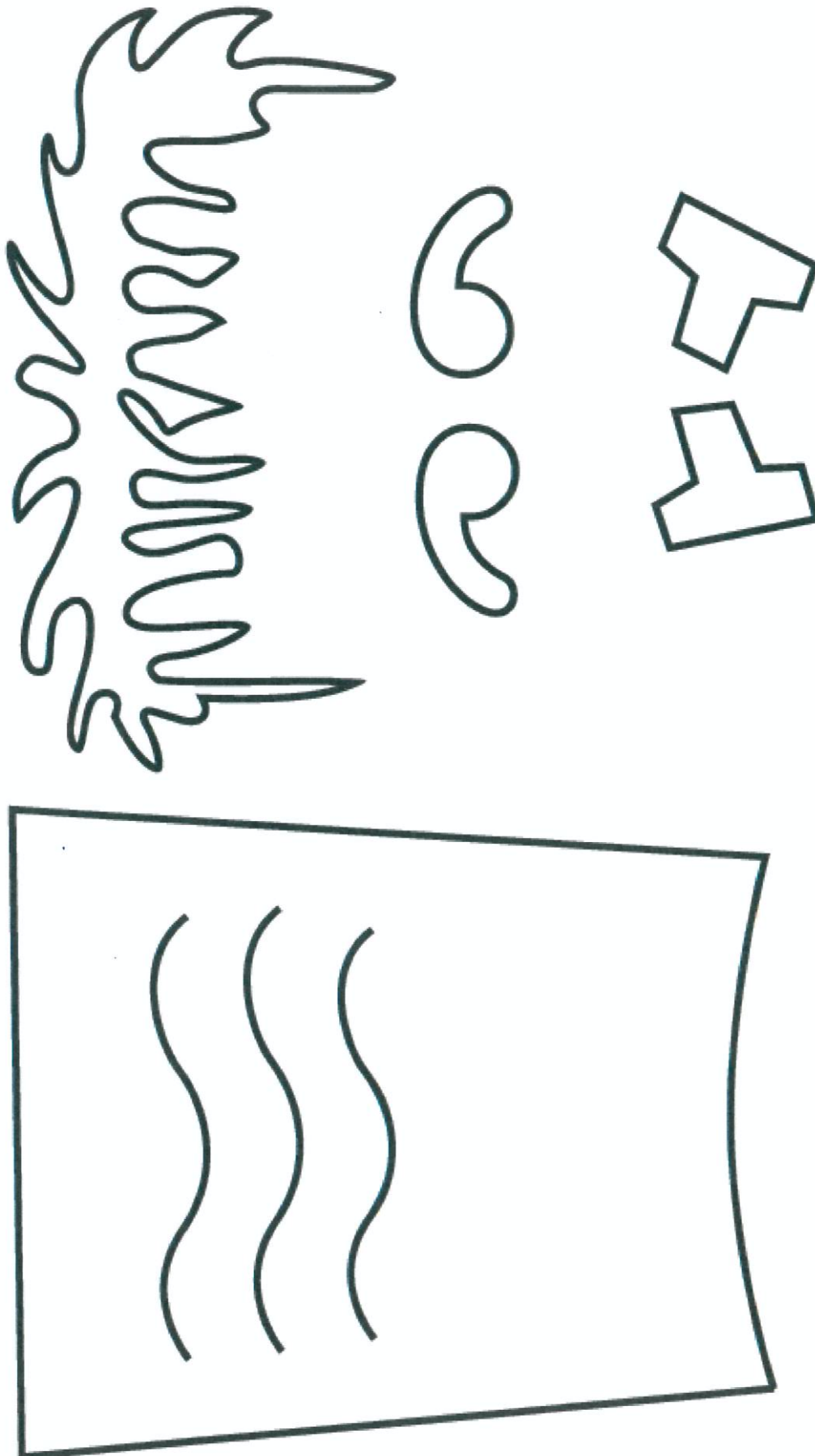
Felt Toy Monster

Cut out the template below.



Big Head Monster Mask

Cut out the template below.



Parachutes

Cut out the shapes below.

