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Introduction

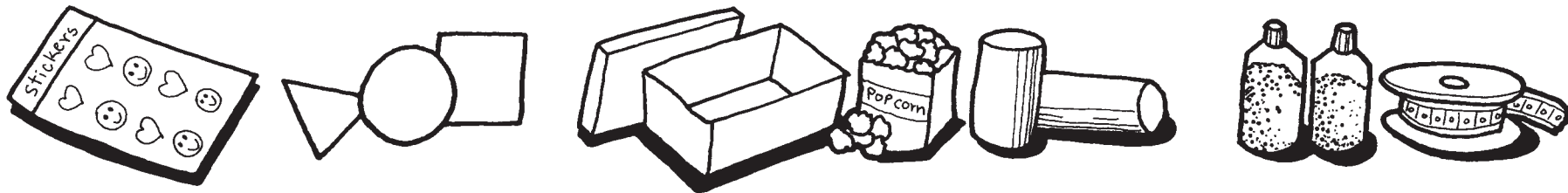
Welcome to *Art for All Seasons*! This book is filled with fun ideas for art activities and was created for parents or teachers to use with their children. It will become a valuable resource in planning your activities for all of the seasons and some of the celebrations that occur during the year. This book includes many types of projects, with varying degrees of difficulty, so that they can be completed by children from a wide range of ages. Adults will want to take special care with projects that involve using heat or sharp objects.

To adapt instructions for the classroom, teachers need only multiply the amount of materials by the number of students participating to have a new resource for art activities that can be integrated into thematic units for seasons or specific festivals.

The activities in this book make use of materials that are easily obtained. Most of the items you probably already have in your home or classroom. Any items that you need to buy can be found in supermarkets, chemists, craft shops and/or teacher supply shops. Recycling can provide many of the

items. For example, consider cleaning and saving a variety of empty food containers for future projects. In addition, some projects require materials that are found in nature. It is important to stress to children that they should collect natural things without harming the environment.

If you do not already have an area set aside for storing art supplies, it is a good idea to buy one or more large plastic bins with lids. These bins can be used for a variety of supplies, such as coloured paper, child-sized scissors, hole punches, glue, small empty boxes, large and small cardboard tubes, and anything else your children might need as they work on their artistic creations. Use resealable plastic bags for storing small items like pompoms, stickers, wool scraps, pre-cut shapes, pipe cleaners, coloured sand etc. Organisation makes preparation for each project easy, and it saves time.



How to Use This Book

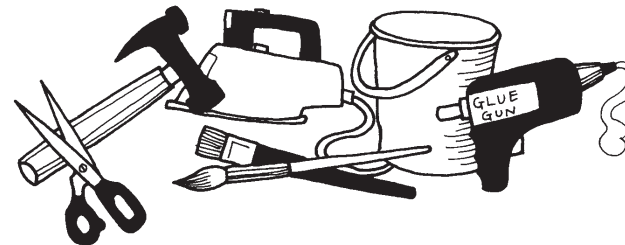
Previewing the Book: Page through the book to familiarise yourself with the type of art projects and the layout of the sections, which are organised by seasons and holidays. Artwork showing some of the completed projects is included to help clarify the instructions. In addition, the more difficult steps are also illustrated.

Gathering Materials: Note things you can begin to collect and recycle as you go about your daily activities. These could include things found in the home, such as plastic bottles and six-pack rings; different sized cans; egg cartons; Styrofoam meat trays; bits of fabric, ribbon and string. Or you may find things in nature, such as feathers, nuts, rocks, seeds and leaves. There may be still other items – such as craft sticks, coloured paper, scissors, tape, glue, paint, paintbrushes, texas and crayons – that you will want to purchase to keep on hand.

Storing Materials: Use plastic bins or set aside an area, such as a shelf or drawer, that will serve as a permanent place to store all art materials. Make the storage place accessible to your children so they can contribute to the collectibles whenever they find something they think would be fun to use. Remind kids to respect others by asking before they take anything that is not theirs. Tell children to check with you before they take something from the environment so they do not harm living things.

Getting Started: The projects in this book can be done in any order and can be changed in any way to suit your needs. Help children get started by reading the directions together and talking about the project they choose. Be sure to check the 'Materials' section to ensure you have the necessary materials before children begin working. Older kids will probably be able to complete most of the activities with only a little help. Younger children may need further assistance organising the materials and following the directions.

Concerning Safety: Remember to read the Safety Guidelines (page 7) before each art session to minimise the risk of accidents. Make sure you note the projects that require your continued active involvement because of safety concerns or difficulty. Guide children to choose projects that are appropriate for the amount of time you have available.



Encouraging Creativity: You may be tempted to do things yourself, but be patient and remember that these are your children's artistic creations. Contribute only what is necessary for your kids to proceed and be ready to rave about the results – no matter what they look like! Enjoy this creative time with your children and have fun doing art for all seasons.

Autumn Leaves

by Lori Radcliffe



Swirling

Flipping

Fluttering

Skipping

Leaves dance in the breeze.

Collecting

Gathering

Raking

Bunching

Bright leaves piled deep.

Skittering

Whirling

Dancing

Twirling

Waltzing about the trees.

Jumping

Hopping

Falling

Flopping

Children in a heap!

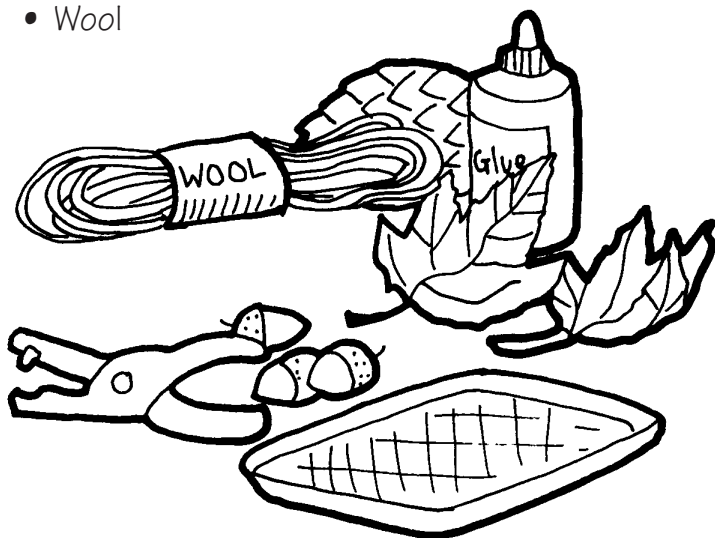
MATERIALS

Autumn Collage

LET'S DO IT!!



- Styrofoam meat tray
- Natural autumn items, such as acorns, leaves, nuts, pine cones, seeds etc.
- Glue
- Hole punch
- Wool



1. Collect a variety of autumn items that are found in nature.
2. Arrange the items and glue them onto the Styrofoam meat tray.
3. Punch a hole in each of the top corners. Cut a piece of wool and tie the ends to the holes.
4. Use the wool to hang the collage.



Step 2



Step 3

MORE IDEAS



- Make a nature collage on the outside of an empty tin can. Place water and fresh flowers in the tin. Use it as a centerpiece on your table.
- See if you can make necklaces by stringing together acorn caps.
- Try using seeds and nuts to make pictures of animals and people on paper plates.
- Make a toy, such as a doll, using only natural items.