

# #10177

## CRAFTING IN THE USA: MIDWEST—PLAIN STATES

KS, INC., 2003  
Grade Level: 5-12  
27 Minutes  
5 Instructional Graphics Included



### CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

[#10176 CRAFTING IN THE USA: MIDWEST—GREAT LAKES](#)  
[#10183 CRAFTING IN THE USA: WEST—MOUNTAIN STATES](#)  
[#10184 CRAFTING IN THE USA: WEST—PACIFIC STATES](#)

**Special Note**

to Teachers, Parents, and Group Leaders about the "Hands On" Philosophy!

Hands On Crafts for Kids is all about celebrating our kids' creativity through the following three elements.

 **Creativity.** Crafting is truly a wonderful way for children to express themselves and build self-esteem. The projects are designed just for kids to encourage development of individual style and expression.

 **Crafting with a Purpose.** Hands On invites kids to use their crafting to help others. From making gifts to special projects, crafting can be both a fun activity for kids and a source of ideas for charitable projects.

 **Knowledge.** Learning takes place through well-designed, curriculum-based, creative projects. As kids explore their creativity, they will also learn about the world we live in.

**All Kids are Creative!!**



Dear Kids and Parents:

It's time for another journey with Hands On Crafts for Kids - across the United States! From New England and the Atlantic coast, all the way across the continental United States and even to Hawaii, its time to celebrate the customs and symbols of the 50 United States.

There are state birds, flags, landmarks, and design styles representing each of the major regions of the country. We also have a special section on Appalachia - an area rich in crafting tradition, and a chapter on folklore and legends like Pecos Bill and Paul Bunyon, and lastly a chapter on patriotic designs for the entire USA.

Though each project shows a finished craft and all of our steps - don't be afraid to use some good old "American creativity". Substitute your favorite colors and any supplies you might have around the house. Make each project the way YOU want to. With Hands On there's no right or wrong way - only your way!

We hope you'll watch Hands On Crafts for Kids on television, too. It can be found on Public Television Stations all across these United States! Check your local tv guide or visit us on the web at [www.craftsforkids.com](http://www.craftsforkids.com). You can find information on how to find the program in your area plus lots of other great projects!

A little red, white and blue is in order so choose your favorite project and lets get started on a trek across these great United States!



Publisher ..... Katherine Stull  
 Project Editor & Design ..... Barb Zimmerman  
 Production, Layout & Design ..... Tamara Durant  
 Printing ..... Press of Ohio

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# Basic Instructions and Special Tips

Look these ideas over before you begin Crafting in the USA. Have a wonderful trip!



## IMPORTANT!

When you see the "helping hand" symbol on a project page, it means you may need adult supervision to do the project. Always use care when using tools or a heat source. Be careful and safe!



## Prepare and protect your work surface and your clothes

Prior to beginning your craft project be sure and cover your work surface with plastic or old newspapers. A neat and clean work surface makes for fun and easy crafting. Be sure and protect your clothes as well. Wear an old shirt or an apron. And always keep a roll of paper towels handy to wipe up spills.



## Basic Supplies

There are some basic supplies that are used throughout the book which are not always in the project supply lists. Some of these general supplies are: paper clips, toothpicks, paper, tracing paper, paper plate/paint palette, bowls for mixing, etc. Always review the supply list and instructions before getting started. Make sure you have all your supplies ready before starting a project.



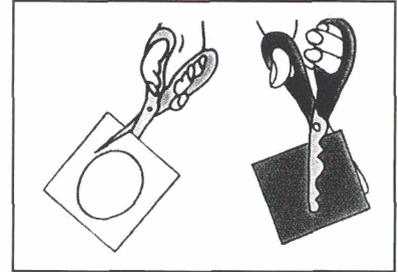
## Read product directions

For best results, always read and follow directions given on each product label. Some products may seem to do the same thing, but there may be important differences you need to know. Sometimes it's helpful to test a product on a piece of scrap supply before using it on your project.

## Basic Instructions and Special Tips, Continued

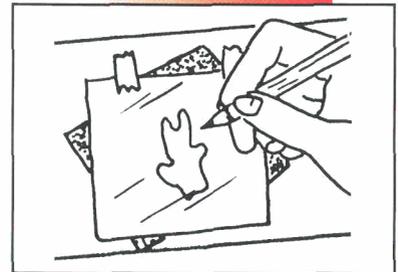
### Cutting

When cutting with a pair of scissors, always work slowly and evenly. Hold the material you are cutting with the opposite hand, turning it toward the scissors as you cut. When using decorative edge scissors be sure and line up the cutting design that is along the edge of the scissor as you cut out shapes. Work slowly so you maintain a consistent decorative edge.



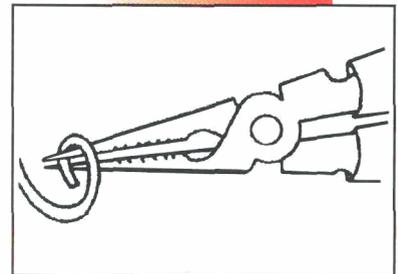
### Tracing patterns

Trace the desired patterns from this book with a pencil onto tracing paper. Lay the traced pattern on top of a project surface. Place transfer, or graphite paper under the pattern then trace over design with a soft pencil, or crayon. Another way is to cut out the pattern from the tracing paper. Lay the cut out on your desired material, and draw around it.



### Craft Wire

Craft wire comes in different sizes or gauges for example 18, 22, and 24 gauge. The higher the number the thinner the wire. Sometimes with thinner wire you can bend and shape it with your hands. However, some wire like the 18 gauge wire requires the use of needle nose pliers in order to bend and shape it to the desired design.



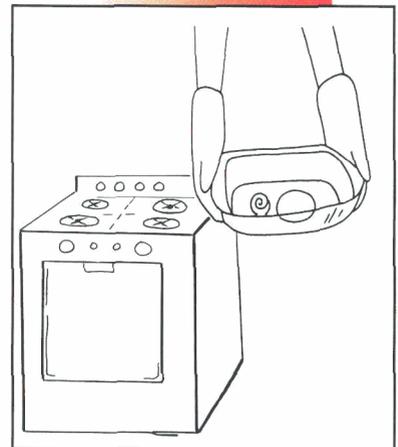
### Clay

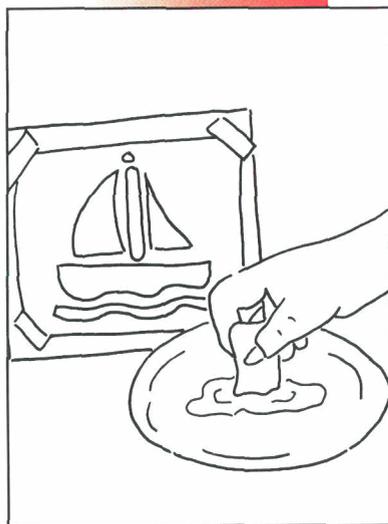
#### Oven bake clay

Knead clay until soft to make it easy to work with. Cover working surfaces with wax paper, then clean surfaces and wash your hands thoroughly after kneading. Bake clay on an oven proof glass surface in a 275°F oven for 15 minutes per 1/4" thickness, with good ventilation. **DO NOT USE MICROWAVE OVEN.** Avoid over baking.

#### Eraser clay

Bake clay on an oven proof glass surface in a 250°F oven for 10 minutes, with good ventilation. **DO NOT USE MICROWAVE OVEN.** Avoid over baking.





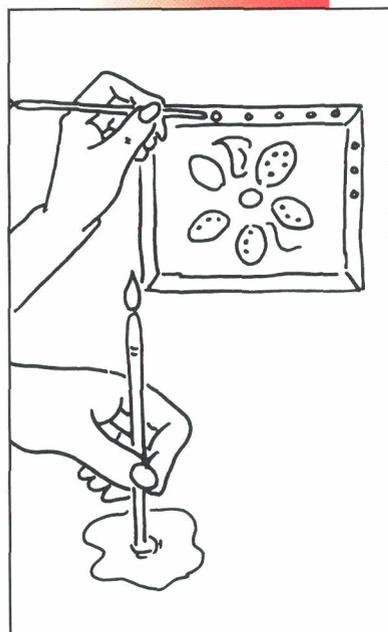
## Painting Techniques

### Stenciling

Secure the edges of the stencil with masking tape on the item you'll be stenciling. Squeeze a small amount of desired paint color(s) onto paper plate. Tap the flat end of a stencil sponge into the paint, tapping excess paint off on plate. Pounce the sponge onto the center of the stencil, applying an even coat of paint. To add an additional color to the same stencil pattern, use a clean stencil sponge and apply new color.

### Dry-brushing

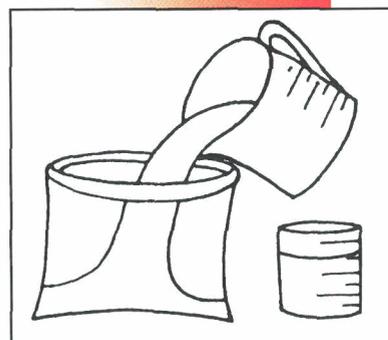
To dry brush, dip the tip of a dry brush into paint. Blot excess paint on a paper towel and apply in light strokes to surface.



## Special effects

### With paint or markers

You'll note that we frequently refer to adding special highlights to a project using paint or makers. To add decorative dots, eyes, etc. dip the end of a paint brush into desired paint color and apply it to your design. Lift the paint brush handle straight up from the project so the paint won't smear. Wipe off the end of your paint brush before changing colors. You can also use cotton swabs for this technique, however you'll need to use a separate one for each color used. You can achieve similar results by using markers from fine point to wide point markers. It's always recommended to use permanent markers so the colors won't bleed if used over paint or other mediums.



## Instant Papier-Maché

Mix instant papier-maché in a plastic bag or mixing bowl. Add 32 oz. of water to 1lb. of instant papier-maché. Warm water mixes faster. Knead until firm like clay or stiff dough with no dry spots. If mixture is too soft, add more dry maché; if too dry, add water sparingly. Mixed instant papier-maché in a plastic bag will keep at room temperature for some time, or indefinitely in a refrigerator.

# Dream Catcher

by Dimples Mucherino

The Lakota Native American tribe of the Plains states developed the dream catcher. One day a child was going to kill a spider that was weaving a web. A Native American woman told the child to leave the spider alone. In return, the spider told the woman he would thank her by weaving a web with a small center that would snag all the bad dreams while the good dreams would filter through and then glide down along the feathers.

## You will need:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Gauge Wire - Blue                | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural hemp cord       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Pony beads - assorted colors     | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Star pony beads - assorted colors | <input type="checkbox"/> Craft snips             |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Black fine point marker |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruler                   |



## Step-by-step:

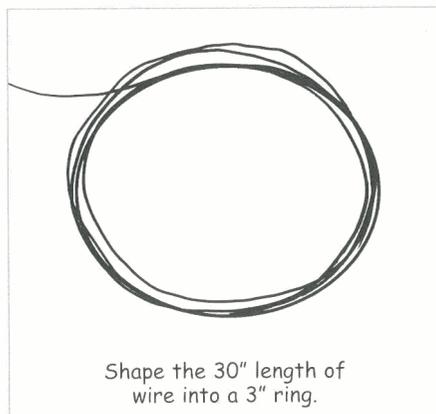
1. Measure and cut a 30" length and a 6" length of blue wire.
2. Shape the 30" length of wire into a 3" ring. Wrap the ends around the ring to secure. Hint: Use a glass or cup to wrap the wire around for the shape.
3. Wrap one end of the 6" length of wire around one side of wire

ring. String star pony beads on the wire. Wrap opposite end around opposite side of the wire ring.

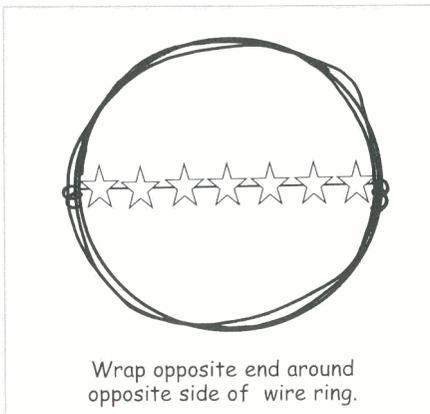
4. Write name on beads if desired with black marker.
5. Measure and cut four 10" lengths of natural hemp cord. Fold one length in half. Attach to

bottom of wire ring with a Lark's Head knot. String one of each color bead on both ends. Tie end together in knot 1" from the end. Attach two more lengths of hemp cord in the same manner.

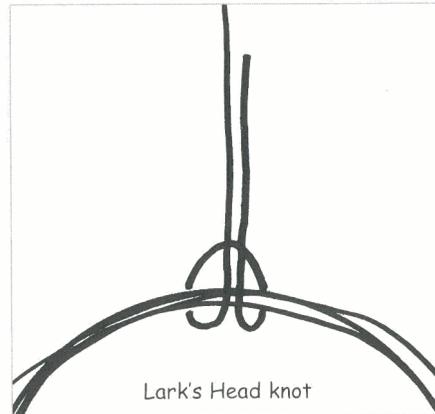
6. Fold the remaining hemp cord in half. Tie ends together with knot 1" from ends. Attach to top of wire ring with Lark's Head Knot.



Shape the 30" length of wire into a 3" ring.



Wrap opposite end around opposite side of wire ring.



Lark's Head knot

Toner Plastics, Inc.™ Fun Wire™, Natural Knots;  
Fiskars® Scissors, Softouch® Craft Snips

# On The Range - Buffalo

by Patty Cox

Buffalo thrived on the Great Plains, where at one time 30 million formed the biggest mass of large mammals ever found on the earth. Now the only buffalo are found in preserves. Buffalo are really more accurately called bison.

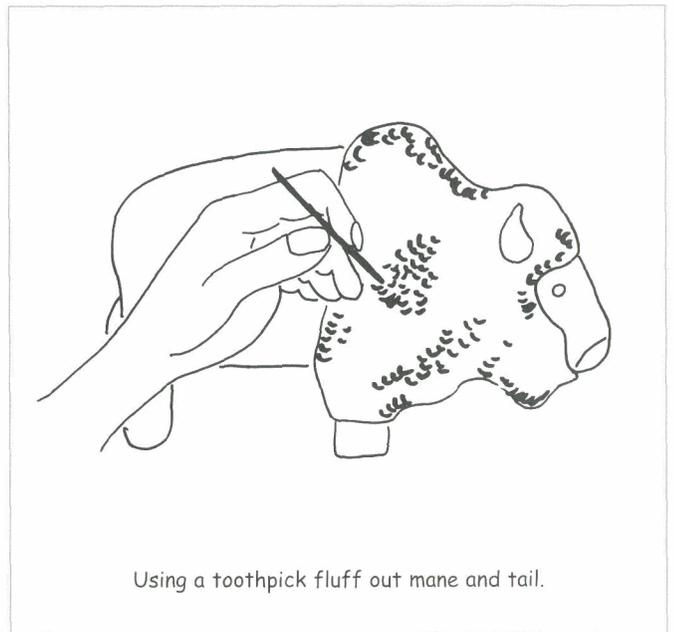


## You will need:

- Instant papier-maché
- Acrylic paint - copper & brown
- 2-3/4" Terra cotta pot
- 26" Length - 18 gauge or heavier copper wire
- Plaster of Paris
- Small gravel
- Paint brush
- Tape
- Raffia
- Toothpick
- Wax paper

## Step-by-step:

1. Mix instant papier-maché in a plastic bag or mixing bowl. Add 8 oz. of water to 1 lb. of papier-maché. Knead until firm like clay or stiff dough with no dry spots. If mixture is too soft, add more dry maché; if too dry, add water sparingly.
2. Place sheet of wax paper over buffalo pattern, taping edges to secure. Using papier-maché, shape the buffalo to about 3/4" thickness.
3. Using toothpick fluff out mane and tail. Dip fingers in water to smooth legs and body. Poke a hole in papier maché for eye. Sculpt a small horn from papier-maché, smoothing it with water and apply to head. Let dry.
4. Paint buffalo horn brown. Paint face and body brown and copper. Paint mane and tail copper. Let dry.



Using a toothpick fluff out mane and tail.

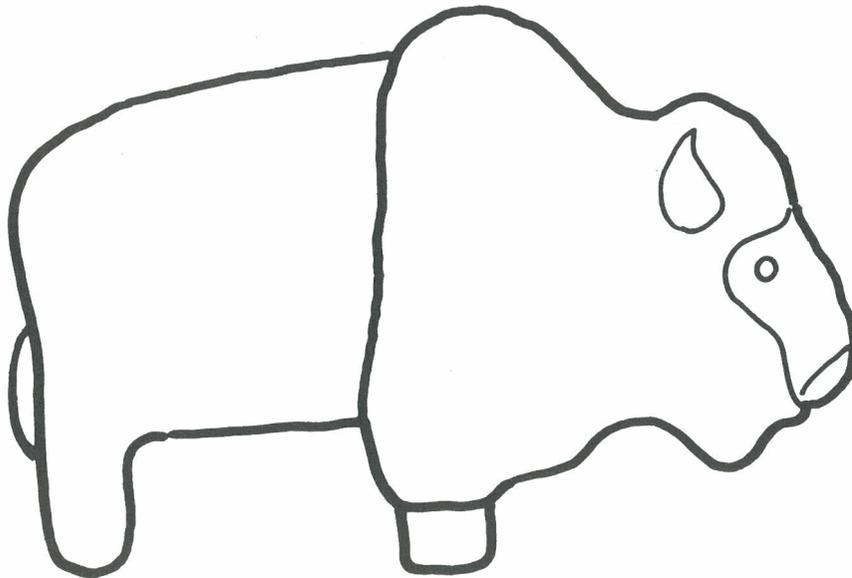
**Step-by-step (continued):**

5. Wrap copper wire around a broom handle or 1" dowel to form coil. Tape one end of coil in bottom of pot.

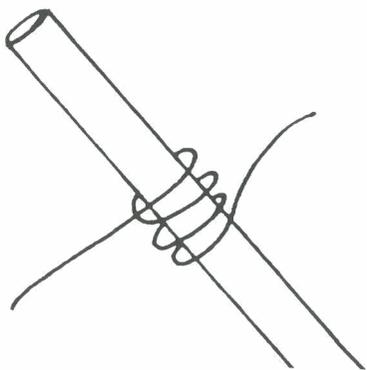
6. Mix plaster of Paris. Pour into pot, adding some small gravel to mixture. Let dry.

7. Using toothpick poke a hole behind front leg of buffalo. Run wire up through hole. Remove the buffalo. Apply glue to end of wire and reposition buffalo on wire. Let dry.

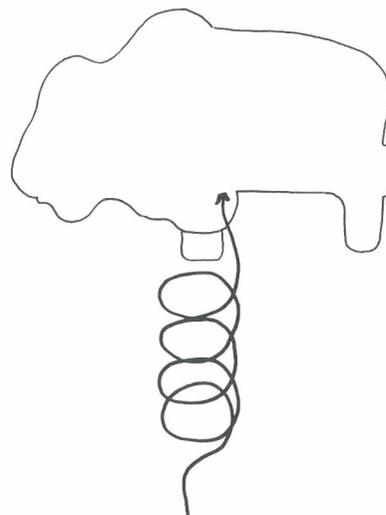
8. Tie raffia around flower pot.



Buffalo Pattern



Wrap wire around a broom handle to form a coil.



Poke a hole behind front leg of buffalo. Run wire up through the hole. Glue in place.

Activa® Celluclay®; Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint;  
Toner Plastics, Inc.™ Fun Wire™

# Quilled Sunflower

by Joann Pearson  
of Michael's Arts & Crafts Store  
[www.michaels.com](http://www.michaels.com)

The sunflower is the state flower of Kansas. At one time it was considered a weed but in 1903 it was adopted as the state flower and is on the states seal and flag. The sunflower ranks as one of the most commercially valuable flowers. It also yields sunflower oil and of course seeds.



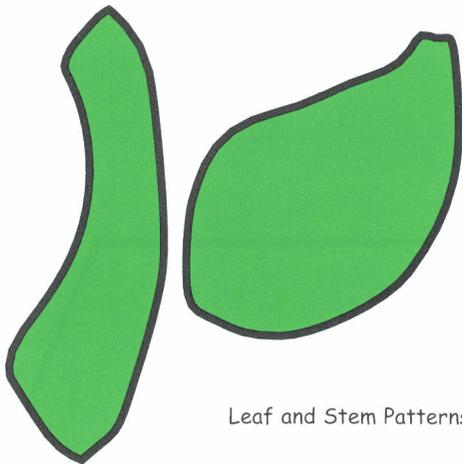
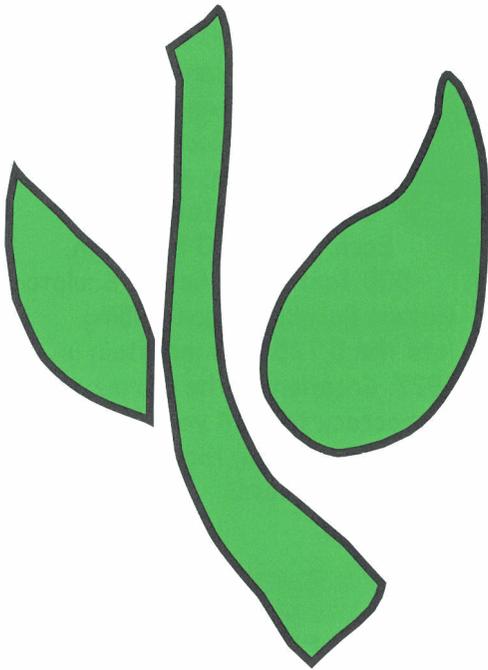
## You will need:

- 8" x 8" Wood frame
- Textured paper - yellow & green
- Acrylic paint - blue & yellow
- Nine 1/2" pom poms - brown
- Paint brush
- Large paper trimmer
- 1/4" dowel
- Glue
- Scissors

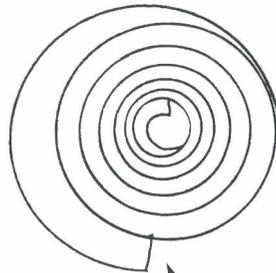
## Step-by-step:

1. Paint the frame blue. Let dry.
2. Using the end of the paint brush, dip in yellow paint and make dots around the outer and inner edges of the frame. Let dry.
3. Using the large paper trimmer, cut eighteen 1/4" x 12" strips of yellow paper.
4. Squeeze a small amount of glue on scrap paper. Using the dowel rod, wrap each strip of paper tightly. Slide off dowel. Let open loosely. Place a small amount of glue on end to seal loosened coil. Pinch each end to make petal of sunflower. Make 30 petals.
5. Using green paper, tear leaf and stem shapes, or use patterns and scissors.
6. Glue stem and 2 leaves to one side of frame. (shown above on left)
7. Glue sunflowers petals in circle to form flower, use 14 petals.
8. Glue 8 pom poms in center of petals.
9. Glue second layer of petals on top of first, use 12 petals. Reserve 4 petals for bud.
10. Glue shorter stem and 1 leaf to other side of frame.
11. Glue 4 petals to make bud of flower. Glue one pom pom to top of bud.

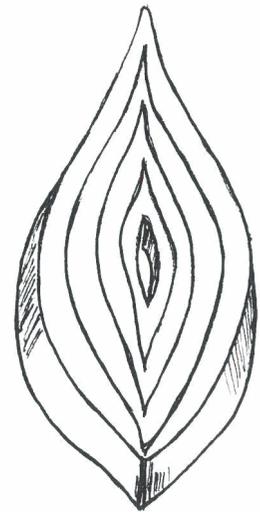
Step-by-step (continued):



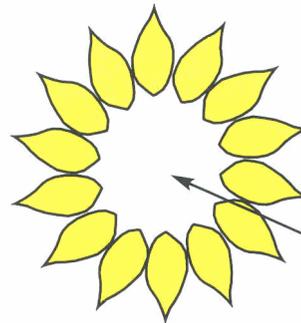
Leaf and Stem Patterns



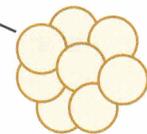
Apply small amount of glue here.



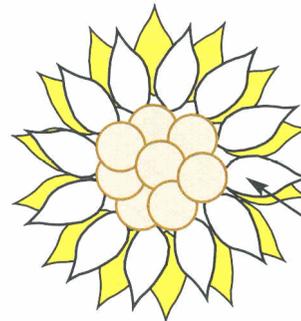
Wrap each strip of yellow paper tightly around a 1/4" dowel. Slide the coil from the dowel and let open loosely. Apply a small amount of glue to the outside end. Pinch each end to make a flower petal.



Step 7: Create bottom layer with 14 paper petals.



Step 8: Take 8 brown pom poms to create the center of the sunflower.



Step 9: After pom poms have been glued, add top layer of petals on top of bottom layer.

Strathmore Kids® Series Patch Paper; Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint; Fiskars® Large Paper Trimmer, Scissors; Beacon™ Kids Choice Glue™



# Mount Rushmore

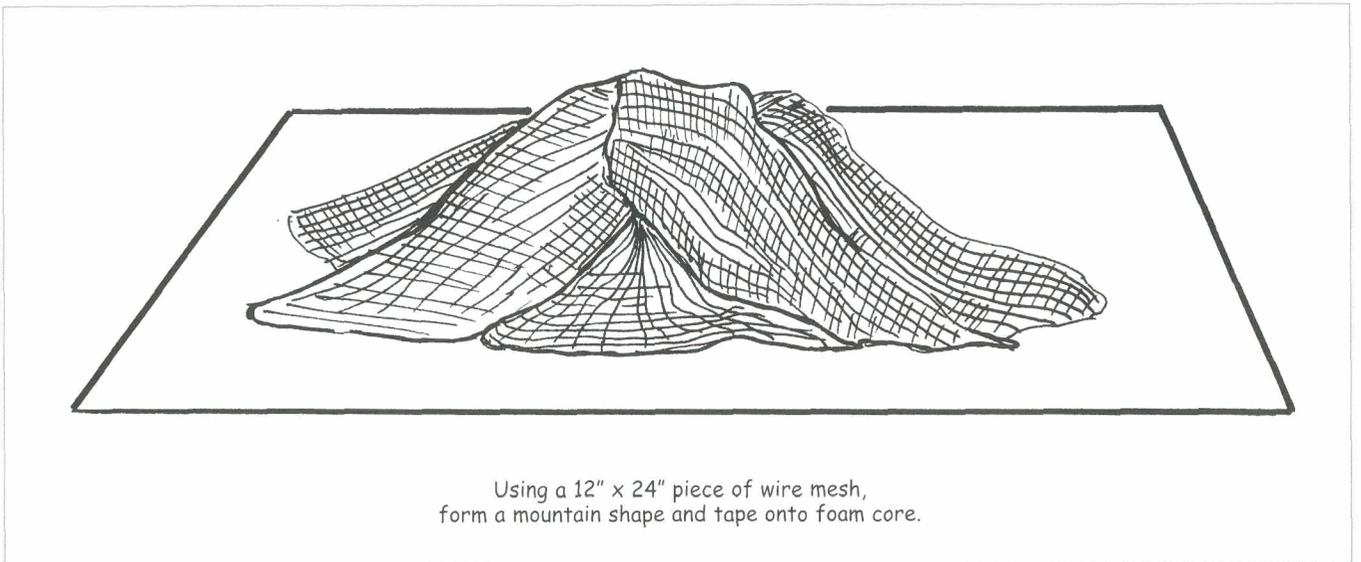
by Lorine Mason

One of the most famous landmarks in the United States is Mt. Rushmore, in the Black Hills of South Dakota. You can find the faces of 4 American presidents: Theodore Roosevelt, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Thomas Jefferson. Each face is 60 feet high, 500 feet up in the air. Sculptor Gutzan Borglum began drilling into the 5,725 foot mountain in 1927. Creation of the Shrine of Democracy took 14 years and cost a mere \$1 million, though it's now deemed priceless.

## Step-by-step:

1. Cut the wire mesh in half (12" x 24"). Form a mountain shape and tape onto the foam core square with masking tape.
2. Measure 4 cups instant papier-maché into the freezer bag. Add 1-1/2 cups of water. Close the bag and mix clay inside the bag. Knead until firm like clay or stiff dough with no dry spots. If mixture is too soft, add more dry maché; if too dry, add water sparingly.

3. Cover your work surface with plastic wrap.
4. Empty the contents of the freezer bag on top of the plastic wrap and continue to mix the clay. When the clay is mixed flatten it and cover with another piece of plastic wrap. Use a rolling pin and roll out the clay into a 16" circle. Reserve extra mixture.



Using a 12" x 24" piece of wire mesh, form a mountain shape and tape onto foam core.

## Step-by-step (continued):

## You will need:

- Wire mesh
- Instant papier-maché
- Acrylic paint - gray & dark gray
- Scissors
- Rolling pin
- Craft stick
- Masking tape
- Large plastic freezer bag
- Sponge brush
- 12" Square foam core
- Soft cloth rag
- Toothpick
- Plastic wrap

May need a helping hand 

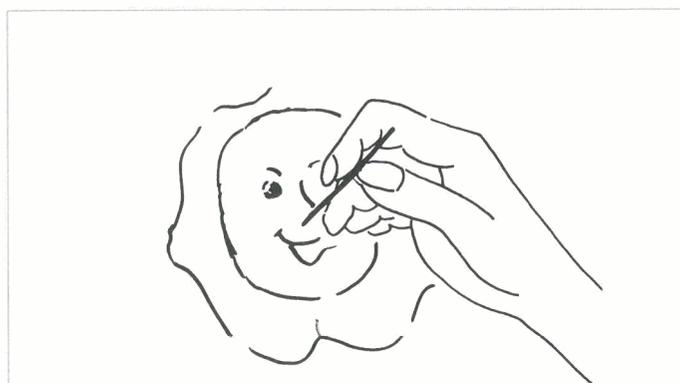


Carefully pick up the rolled out clay and lay it over the wire mountain shape. Smooth the clay, cutting away excess clay.

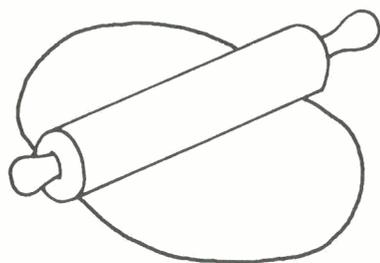
5. Pick up the rolled out clay and lay it over the wire shape. Smooth the clay, carefully cutting away excess clay. Dip your hands into water and smooth any seams or bumps. Use a craft stick to help smooth the surface.

6. Wrap a 2" ball of papier maché in plastic wrap and start to form the shape of a face, press the clay out from the edge of the face until it is paper thin. Make very definite creases for brow and mouth so the face stands out. Remove the plastic wrap and finish off the shape, creating the eyes and nostrils with a toothpick. Attach the shape to the side of the mountain, adding more papier-maché if necessary. Let dry.

7. Paint the mountain and foam core gray. Let dry. Thin dark gray paint with water and paint the entire surface. Wipe off excess paint with a rag, leaving the darker gray in the creases only. Let dry.



Make very definite creases for brow and mouth. Use a toothpick to help create the eyes and nostrils.



Use a rolling pin to roll out the clay into a 16" circle.

Activa® Celluclay™, Activ-Wire Mesh;  
Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint; Fiskars® Scissors



# Wheat Bookmark

by Patty Cox

The United States is the world's third largest producer of wheat thanks to a group of Russian immigrants who settled in Kansas in 1873-1874. Wheat is ground and made into flour for baking foods.

## You will need:

- 2" x 5" Natural mini corrugated cardboard
- Silk ribbon - dark yellow
- Embroidery floss - dark yellow
- Shadow construction paper - yellow
- Decorative edge scissors
- 1 Small pony bead - yellow
- Large and regular eye needles
- Scissors
- Glue stick

## Step-by-step:

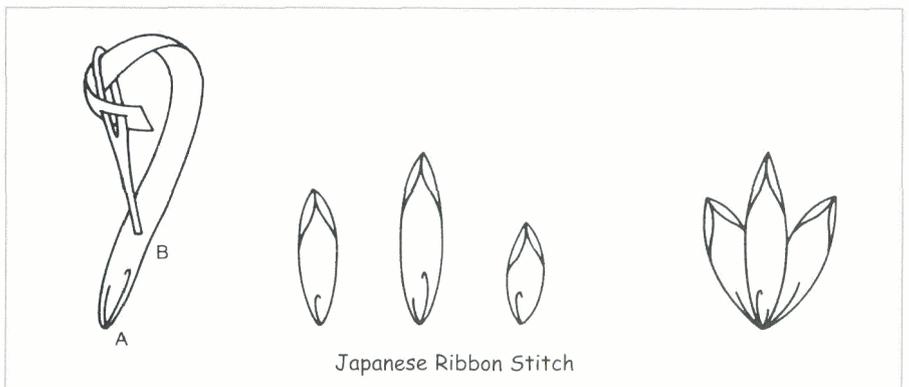
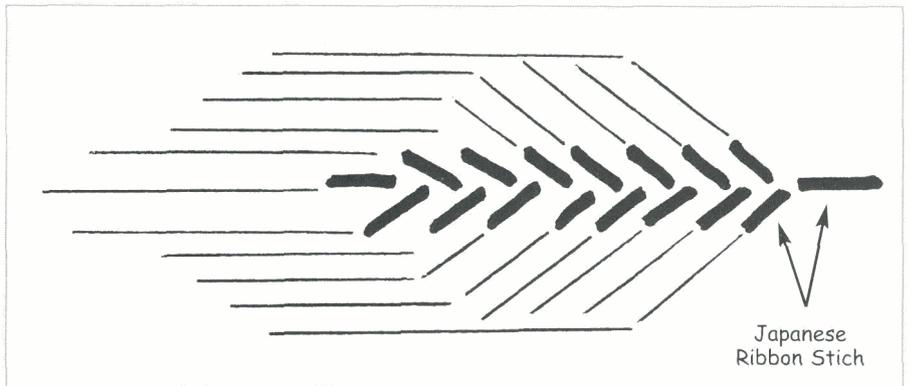
1. Thread silk ribbon in large eye needle. Using mini corrugated cardboard, sew Japanese ribbon stitches according to diagram. Leave ribbon tail on front.

2. Thread embroidery needle with floss. Following pattern sew diagonal lines extending from silk stitches. Next, sew long straight stitches, starting from end of diagonal stitch and following corrugated grooves in cardboard. Tie off floss on back.

3. Glue cardboard back to yellow shadow paper. Using decorative edge scissors, trim paper, leaving a 1/8" border.

4. Thread yellow pony bead on end of silk ribbon.

5. Knot end to secure.



Fiskars® Paper Edgers, Scissors;  
Strathmore Kids® Series Shadow Paper, Pure Paper Corduroy Paper

## WHAT IS



- It's a Series of Craft Books for kids 7 - 12
- It's a Television Program found on Public Television stations all across the country
- It's a School Program broadcast via satellite to school systems everywhere.
- It's a Project to Help Kids. "Hands On" supports many local and national charities to promote creativity for kids.
- It's a website featuring projects, ideas, and information for crafting kids.  
Log onto: <http://www.craftsforkids.com>
- It's "Hands On" FUN!

"Hands On Crafts for Kids" extends a special thanks to these companies for their invaluable support:



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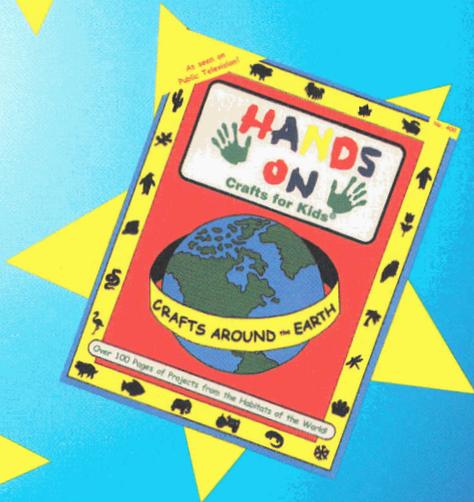
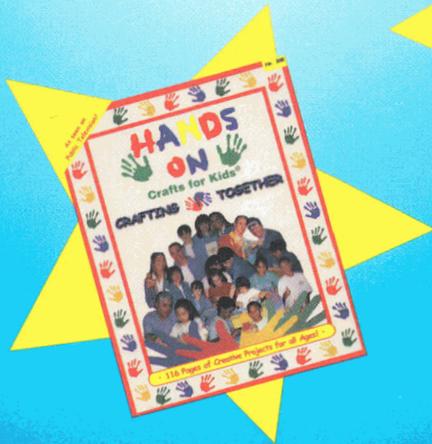
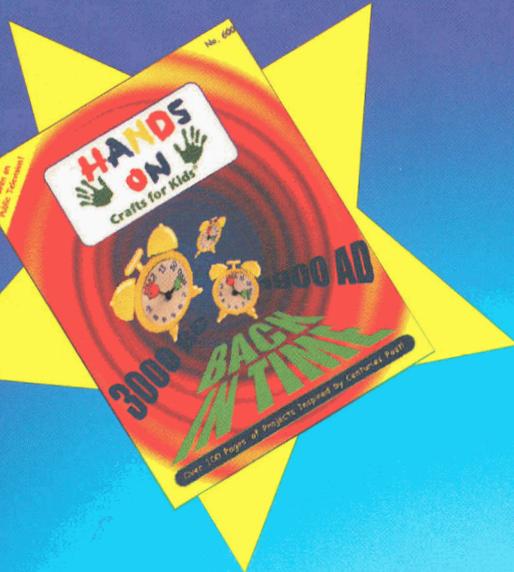
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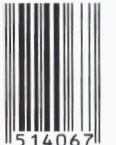
### Television Show Credits

**Executive Producer and Host - Kathie Stull**  
**Production - Beachwood Studios, Cleveland Ohio**  
**Guest Hosts - Val Bernardino, Julie McGuffee, and Cheryl Ball**  
Deb Morris and Joann Pearson appear courtesy of Michaels, Inc.



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