CRAFTING IN THE USA: WEST—MOUNTAIN STATES

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

CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

#10172 CRAFTING IN THE USA: APPALACHIA REGION
#10174 CRAFTING IN THE USA: FOLKLORE
#10175 CRAFTING IN THE USA: HAWAII

Funding for the Captioned Media Program is provided by the U.S. Department of Education
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, it’s 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. 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!
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 markers. 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 1 lb. 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.
Sand Frame

by Cheryl Ball

The dry climate of Nevada inspired this sand frame. In fact both the Mojave and Great Basin desert extend into Nevada. Deserts are dry and arid though a common misconception is that they are lifeless and cold. Many plants and animals have adapted to a lack of water. Temperatures can also be very cool at night.

You will need:
- Wood frame
- Acrylic paint - white, blue, green, orange, & black
- Colored sand - light orange, turquoise, blue & ivory
- Satin interior varnish
- Stencil adhesive
- Stencil - Southwestern border
- Stencil sponges
- Glue
- 1/2" Flat paint brush
- Craft sticks
- Scissors

Step-by-step:

1. Use the flat paint brush to paint the frame black. Let dry and apply a second coat.

2. Apply a coat of satin varnish to entire frame. Let dry.

3. If using a large stencil border, cut apart the sections that you’ll be using around the frame for ease in stenciling. Spray a light coat of stencil adhesive on the back of stencils.

4. Squeeze out a puddle of the glue on a paper plate. Add a dime size squirt of the blue paint next to the glue and thoroughly mix together with a craft stick.

5. Position one of the stencil designs at a corner of the frame. Press to secure. Tap the flat end of a stencil sponge into the glue/paint mixture and tap excess off on the plate. Pounce the mixture onto the stencil applying an even application. Carefully lift off the stencil and immediately pour on the turquoise color sand completely covering the glue. Lightly press the sand into the glue. Pour off excess sand on wax paper tapping the frame gently to remove all excess sand.

6. Continue on with remaining three corners following the same technique. Using additional sections of stencil border, repeat step 5 along edges of frame using different colors of paint and sand.

7. To make additional designs, like dots and diamond shapes squeeze the glue directly from the bottle into the shape you would like. Apply the desired sand color, tapping off the excess sand. Let dry.

Sample shapes.

Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint, Interior/Exterior Varnish, Stencil Magic® Stencil, Adhesive Spray, Stencil Sponges; Fiskars® Scissors

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Relief Map
by Carolyn Stears
of Michael’s Arts & Crafts Store
www.michaels.com

Step-by-step:

1. Enlarge the map provided or use one of your own. See page 112 for a larger map. Cut out the map, don’t forget Alaska and Hawaii! Lay the map on the foam core board and trace around it.

2. Mix instant papier-maché. Using a plastic bag or mixing bowl add 32oz. of water to 1 lb. of instant papier-maché. Mix thoroughly.

3. Spread the papier-maché inside the map you traced, smoothing the surface with sculpting tools or large craft stick. The papier-maché should be about 1/4" thick or less.

4. Let the papier-maché dry until no longer sticky but still soft. Put a piece of plastic wrap over the whole map. Lay the paper map you used as your initial pattern on top of the plastic wrap. Using a pencil trace around all the states and the Great Lakes, use enough pressure so that you can see all the borders of all the states. When you’re finished remove the plastic wrap and let the map dry completely. This may take 1 to 2 days.

5. Paint the states in a random color pattern; try not to have 2 states the same color right next to each other. Let dry.

6. Paint the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and the Gulf of Mexico with blue and dark blue.

You will need:
- Instant papier-maché
- Wire mesh
- 10" x 20" Foam core board
- String or ribbon
- Acrylic paint - light green, light brown, yellow, blue & dark blue
- Varnish
- Star hand punch
- Paintbrush
- Sculpting tools
- Glue
- Black fine point marker
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Plastic wrap

Optional:
- Star hand punch

May need a helping hand

Hands On Crafts for Kids
Step-by-step (continued):

7. Draw the outline of each state with the black marker.

8. Using the marker, label each state. Note that in the small New England states you will have to label the states out to the side.

9. Write in the names of the Oceans and Great Lakes with black marker.

10. Use a pencil to punch a hole on either side of the foam core, along the top. Run a ribbon or string through the holes and knot in the back to secure.

11. Apply a coat of varnish to entire map. Let dry.

Optional:
Punch small stars out of construction paper and glue them on the map to identify each state capital. Write in the name of the capitals next to the stars.
Step-by-step:

1. Lay photo cards out flat with photo opening facing up. (The number of photo cards will determine the finished size of your scrapbook)

2. Place one photograph into the opening of each photo card then write some facts about the photograph on the space opposite.

3. Lay the finished cards end to end face down on the table. Make sure the cards are touching each other then tape them together using one strip of tape. Tape all the cards together in this manner then re-fold with the photographs to the inside; this is opposite to the way they were originally.

4. To make the cover, measure and cut two 6" x 8" pieces of poster board. Cover one side of a piece of poster board with glue. Place at the center of one piece of blue textured paper. Smooth out any bubbles. Fold the paper over the edges of the poster board then crease firmly. Trim away the corners of the paper along the creased line to make the folds less bulky when the paper edges are glued down. Spread glue around the edges of the poster board and fold the blue paper over the edges, pressing in place on all four sides.

5. Repeat step 4 with remaining poster board and blue paper for the back cover.

6. Spread glue on the uppermost piece of the stack of folded cards. Center on the back of the cover then press in place. Turn the stack of cards over then attach the back cover to the card on top.

7. To decorate the front as shown, write your title on a piece of 4" x 6" card. Glue to the red textured paper. Trim around the edges of the card allowing about a 1/2" border of red paper on all sides. Punch a hole in each corner of the red mat and push a brad into each hole. Secure brad on back. Glue title on front cover of scrapbook.

8. Tie together with twine or ribbon around the covers.
Lay the finished cards end to end face down on the table. Tape them together. End result is pictured above.

Fold the paper over the edges of the poster board then crease firmly. Trim away the corners of the textured paper along the creased lines.

**Journaling tips:**
When writing captions about a photograph it is important that they answer the following questions:

- Who is in the photograph?
- When was it taken?
- Where was it taken?
- Give dates of birth, and other details if possible.

The more information you write down the more people will know about you.

*Strathmore Kids® Series Patch Paper; Fiskars® Scissors, Ruler, Hole Punch; Beacon® Kids Choice Glue*
Thunderbird
by Dimples Mucherino

The Thunderbird was one of the spiritual animals for most Native American tribes. To this day this symbol is found in many designs of the Southwest. Legend says that the Thunderbird produced thunder when flapping its wings. By opening and closing its eyes, Thunderbirds were also known to make lightning.

You will need:
- 5" x 6" Wood frame
- Diamond wood shapes - 4 small, 18 medium, 6 large
- 1 Large wood triangle
- 1 Small wood oval
- 1 Large wood disk
- 3 Mini craft sticks
- Stiffened felt - turquoise
- Acrylic paint - ivory, yellow, red, black & blue
- Satin varnish
- 2 Each pony beads - black, white, yellow & turquoise
- 12" Length natural hemp cord
- Glue
- Scissors
- Paint brushes
- Pencil

Step-by-step:
1. Trace and cut wood frame shape from stiffened felt.
2. Paint the following blue: frame, craft disk, 6 large wood diamonds, and 6 medium diamonds - blue. Let dry.
3. Paint the following yellow: large triangle and 8 medium diamonds. Let dry.
4. Paint the following red: 2 small diamonds. Let dry.
5. Paint the following black: 4 medium diamonds - ivory; 3 mini craft sticks and 1 small oval. Let dry.
6. Paint the following ivory: Paint three stripes on craft disk.
7. Apply one coat of satin varnish to each piece. Let dry.
8. Glue triangle (beak) and 3 mini craft sticks on back of craft disk. Two craft sticks should be glued extending above the disk (face) and the remaining craft stick should be centered for the neck and extend about an 1"
Step-by-step (continued):

9. Glue small oval (eye) on face.

10. Glue three large diamonds together for each wing overlapping. Glue three yellow diamonds on back of each wing, with points extending downward.

11. Glue three medium diamonds together for each foot. Let dry.

12. Center face along top edge of frame and glue in place. Align each wing alongside top edge of frame and glue. Align feet along bottom edge and glue in place.

13. Glue remaining diamonds in a pattern around top edge of frame as pictured. Let dry.

14. Tie 12” length of hemp cord around neck and knot. String pony beads on each end and secure with a knot.

15. Glue stiffened felt on back of frame. Leave top open to slip in photo.

Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint, Interior/Exterior Varnish; Beacon® Kids Choice Glue®; Toner Plastics, Inc.® Natural Knots; Fiskars® Scissors
The horseshoe is a symbol of good luck when displayed with the open side up - it holds good fortune. It is a good symbol for the west, as horses play an important part in this region's economy. The west is also home to cowboys and rodeos.

You will need:
- 7" x 7" x 1/2" Craft foam sheet
- 6" x 6" x 1" Craft foam sheet
- Acrylic paint - brown, dark orange, green & light green
- Black permanent marker
- Craft foam finishing medium
- Cardboard coat hanger tube
- Plastic knife
- Foam brush
- Paint brush
- Glue

Step-by-step:

1. Trace the horseshoe pattern onto the 7" x 7" x 1/2" craft foam sheet. Cut around with a plastic knife. Gently press along the edges with a craft stick to round and smooth the edges.

2. Using a craft stick, apply craft foam finishing medium to the top and sides of the horseshoe shape. Set aside on wax paper to dry. When dry, cover the bottom of the horseshoe in the same manner. Let dry.

3. Paint all sides of the horseshoe dark brown. Let dry. Lightly paint over the surface with dark orange. Before it dries, wipe off excess to let brown paint show through.

4. When the surface is dry, draw the small lines on the top of the horseshoe with a black marker.

5. Make a hole in the center of the 6" x 6" x 1" craft foam sheet by gently pressing the end of the coat hanger tube into the craft foam. Gently roll the edges on a hard surface to smooth the edges.

6. Coat the surface of the base with craft foam finishing medium. Set aside on wax paper to dry.

7. Paint the top and sides of the base green then without cleaning the brush, dab the light green paint on top of the dark green. When the paint has dried, glue the cardboard coat hanger tube into the hole.
Step-by-step (continued):

Draw small lines on top of the horseshoe with a black marker.

Glue the cardboard coat hanger tube into the hole.

Beacon™ Foam Finish™, Kids Choice Glue™; Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint
The United States
WHAT IS

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

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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.