

WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF:

## ***ART IDEAS FOR THE SEASONS***

***ART IDEAS FOR THE SEASONS*** is an introductory workshop based on many decades of creating art with children, teens and adults. There are two objectives here:

- 1) To emphasize the importance and the necessity of weaving conversation into each art activity. This is important as it sets the purpose for the activity as well as making the activity “part” of the participant’s life. It promotes self-esteem and a sense of being part of a community. Each participant brings life experiences to the art and this must be capitalized
- 2) To expose the staff member to a variety of projects which can be adapted and expanded according to individual needs.

This booklet has been designed especially for you; use it and continue to add art activities to your booklet. Remember, **ART IS LIKE CHOCOLATE FOR THE BRAIN!**

Enjoy!

## **ART IDEAS FOR THE SEASON**

WINTER:

1) CHRISTMAS BOXES/HANDMADE BOXES

2) VALENTINES

### **1a) CREATING CHRISTMAS BOXES**

- a) Purchase plain cardboard boxes from the Dollar Store
- b) With the lid on the box, draw a pencil line directly under the skirt of the lid and remove lid
- c) Paint box in favourite colour, painting up to the drawn line
- d) Paint the area above the line in a wash. This is to prevent the lid from sticking
- e) Once dry, decorate the box in a Christmas motif using stickers, glitter or jewels
- f) Use the box for special memories, gifts or use as a decorative piece

### **1b) HANDMADE BOXES**

- a) Scan the box pattern template and enlarge it so 1 box face is approximately 3 inches in size
- b) Using a pencil, trace your template on 140lb watercolour paper or decorative cardboard (Dollar Store or Staples) cut the slits for the ribbon, score each line with a dull knife and prefold the entire box before you decorate it
- c) Thread ribbon through the slits - 30 inches or 76 cm is the ribbon length
- d) Decorate the box with stickers, glitter, and jewels. (Hint: If you wish to paint the box, draw it out first, tape down, paint, dry, put in the ribbon and decorate.)

## **2) CREATING VALENTINES**

- a) Purchase a package of soft foam valentines from the Dollar Store
- b) Using stickers, glitter, ribbon and jewels decorate the valentine
- c) A variation is to put 2 valentines together with ribbon and use it as a pouch to store anything!

## **ADDITIONAL ART IDEAS FOR WINTER**

- 1) Making Christmas cards
- 2) Making stain glass windows with yupo paper and acrylic
- 3) Decorate soft foam gingerbread men (Dollar Store)
- 4) Coloured chalk pictures on blue construction paper
- 5) Painting wooden Christmas decorations
- 6) Celebrate Chinese New Year by painting the animal figure designated for the year and throw a Chinese New Year Party! Just Google it!

## **SPRING:**

1) MARDI GRAS MASKS or PLASTER MASKS    2) BUTTERFLIES

### **1) CREATING THE MARDI GRAS MASK!**

- a) Using the Mardi Gras template, draw mask on 140lb cold press water colour paper. (I use Winsor and Newton paper purchased at Artists Emporium. The paper comes in packages of 5 huge sheets.)
- b) Carefully cut out mask. (I use curved manicure scissors.)
- c) Turn mask over and put 2 stripes of masking tape on the outer edges on the left and right. This helps give the mask strength for when you are cutting in holes for ribbons or slits for the wooden stick/handle. Ask the participant whether ribbons or stick is wanted for the mask. Cut preference.
- d) Paint the mask. (I use acrylic paint, but watercolours would do!)
- e) Add either ribbon or stick and now decorate with jewels, stickers etc

THE BEAUTY OF THIS SIMPLE MASK IS THAT IT CAN BE CREATED FOR HALOWEEN PARTIES OR A NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL!

### **1a) CREATING THE PLASTER MASK!**

- a) Purchase a 5 lb roll of plaster tape and 2 plastic mask forms. (I get mine at Artists Emporium.)
- b) Fill a bucket of water with warm water.
- c) Pre cut strips of plaster tape, best to make different widths and lengths.
- d) Dip One ONLY AT A TIME strip into the water and hold for 6 seconds.
- e) Slowly pull strip out of water and gently place on mask form plaster side up.
- f) MAKE SURE THAT YOU PIERCE HOLES IN THE SIDE OF THE MASK AS YOU GO ALONG AS THEY ARE HARD TO PUT IN WHEN DRY!!!
- g) Repeat this process over and over again until you build up the mask and it is covered in plaster, SMOOTHING each strip out and into place. (I follow a pattern of laying it down – first the strips are laid down in a vertical direction, then horizontal, then diagonally and so on.

- h) Dry mask over night and gently remove from form.
- i) Gently sand mask, apply one coat of Liquitex varnish, let this dry and then add a coat of white acrylic paint.
- j) Paint mask USING ACRYLIC PAINT desired colours and once dry, decorate the mask as desired and insert the ribbon triple the distance from the mask's hole to the middle of your head for each ribbon.

THIS BY FAR IS THE MOST LABOUR INTENSIVE PROJECT, BUT THE RESULTS ARE REALLY WORTH IT.

## **2) CREATING BUTTERFLIES!**

- a) Using your butterfly template, trace a butterfly in pencil on a 8 x 10 inch piece of 140lb watercolour paper
- b) Using masking tape, tape all sides of your drawing
- c) Brush water over the entire surface of the butterfly
- d) Drop in a variety of colours and let the colours "bleed" into each other
- e) Dry using a hair drier or dry overnight. If using a hair drier, the paper will feel warm when dry. If it is cool to touch, it is still damp – dry again!
- f) Apply jewels, use markers, glitter etc to enhance the butterfly
- g) Enjoy!

## **ADDITIONAL ART IDEAS FOR SPRING**

- 1) Making cards (complete with messages of Spring/hope downloaded from the computer) for Spring, St Patrick's Day or Easter
- 2) Chinese apple blossoms with or without cinquains – see Fall section
- 3) Painting miniature wooden birdhouses
- 4) Chinese paper fish
- 5) Shamrock "home made stamp designs" – see hand out located in Fall section

## **SUMMER:**

- 1) SUMMER SUNS
- 2) BEACH "SAND" IMPRINTS/SAND SCULPTURE

### **CREATING THE SUMMER SUN!**

- a) Select a circle shape to use as a Template
- b) Design your own SUN RAY template – large enough to jot down summer memories
- c) Cut out circle on coloured paper or use 140lb watercolour paper and paint it yourself.
- d) Cut out your choice of colours for the sunrays. You could have a variety of shades of colour! Construction paper is great for this, but use your own imagination!
- e) Before you put the SUMMER SUN together, collect memories from participants and write each memory on a sunray, leaving an edge blank to allow overlapping of the rays.
- f) Once all the memories have been collected and written on the rays, arrange them all around the sun.

### **CREATING THE BEACH "SAND" IMPRINTS**

- a) Purchase CLOUD CLAY BY AMACO, one package could be shared by 2 participants.
- b) Shape the cloud magic into a square or rectangle.
- c) Using seashells, create imprints in the clay magic add any other decoration such as pieces of driftwood or a bird feather. When dry, add glitter.
- d) OR, PARTICIPANTS MAY CHOOSE TO CREATE THEIR OWN SAND SCULPTURE!

NO MATTER WHAT IS SEELCTED, IT IS VERY THERAPUTIC TO HOLD, SHAPE AND MANIPULATE ANY TYPE OF "CLAY"

### **ADDITIONAL ART IDEAS FOR SUMMER**

- 1) Painting paper kites
- 2) Painting lake sun sets or sun rise
- 3) Painting parrot or flower banners (I use stain glass patterns)
- 4) Painting cloth bags with summer motifs (I use clip art, sail boats, sea shells, hot air balloons etc)
- 5) Painting farm landscapes
- 6) Painting wooden objects from the Dollar Store

## **FALL:**

- 1) DROP IN COLOUR LEAVES WITH CINQUAIN POETRY
- 2) MAKE A PUZZLE by Hygloss Products Inc Wallington NJ

### **1) CREATING A CINQUAIN POEM**

- a) Begin by sharing your own memories with the participant. As the participant shares, jot down words or phrases
  - b) Compose a cinquain together, following the directions on your hand out
  - c) Depending on the participant, he or she might prefer a cinquain which you have composed
  - d) Once the poem is completed, get ready to paint your leaf!
  - e) You can create cinquains for EVERY SEASON!

### **1a) CREATING THE DROP IN COLOUR LEAVES!**

- a) Using your leaf template and a pencil, trace the leaf onto a 8 x 10 inch 140lb watercolour paper
- b) Mask ALL SIDES, OVERLAPPING firmly into place
- c) Using a watercolour brush, wet the entire surface of the leaf
- d) Select a colour from your paint set and make it quite wet with water
- e) Drop the colour randomly over the surface of the leaf, leaving space for other colours
- f) Repeat the process with at least 2 other colours, let them “bleed” into each other
- g) Dry with a hair dryer. When dry it should feel warm to the touch. If it feels cool, it is still damp, so dry it once again!
- h) Once perfectly dry, use a pencil to lightly draw 5 lines on the leaf for your poem
- i) Write the poem on the lines
- j) Place poem on wall or on a tree you have painted before hand!
- k) Enjoy!

### **2) MAKE A PUZZLE!**

- a) Create any fall scene or leaf pattern or fall flowers and decorate your puzzle as you wish, keeping in mind that if using decorative appliqués, they must be placed only on one piece, no overlapping as it would be impossible to take the puzzle apart and put it back together again!!!
- b) Store completed puzzle in envelope provided – making sure the participants name is written clearly on front.
- c) Enjoy this very popular activity!

## **HOW TO MAKE A HOME MADE STAMP**

Stamps can be made easily using a recycled Styrofoam meat tray. The best tray to use is a thin white Styrofoam tray. If you do not want to wash a recycled tray, most Food Fare stores will sell them to you at cost. 12 trays are \$1.80

To get started, turn your tray upside down to the smooth surface. If you are making a leaf stamp, place your leaf on the surface and using a pencil, gently trace around the leaf and remove. Next, if you wish to put in the leaf veins, gently draw them on the surface with a gentle pressure – you can make the lines as thick and as deep as you wish. It is best to go slowly and gently until you are comfortable in doing it.

Taking sharp scissors slowly cut out your leaf. You may need to adjust your cutting directions. It might be easier to cut a bit at a time. Once cut out, you are ready to make your “handle”.

The “handle” will resemble an upside down capital “T” ! To make a handle for your stamp, cut off 4 inches of masking tape (you may have to adjust this size depending on the size of your leaf). Next, fold the tape in half STOPPING one inch or so before the ends join together. With the 2 ends free, stick these ends onto the BACK of your stamp! It will resemble an upside down “T”! Once you get the hang of it, it will be a breeze!

You can now make your own:

- 1) Shamrocks! If you are really into it, try drawing in your own Celtic knots on the surface of your stamp.
- 2) Butterflies
- 3) Lady Bugs
- 4) Flowers
- 5) ETC!

# HOW TO WRITE A CINQUAIN

Select a **noun**

**SEPTEMBER**

Choose **2 words to describe** the noun

**COOL      CRISP**

Write down **3 words ending in ING** related to the noun

**CLEANING      RAKING      CLOSING**

Compose a phrase or sentence related to the noun

**TIME TO GET READY FOR WINTER**

Select **another word** to mirror or relate to the noun

**AUTUMN**

**SEPTEMBER  
COOL      CRISP  
CLEANING RAKING CLOSING  
TIME TO GET READY FOR WINTER  
AUTUMN**