PROGRAM CRAFTS FOR SPARKS AND EMBERS

Area Training Day March 9th, 2024

First, let’s define crafts

* 3D
* Can take home
* Not (usually) done in groups
* When I asked for craft ideas, I got lots, but many of them I consider activities. Which are great fun and necessary for a unit, and certainly have program connections, but are not crafts
* Examples: baking, team projects with recycling (we made marble runs), science experiments
  + All fun but not crafts!

There is always somewhere to fit your crafts into program, it just sometimes requires some wiggling

* Can always go into art studio – especially if the craft requires some creativity
  + Not as much if it’s a peel-and-stick, so…
* Think about what skill or area it is related to. There is ALWAYS the Unit’s Own option!
  + Using new equipment or materials? How to
  + Representing themselves? Being You
  + Everyday items? Life Stuff
* The Unit Experience Compass recommends 1-2 creative activities per month
  + That means you don’t have to craft every week!
* Every group is different, but they will also start to like what you offer
  + So if you don’t want to do crafts, you do not have to force yourself into crafts!
* They are, however, a great opportunity to expand everyone’s comfort, ability, and skills
* Psst…anytime we make a trader (a small craft that can be hung on a hat), we talk about traders, and we give them a spirit of guiding activity

So, let’s get crafty!

* Beaded butterflies (see attached instructions)
  + 3 pipecleaners, ton of beads
  + Usually we do these as friendship butterflies – make two, trade one
  + Have also done them with penpals
  + Will keep kids entertained for 30+ minutes!
* Body in a bag
  + Team activity so we can invite discussion
  + Science/Being You
  + My FAVOURITE activity (though definitely more of an activity than a craft) (but can still hang on their hat!)
  + Creative thinking – what else can you use to represent body parts?
  + I use (everything small):
    - Pink sponge – brain
    - Water balloons x2 - lungs
    - Paper heart – heart
    - Red yarn and blue yarn tied together – veins and arteries
    - Elastic band – muscles
    - Stick (small dowel, popsicle stick, toothpick) – bones
    - Googly eyes – eyes
    - Beans - kidneys
    - Bag to hold it all - skin
* The “dumb bird thing”
  + Ongoing joke because my co-Guider (who is also my mum) thought this was the silliest thing when I first made it in Sparks
  + I loved it to pieces until it did eventually, mysteriously, disappear
    - She claims innocence. We all know she’s not innocent
  + We always wind the kids up about it: “Rainbow thinks this craft is silly but it’s Giggles’ FAVOURITE EVER”
    - it’s always a hit
    - (and they’re always on my side)
  + They have been:
    - Just dumb bird things (Sparks in History/Spirit of Guiding)
    - Comets (science)
    - Dragons (paper bag princess)
    - Science of sound (different sounds we can make)
    - Birds (nature discovery)
    - What can we use to make them? Used to be film canisters, then test strip containers, now…any ideas?
    - Can always give a nature discovery because these are OUTSIDE toys ONLY
  + I do not have a picture so:
    - SUPPLIES:
      * Small containers (test strip/film canister/pill bottles)
      * One long piece ribbon or string
      * Several long pieces survey tape
      * Decorations for outside of container
    - Decorate as desired
    - Place ribbon and survey tape with one end inside. Ribbon/string on opposite side to survey tape
    - Put lid on, ensuring ribbon and tape have lots sticking out
    - Use the ribbon to swing the bird around! Test patterns, sounds, string lengths, and speed!
* Reef knot paracord (one long piece of paracord, tie a reef knot, then can be pinned onto sash or hat)
  + Spirit of Guiding
  + How to
  + Life stuff



* Cupcake fish
  + Rainbow fish story tie-in
  + Being You/Different together



* Button poppy
  + Canadian connections, how to



* This little guiding light of mine
  + Jars, tissue paper glue on containers, etc
  + Thinking Day/Spirit of Guiding





* Guiding rainbow
  + Clouds
  + Ribbon wheels
  + Teach about colour/science, different branches, form groups
  + Can fit into a bunch of places!
  + Can also make ribbon sticks with the same method then dance with them – my physical self





(One cloud sticky felt, one side normal felt; ribbon pieces in guiding colours; stick them to the sticky side, fold if desired, press normal felt onto sticky one so ribbons are sandwiched between)

* Pipe Cleaner trefoil
  + Picture trefoils (spirit of guiding/our story)
  + Also can be used for friendship and to talk about the importance of the trefoil
  + Also a great trader



* Shrinky dink
  + Can theme it any way you want
  + Then science of heat



* Woodland picture frames
  + Requires dry sticks and a LOT of hot glue



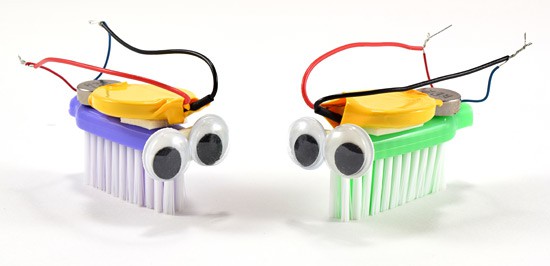
* Money boxes (money sense)
  + Tea canisters (we drink a lot of Tetley), decorate them like monsters, always cute
* Wearables of any kind
  + Fit into any theme
  + Collaborate with the theme if it’s program, or spirit of guiding if it’s simply celebratory
  + Art studio has a unit’s own as well!
  + Flower crowns, animal ears, princess crowns, fish headbands, woodland creature headbands, jungle animals…
* Blowy frogs
  + Little green frog song

Yarn art (they can screw the screws)

* + How to
  + Tool matching
  + Lots of prep work
  + Cannot speak to the success of it with Sparks

Building toothbrush robots

* + <https://www.sciencebuddies.org/stem-activities/toothbrush-bristlebot>



Have never made them but always wanted to! Great science and design space activity!