

#10174 CRAFTING IN THE USA: FOLKLORE

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



CAPTIONED MEDIA PROGRAM RELATED RESOURCES

[#10173 CRAFTING IN THE USA: DEEP SOUTH](#)

[#10179 CRAFTING IN THE USA: NORTH EAST—NEW ENGLAND STATES](#)

[#10180 CRAFTING IN THE USA: SOUTH EAST](#)

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. 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!



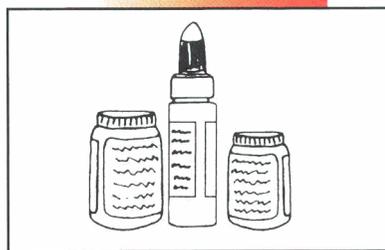
Prepare and protect your work surface and your clothes

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.



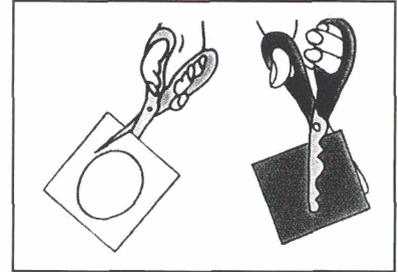
Read product directions

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

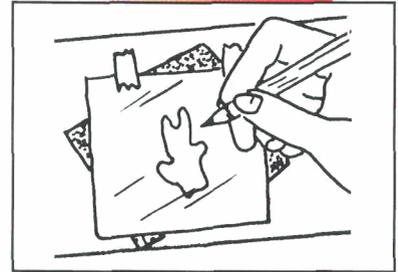
Cutting

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.



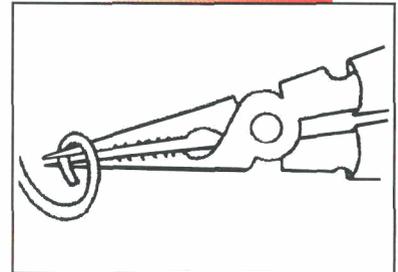
Tracing patterns

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.



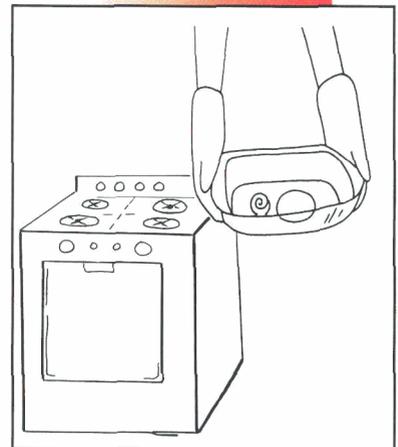
Clay

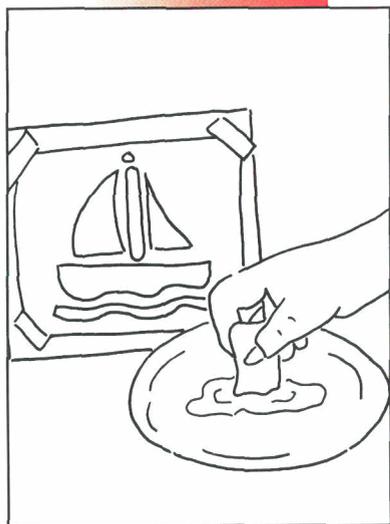
Oven bake clay

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.





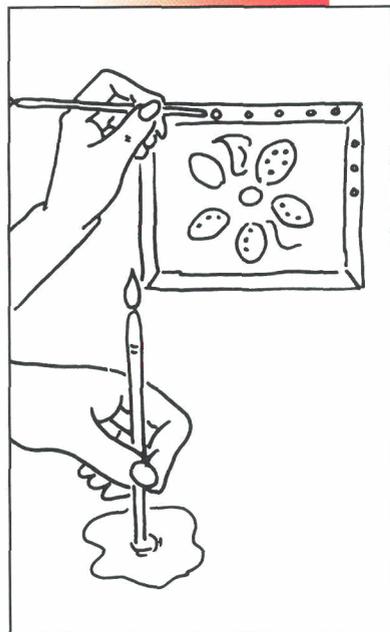
Painting Techniques

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

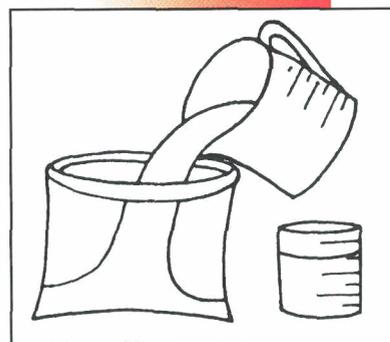
To dry brush, dip the tip of a dry brush into paint. Blot excess paint on a paper towel and apply in light strokes to surface.



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.

Paul Bunyan Puppet Theatre

by Dawn McLaughlin
of Michael's Arts & Crafts Store
www.michaels.com

Paul Bunyan is a myth, or folk tale. He was a very large lumber-jack. Most of the tales about him revolve around his size and his best friend, Babe the Blue Ox. They said that Paul had grown out of his father's clothes by the time he was one week old and that the tracks he and Babe made running around Minnesota made the 10,000 lakes.



You will need:

- 1 Each craft bag - red & blue
- Felt - red heather, blue heather, brown, flesh & black
- Stiffened felt - red, grey & brown
- 4 Oval wiggle eyes
- 1/2 Yard jute
- Black fabric marker
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- White paper
- Cardboard display board - white
- Acrylic paint - assorted colors
- Paint brushes
- Craft knife

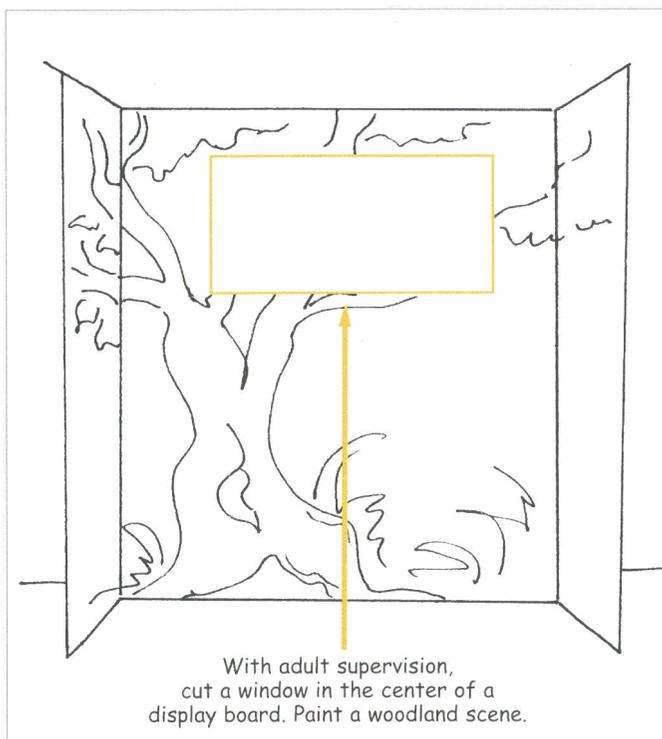
May need a helping hand



Step-by-step:

1. Referring to patterns trace and cut patterns from felt for Babe the Blue Ox (page 40) and Paul Bunyan (page 39 & 41)
2. Glue pieces for Babe the Blue Ox to the blue craft bag with the handles of the bag facing down. For order of glueing see information box on page 40. Glue two wiggle eyes in place.
3. Tie a shoestring bow with jute and glue to neckline of Babe.
4. Glue pieces for Paul Bunyan to the red craft bag. For order of glueing see information box on page 39. The handles should be facing down. Glue the arms along the back edge on either side of the craft bag, sticking out to the side.
- Use a black fabric marker to detail around felt pieces. Glue two wiggle eyes in place.
5. With adult supervision, cut a window in the center of the cardboard display board for the theatre.
6. Using assorted acrylic paint colors, paint a woodland scene on the display board.

Step-by-step (continued):

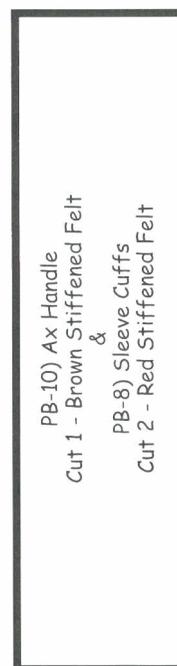
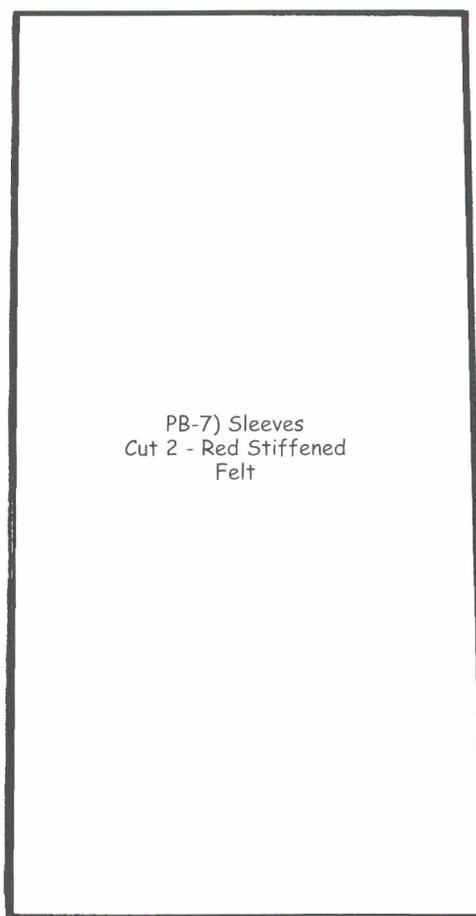
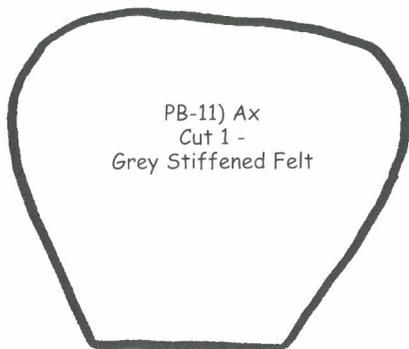
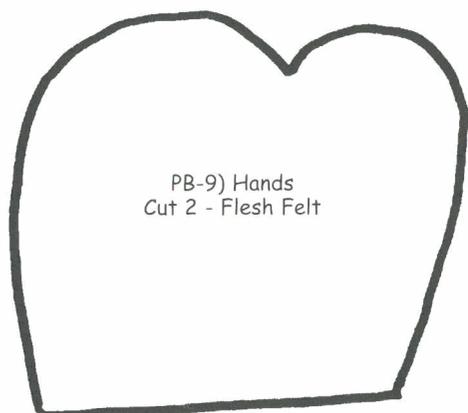


Paul Bunyan Puppet

Glue the pieces for Paul Bunyan to the red craft bag in the following order:

- PB-1) Face
- PB-2) Beard
- PB-3) Mustache
- PB-4) Nose
- PB-5) Hat
- PB-6) Hat Brim
- PB-7) Sleeves on either side of bag
- PB-8) Cuffs
- PB-9) Hand
- PB-10) Ax Handle
- PB-11) Ax

The patterns pieces can be found on page 39 and 41.



Paul Bunyan Puppet Theater, Step-by-step (continued):

Babe the Blue OX Puppet

Glue the pieces for the Ox to the blue craft bag in the following order:

- BO-1) Ox Head
- BO-2) Horns
- BO-3) Mouth
- BO-4) Nose
- BO-5) Ears on either side of head

BO-1) Ox Head
Cut 1 - Blue Heather Felt

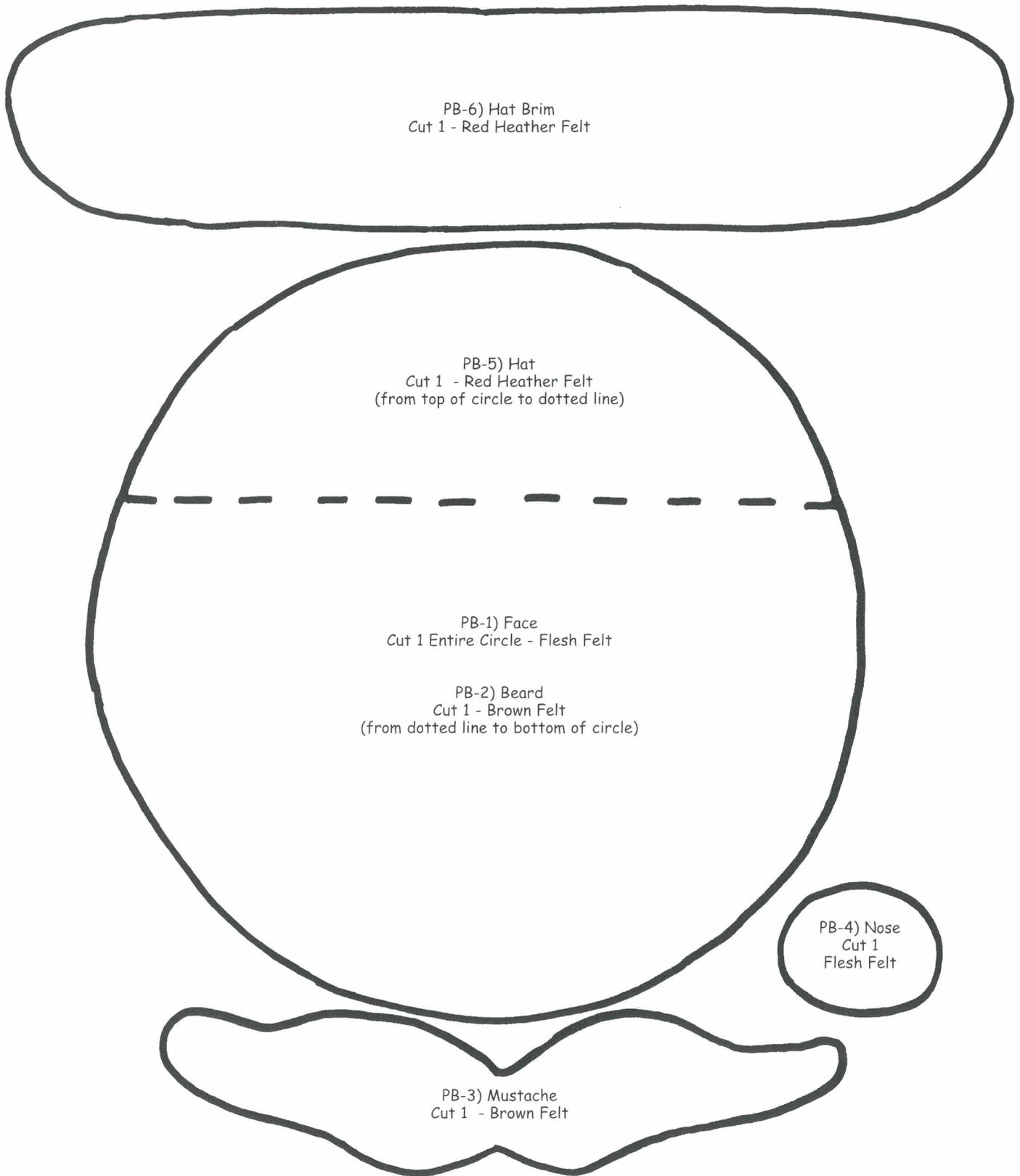
BO-2) Horns
Cut 1 - Grey Stiffened Felt

BO-3) Mouth
Cut 1 - Flesh Felt

BO-6) Ears
Cut 2 - Blue Felt

BO-5) Nose
Cut 1 - Black Felt

Step-by-step (continued):



Beacon™ Kids Choice Glue™; Fiskars® Scissors;
Toner Plastics, Inc.™ Natural Knots; Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint

Turtle Maraca

by Dimples Mucherino

A study of folklore would not be complete without mentioning some of the symbols common to the Native American tribes which inhabit the USA. These are not "tall tales" but animal symbols which were used to portray certain characteristics. The turtle represents the heart of the soul, the keeper of life and the symbol of women.



You will need:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plaster tape roll | <input type="checkbox"/> Pony beads - 2 red, 2 yellow & 2 black |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3" Hexagon papier-maché box | <input type="checkbox"/> 12" Length jute cord |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acrylic paint - light blue, black, yellow, red & white | <input type="checkbox"/> Two 1/2" jingle bells |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Satin varnish | <input type="checkbox"/> 3" Feathers - 2 assorted colors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Medium wood circles | <input type="checkbox"/> Dried peas or beans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1/4" x 12" Wood dowel | <input type="checkbox"/> Glue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Four 5/8" mini candle cups | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint brushes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1" Ball knob | <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors |

May need a helping hand



Step-by-step:

1. Remove lid of hexagon box. Using tips of scissors, poke one hole centered on one side of box. Insert wood dowel in hole. Apply glue on inside of box to secure dowel. Put dried peas or beans in box and replace lid.
2. Cut plaster tape roll in strips 2" to 3" wide. Fill bowl with warm water. Dip strips one at a time into water, smooth with fingers until creamy. Place on box and smooth again with fingers. Repeat until entire surface is covered and lid is sealed to base of box. Allow to dry thoroughly.
3. Paint entire box light blue. Paint six wood circles red, and one circle yellow. Paint mini candle cups (legs), wood dowel,

Step-by-step (continued):

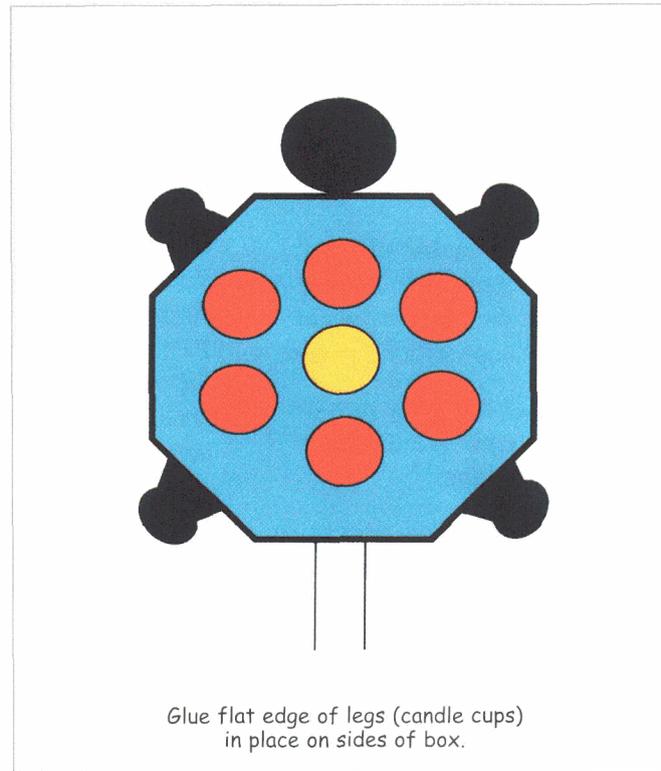
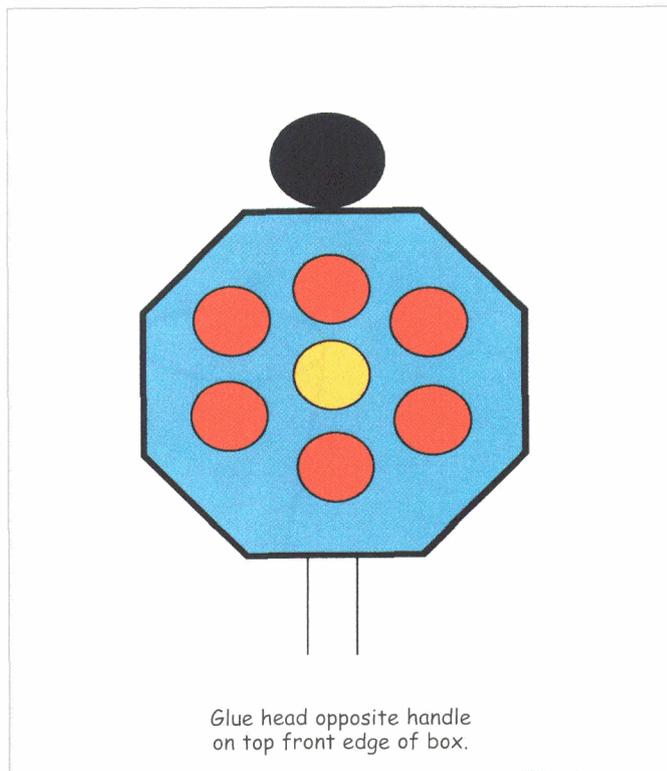
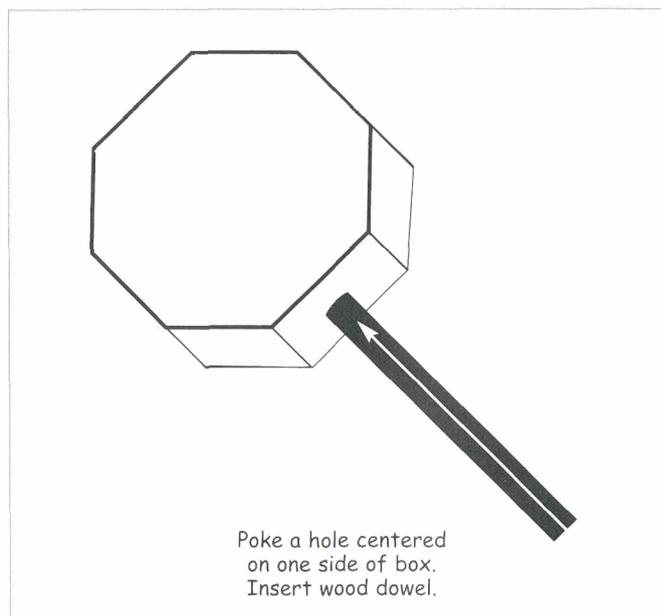
and ball knob (head) black. Let dry. Dot eyes on head with white paint. Let dry.

Optional: Dry brush bottom and top edge of box, and edges of all circles with black paint. See page 7 for dry brush technique.

4. Glue wood circles on box top with yellow circle centered in middle of box. Apply one coat of varnish to entire box. Let dry.

5. Glue head opposite handle on top front box. Glue flat edge of legs in place on sides of box.

6. String black, red, and yellow pony beads on each end of jute cord. Tie one jingle bell on each end below beads. Insert and glue one feather inside each set of beads. Tie jute centered around handle.

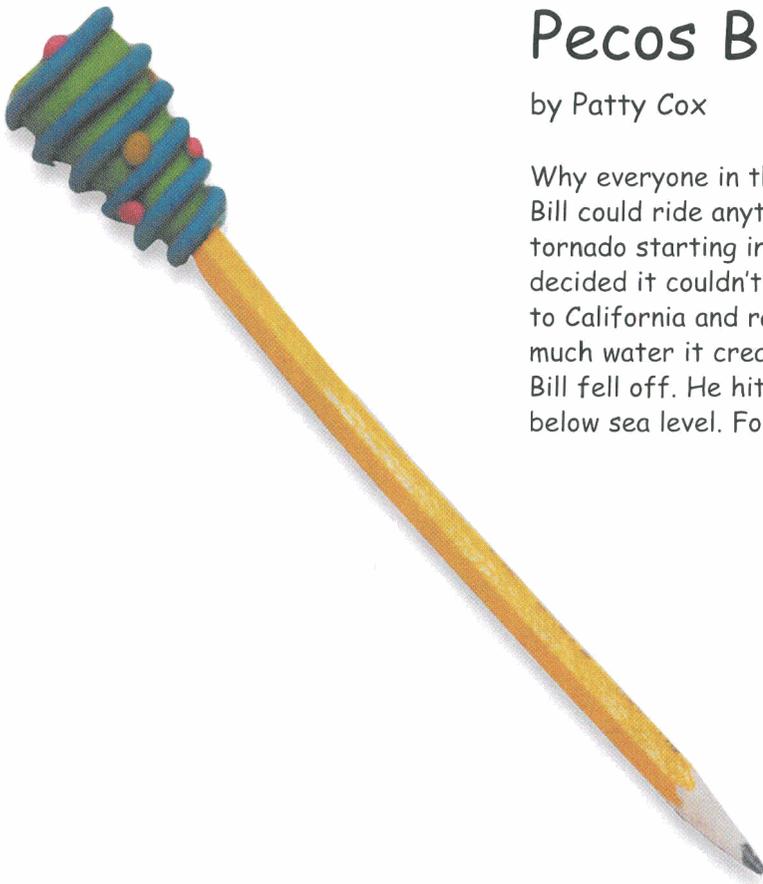


Activa® Rigid Wrap®; Toner Plastics, Inc.™ Jute Cord;
Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint, Interior/Exterior Varnish; Beacon™ Kids Choice Glue™;
Fiskars® Scissors; Royal™ Big Kids Choice™ Brush Set

Pecos Bill Tornado

by Patty Cox

Why everyone in the west knows that Pecos Bill could ride anything. He decided to ride a tornado starting in Kansas. Finally that tornado decided it couldn't throw Bill so it headed west to California and rained itself out. It made so much water it created the Grand Canyon. Finally Bill fell off. He hit the ground so hard it sank below sea level. Folks call the spot Death Valley!



You will need:

- Eraser clay - green, blue, pink & yellow
- Pencil

May need a helping hand

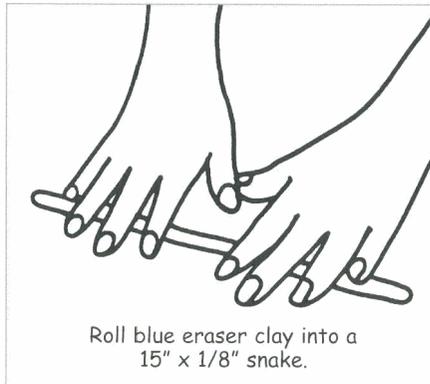


Step-by-step:

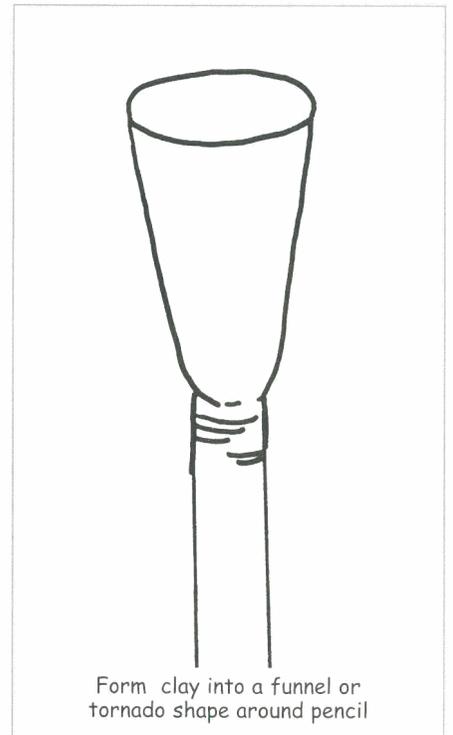
1. Form green eraser clay into a 3/4" ball. Press onto end of pencil. Form clay into a funnel or tornado shape around pencil.
2. Roll blue eraser clay into a 15" x 1/8" snake. Wind snake around green cone.
3. Roll pink and yellow eraser clay into 1/8" small balls. Press balls into tornado shape.

4. Gently remove pencil from clay. Place clay on an oven proof glass surface and bake at 250°F for 10 minutes, with good ventilation. **DO NOT USE MICROWAVE OVEN.** Avoid over baking. Let cool.

5. Place eraser on pencil top.



Roll blue eraser clay into a 15" x 1/8" snake.



Form clay into a funnel or tornado shape around pencil

Polyform® Amazing Eraser Clay

Johnny Appleseed

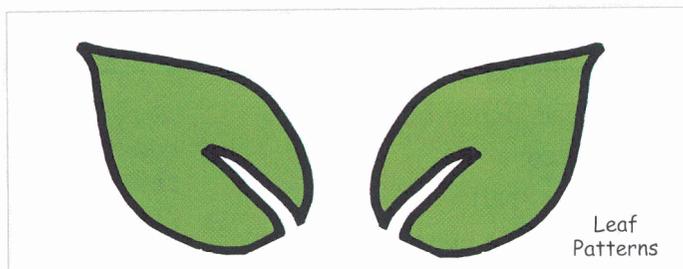
by Cheryl Ball

Johnny Appleseed spent his life planting apple seeds across the country. His real name was John Chapman. He created apple orchards in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. After 200 years, some of those trees still bear apples.

You will need:

- Flour sack dish towel
- Acrylic paint - red, green, black & brown
- Textile medium
- Stencil sponges
- Compressed sponge
- Real apple
- Plastic knife
- Scissors
- Cotton swabs
- Paper towels
- Liner paint brush
- Pencil

May need a helping hand



Leaf Patterns

Step-by-step:

1. Prewash dish towel to remove sizing. Do not use fabric softener.
2. Cut the apple in half, top to bottom and cut out the core. Place face down on folded paper towels to absorb the juices.
3. Place the towel on work surface. Squeeze red paint on a plate. Squeeze an equal amount of textile medium next to the paint and mix thoroughly with a cotton swab.
4. Tap the flat end of the stencil sponge into the paint/medium mixture, tapping off excess onto the plate. Pounce the paint onto the cut side of the apple applying an even coat. Press the apple on a paper towel to see how the apple stamps. Apply more paint and stamp onto the dishtowel, applying more paint for each stamping. Continue stamping apples along the edge of the towel. Let dry.
5. Use the liner paint brush to paint on brown stems.
6. Draw a leaf pattern onto the compressed sponge. Cut out shape and pop-up the sponge in water. Wring dry. Squeeze green paint on a plate. Tap the leaf sponge into the paint, tapping off the excess paint. Position the leaf next to the stem and lightly press on the sponge. Lift and reposition the sponge on the other side of the stem. Press. Apply more paint for each set of leaves.
7. Use a cotton swab dipped in black paint to apply the seeds. Let dry for 7 days.
8. Heat-set paint. Turn towel over, place a cloth over painted area, and press firmly with an iron for 20 seconds (move iron slightly while pressing to prevent scorching.) Set iron at appropriate heat for fabric.

Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint, Textile Medium, Stencil Sponges;
Fiskars® Scissors

Buffalo Bill Vest

by Lorine Mason

William Frederick Cody, known as Buffalo Bill, was a buffalo hunter, U.S. Army scout, and an Indian fighter. He is probably best known as the man who gave the wild west its name. He also had a show which helped to create the image of the wild, wild west. He was born in 1846 and died in 1917.



You will need:

- Brown paper bag
- Scissors
- Brown felt
- 1/8" Hole punch
- Measuring tape
- Glue
- Acrylic paint - raw sienna, burnt sienna & dark brown
- Plastic lacing
- Ruler
- Pony beads - assorted colors
- Pencil
- 8 Brads
- Decorative edge scissors
- Black marker
- Sponge

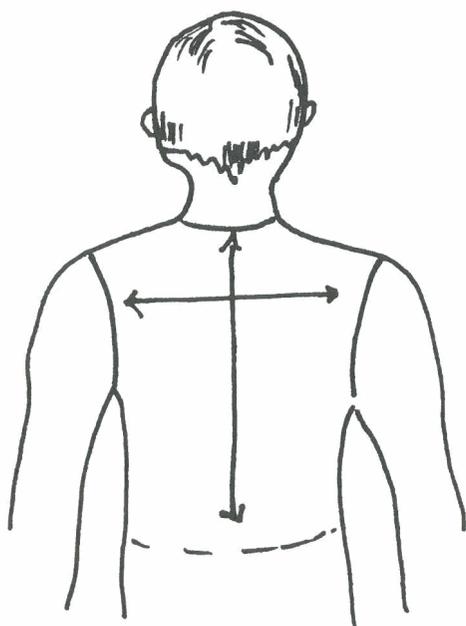
May need a helping hand



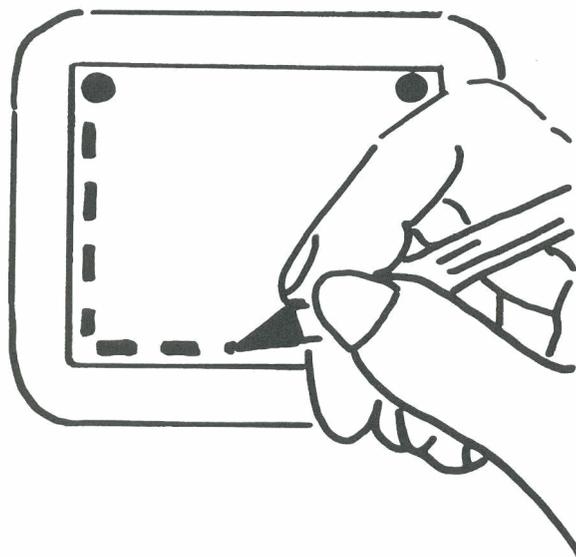
Step-by-step:

1. Cut brown paper bag apart along side seam, cutting off bottom section.
2. Measure length and width of intended vest wearer.
3. Fold bag with the front centered. Adjust width of vest by cutting off excess paper from front edges. Draw the shape of an armhole and front curve of the vest adjusting length to match the wearer. Cut out.
4. Cut two - 3-1/2" square pockets from brown paper. Using paper pocket as a pattern cut larger pockets from brown felt approximately 1/2" wider than the paper pocket. Glue paper pocket to felt pocket.
5. Punch a hole in top corners of each paper pocket and attach brads on each corner. Using a black marker, draw stitch lines around edge of paper pocket.
6. Glue completed pockets on either side of vest opening.
7. Using a sponge brush and acrylic paint, sponge paint colors randomly over entire vest.
8. Glue back shoulder seams on top of front shoulder seams. Fasten two brads along each shoulder seam.
9. Create fringe from additional strips of paper and felt. Thread pony beads onto lacing to embellish front of vest.
10. Reinforce seams and embellishment areas with masking tape on inside of vest.

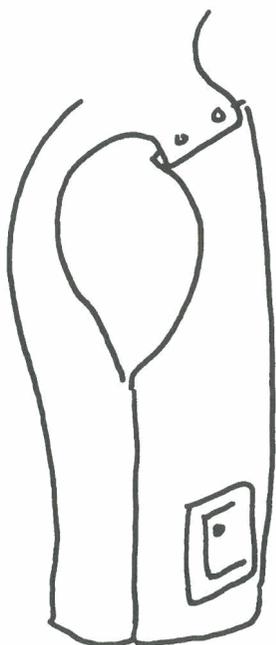
Step-by-step (continued):



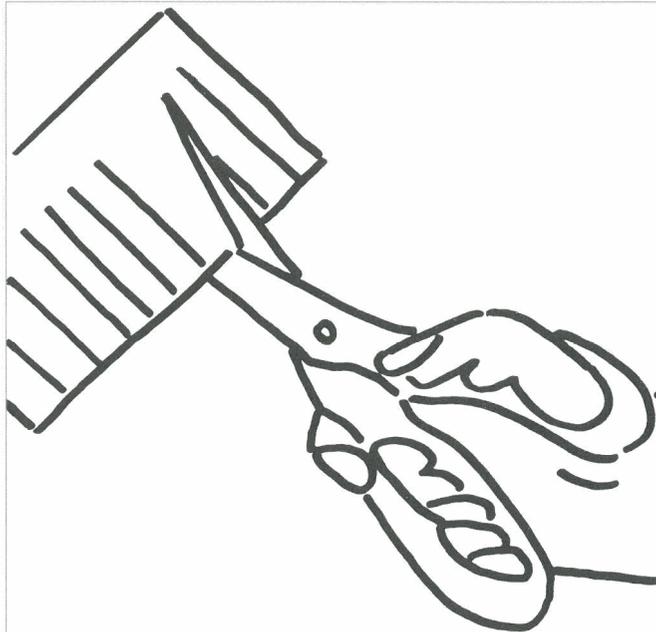
Measure length and width of intended vest wearer.



Draw stitch lines around edge of paper pocket.



Glue back shoulder seams on top of front shoulder seams. Fasten 2 brads along each shoulder.



Create fringe from additional strips of paper and felt.

Delta Ceramcoat® Acrylic Paint; Toner Plastics, Inc.™ Craft Lace™; Fiskars® Paper Edgers, Scissors, Hand Punch, Ruler; Beacon™ Kids Choice Glue™

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



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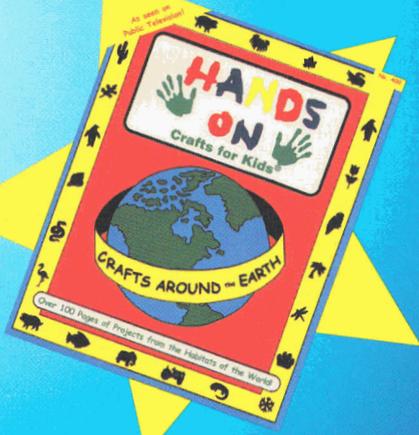
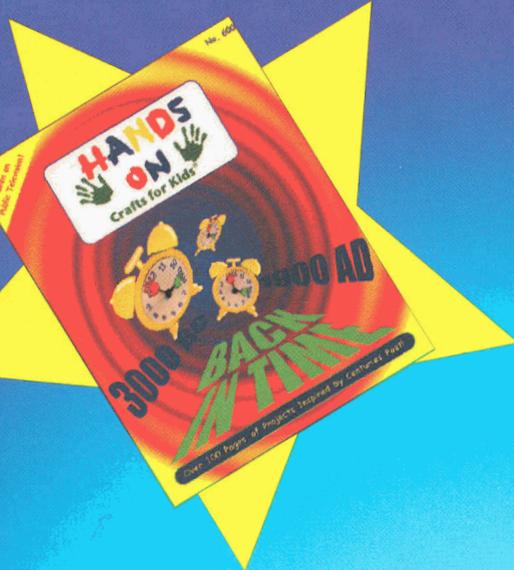
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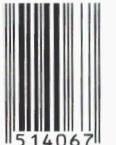
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Television Show Credits

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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