

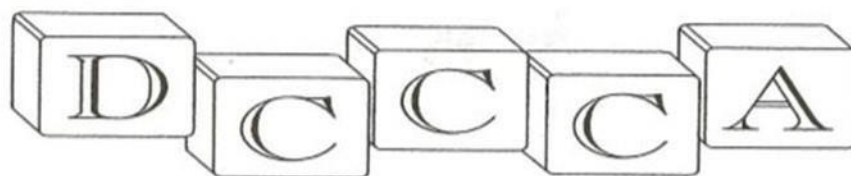
DCCCA Newsletter

January, February & March, 2017

***Please note, Newsletter will now be published Quarterly



Paula Williams
Newsletter Editor



Douglas County Child Care Association
building blocks for America's future

January - March 2017

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Letter from our President

Bringing in the New Year, 2017 State of the DCCCA Address

All POLITICS A SIDE....The New Year is a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the year pastand take a most courageous glance to the future, beckoning with new possibilities, new beginnings, new goals, and new directions. Perhaps with renewed hope and a clean slate, a fresh start beckons with wisdom of lessons learned, renewed perspective and essential stamina for the journey ahead.

Remarkably your new DCCCA board has officially notched seven months tenure under it's belt! And what a journey it has been.... from initial disbelief and excitement to humbling reality of work load and responsibility, in our rapidly evolving profession. I would like to salute Vickie Scholl, Susan Taboada, and Wanda Sprague for their courage, dedication and stamina in seeing our association to this mile marker! I would also like to extend thanks and credit to the previous board of Pam Mooney, Candy Nonnemacher and yes again Susan Taboada, for leaving our association in strong financial standing with many valuable procedures and elements in place!

Honestly, I was a "reluctant president" feeling woefully inadequate and scared..... yet not wanting to see our association dissolve. My first consideration, and in hind sight best decision, was to seek out Vickie as vice president. A fledgling alliance was formed and we haven't looked back! We are so different ...yet so alike, and I value what she brings to the table. I admire her service minded and helpful nature. Am grateful for her computer expertise and strong work ethic. Am impressed with her organizational and detailed oriented approaches. We are fortunate to have her on "board."

Thankfully so, Susan agreed to extend her stay as treasurer and membership representative. She has been instrumental and invaluable as an on going resource and guide. I so appreciate her patience and direction, especially during the most difficult transition of those first few months. We would have floundered without her expertise and I have come to value her integrity and true grit! We are fortunate to have her on "board".

With a smile on my face, I recall how this woman sitting in front of us at a conference, suddenly turned around and voiced an interest in the yet filled secretary position. With a brief exchange, she impressed me with her assertiveness and confidence. Little did she know what she was in for! Wanda jumped in and has managed to help in countless ways. I appreciate her candor and willingness to serve. She brings lighthearted comments to situations that feel anything but. We are fortunate to have her on "board".

In looking back, we have endured a challenging learning curve and accomplished much. Our goal being... to build a culture of strong relationships, open receptive communications, innate professionalism, and mentoring camaraderie, while networking beyond our own four walls to the benefit of all. Our collective efforts have realized.....

Updating business practices with detailed budgets, board meetings and minutes,
reviewing our entire DCCCA business model for future considerations

Improve communications via emails, newsletters (**now on our website**), surveys, coffeetchats, phone conferences, meeting personally with and working along side volunteers, while always striving to be available and approachable

Establish professional connections with other county and state associations, councils and agencies

Build and support membership with more frequent face to face training's, conferences, assistance in PDIS, QRIS and licensing, modeling the importance and due respect of our vocation

Personally, it has been a joy (and relief) to see more members step forward and volunteer their services to our organization. We quickly realized early on, considering all our grandiose ideas, that growing our association was key. Ladies, our dreams keep evolving and your suggestions are always on the forefront. And with that, we whole heartedly thank, in no particular order....

Sabrina Fulks
Paula Williams
Joanne Payne
Shelley Stackpole
Reysie Beekman
Andrea Price-Stogsdill
Ivanka Stuchlik
Maria Ciurczak
Rita Predmore
Linda Woodward
Edie Wyn
Karen Wiese

I continue to be amazed by all of you in our membership, and look forward to striving onward together linked by our profession and common goals. May 2017 bring you a large measure of peace, prosperity, wisdom and laughter!

Cheers to you in 2017,

Angela Rosales

Douglas County Child Care Association

October 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

2nd Quarter Treasurer's Report

Balance Forward						\$11,907.68
Income:		Member-ship			\$90.00	
		State Member-ship			\$30.00	
		Tom Copeland Seminar			\$650.00	
		Refunded Bank Fee			\$3.00	
			Total Income		\$873.00	
Expenses:		Board Meeting			\$47.34	
		Tele-phone			\$160.87	
		Tom Copeland Seminar			\$3,122.04	
		Education			\$210.00	
		CAFCC State Dues			\$390.00	
		Affiliate Dues			\$80.00	
			Total Ex-penses		\$4,010.25	
Ending Balance						\$8,770.43

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Taboada

DCCCA Treasurer

Referral Recap for calls from Oct. thru Dec 2016

Location: Castle Rock	Oct/ Nov/ & Dec	Location: Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree & Centennial	Oct/ Nov/ & Dec	Location: Parker	Oct/ Nov/ & Dec
Calls for under 2	9/14/1	Calls for under 2	7/4/10	Calls for under 2	5/8/14
Full Time:	9/8/0	Full Time:	3/4/5	Full Time:	5/5/12
Part Time:	0/6/1	Part Time:	4/0/5	Part Time:	0/3/2
Calls for over 2	2/8/6	Calls for over 2	4/5/6	Calls for over 2	3/2/3
Full Time:	0/1/3	Full Time:	1/0/3	Full Time:	2/2/2
Part Time:	2/7/3	Part Time:	3/5/3	Part Time:	1/0/1
Before & After School	0/0/0	Before & After School	0/0/0	Before & After School	0/0/1
Drop In's	0/0/0	Drop In's	0/0/0	Drop In's	0/0/0
Night's or Weekends	0/0/0	Night's or Weekends	0/0/0	Night's or Weekends	0/0/0
CCAP	0/0/0	CCAP	0/1/1	CCAP	0/0/0
Tot. Kids for Month	11/22/7	Total kids for the Month	11/10/16	Total kids for Month	8/10/18

DCCCA WEBSITE	2/15/0	DCCCA WEBSITE	4/3/6	DCCCA WEBSITE	5/8/15
PROVIDER/FRIEND	0/0/0	PROVIDER/FRIEND	3/3/6	PROVIDER/FRIEND	0/0/0
USED BEFORE	0/0/0	USED BEFORE	2/1/1	USED BEFORE	0/0/0
OTHER:	0/7/0	OTHER:	0/0/0	OTHER:	3/0/0

Next newsletter
will be:
April!

Please remember to keep in
touch with your referral with
your opening
status in your home - monthly
Thank you

In the Spotlight

Connecting with early childhood education

Peers on a personal and professional level!

My name is Aleece Tatom and I am a licensing specialist with the Office Early Childhood, Division of Early Care and Learning. I have a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of Colorado. I began my career with Denver Parks and Recreation in 1997 when I began teaching children's recreation al programs at a recreation center where I managed, taught and coordinated children's programs for over 8 years. In 2005, I began working as a group counselor at a day treatment center for children, but decided to change directions and began my work in human services in 2006. I have worked within the human services department for Douglas, Arapahoe and Jefferson County where I was a child protection caseworker and a program specialist for family support services. Beginning in 2009, I became a child care licensing specialist for the State of Colorado where I continue to work today.

At a very early age, I discovered my passion to work with children, which led me down my career path. It brings me so much joy seeing children happy and being cared for by others who also love children. Aside from work, in my spare time, I enjoy hiking, working out, watching movies and spending as much time as possible with my husband and little baby boy who is just a little over 6 months now.

Aleece Barr-Tatom
Compliance Specialist
Office of Early Childhood
Division of Early Care and Learning
Colorado Department of Human Services
1575 Sherman Street, 1st Floor
Denver, CO 80203
303-866-5948
www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com



Aleece Barr-Tatom
Compliance Specialist

Colorado Association of Family Child Care (CAFCC)

Respectfully Submitted by: Andrea Price-Stogsdill

Colorado Association of Family Child Care (CAFCC) Meeting 10/22/2016

Bear Valley Church
10001 West Jewel Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado

Tricia Kelly-Lynch, President

Irene Gillman, 1st Vice President

Charlotte Duerr, Treasurer

Minutes were approved for these meetings:

5/30/2016; 8/2016 & 10/24/2016

Update on individual association's trainings

Douglas County reports the success of the Tom Copeland meeting on October 8, 2016. The turnout was large with 66 attendees. DCCCA reports they had members return a check with registration paperwork, and the check was only cashed if a member did not attend. This helped predict the number of attendees. The event was catered and contained 7 hours of info on taxes, bookkeeping, and marketing our businesses.

Side note: Future Copeland conferences will be in Hawaii and Scotland (and expenses are deductible)! See his web site for dates and info.

Weld County – had Constant Hine speak in July. Hine speaks about multiple intelligences and social-emotional issues.

Angela brought up the concern that we must use “approved speakers” though Colorado Shines. This makes it hard to find an acceptable trainer, and is a concern since some of these trainings have imminent deadlines.

American Academy of Pediatrics offers immunization class. That’s the only approved online-only class at this time.

“Active Assailant” is a term to describe a person who could threaten us using various weapons (not just guns). Local sheriffs will sometimes offer those trainings for us.

Q. How should we approach a teacher? A. Ask for the fire Chief. Say the training is required material for us providers, and explain what the State is looking for. One fire chief went so far as to go into the FEMA web site and put a kit together. Tell a potential sheriff/trainer verbatim what needs to be covered in a training. This info should also be in our contract.

Emergency Preparedness training happened in Berthod.

Treasurer's Report

990-N Electronic Filing System

Organizational Reports

Children's Legislative Cooperative – this group is not active.

Licensing Advisory Committee – covers policy, rules, regulations, and politics. Example: playground requirements are too expensive for daycares to meet the required guidelines. Providers can call this Committee when they've exhausted other avenues. They meet Wednesdays from 10-12:00 every other month, and legislators attend. Tricia still receives info about them.

CCAP (Colorado Childcare Assistance Program) – this has been revamped. See online rates – they are higher according to PDIS.

Our web master is in Pennsylvania.

State newsletter position is open, and it's paid.

Standing Committee reports – nothing now .

Funshine Express Shipping Code – they are one of our 3 approved curriculums. Code: FSNAFCC. Good through 11/2016.

Provider rights and zoning – nothing new here.

Grievance – go to CAFCC for grievance policies. CAFCC can act as each association's mediators since they are a neutral 3rd party.

How to increase membership in CAFCC

We discussed door prizes

Sunshine Committee – if someone has surgery or personal troubles, this Committee will send out a card, meals, etc.

Secretary position is open. Take notes, send board packets.

Provider-required State training

7.707 is the section explaining the rules specific to home childcare providers. Info needs to be from CDHS to be trusted. We should be skeptical of info from individuals. Charlotte will email all of us attendees the info that she has. The CDHS web site is: <http://www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com/>

Rules have a 6 moth grace period (June-Dec), during which time providers can be late meeting the requirement, unless the rule states otherwise. However, each rule does state otherwise, which means there are not currently any allowed grace periods.

State licensors are having trouble enforcing trainings. Licensing reps don't always have the full info. If a provider is challenged, we should ask, "where is this stated in the regs? What is the rule number?"

Kathy Moyer offers U-Tube videos online talking about Level 2 and 3.

Health and Safety – these rules require immediate compliance.

Other items

Boulder County – returning money (\$3,684.26). Some associations are dissolving. Boulder now has 17 members.

DCCCA has 68 members.

The most any one association pays to CAFCC is \$80. The fee is \$2/member paid to CAFCC, with \$80 max per year.

How to present ourselves as an association?

- Mentor – members can offer support to each other

- Professional Contact/networking

- Build small groups

- Meeting sharing: each group can hire one speaker, and pool our resources. We attend each other's association meetings, which saves effort and money.

- We could possibly offer an online membership, where people don't have to drive, and can "attend" meetings online, still gaining needed info.

Insurance

The CAFCC has liability master policy. Tricia will complete it for 4 meetings/year (and the insurance will cover members who are injured during a meeting for that many meetings).

Grant

Tricia submitted invoices for \$1,196.03 which covered mileage, subcare, etc., over 3 years (2013-2015) to attend meetings required for grant.

Church

The Bear Valley Church charges CAFCC \$250 from each entity= \$500 paid per year. It's a donation to the church, so we chose that amount. The church then chooses to send the amount we pay toward their kids' programs.

\$137 pays for board to be bonded, newsletter editor, liability, webmistress.

Trustees for Education Foundation

Email this Committee directly if interested in a volunteer position. They need to find people for September trainings.

Lobbyist – we don't have one. We have paid \$850/year for a "Premier Subscription," which includes sending us a monthly report detailing legislative bills (it gives us info on who voted on the bills, the sponsors, etc., but does not include interpretation of the bills and how it may affect us and other parties). We read the legislative bill and see how it impacts us. We can go to the senator web sites and request updates on certain bills. A lobbyist would represent us at Summit. Tricia says she is willing to be a Summit Legislative Executive and we wouldn't need a lobbyist.

Charlotte says that in order to be a State representative, we must first be members of CAFCC.

Future CAFCC meetings

We will have two business meetings and two trainings per year. In deciding on the dates, we discussed months that tend to have low and high attendance, keeping in mind bad weather, summer months when people tend to go out of town, etc.

Business meetings: we decided on April and October (probably 4/28/2017) and October.

Trainings (3 hours each): March 25 and September 23, 2017. Free for members and \$10 for non-members. Registrations will be required so that we know how many attendees to expect.

For meeting ideas, contact Karen Rosa with licensing (??)

EXECUTIVE BOARD & DCCCA VOLUNTEERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD	VOLUNTEERS	PHONE NUMBER	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
President	Angela Rosales	303-766-9241	amagr8rose@q.com
Vice President	Vickie Scholl	303-707-0812	gtscholl@hotmail.com
Secretary	Wanda Sprague	303-841-2108	wandasprague@aol.com
Treasurer/ Membership	Susan Taboada	303-841-5899	SusanTboada@comcast.net
REFERRALS	VOLUNTEERS	PHONE NUMBER	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Castle Rock	Sabrina Fulks	303-814-2103	Sabricustomemb@gmail.com
Highlands Ranch, Lone Tree, Acres Green & Centennial	Paula Williams	303-358-2377	paulasue10@q.com
Parker, Elizabeth	Joanne Payne	303-805-0824	Tisspayne@msn.com
	<u>OTHER POSITIONS:</u>		
CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE:	Shelley Stackpole	303-346-9779	shelleystackpole@gmail.com
STATE REP'S:	Andrea Price-Stogsdill	720-648-6091	astog217@gmail.com
	Revsie Beekman	720-542-8804	mothersloveinhomechildcare@gmail.com
ADVERTISING:	Ivanka Stuchlik	720-517-3370	ivankasdaycare@yahoo.com
HOSPILALITY COMMITTEE:	Maria Ciurczak	303-470-8909	mciurczak62@gmail.com
	Rita Predmore	303-690-0610	no email address
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Paula Williams	303-358-2377	paulasue10@q.com

Licensing Specialist & Misc. Numbers

Castle Rock - 80104. 80108 & 80109	Heather Sporrer	303-866-5958 heather.sporrer@state.co.us
Highlands Ranch Areas: 80129 & 80130	Teresa Ribble	303-866-5948 teresa.ribbon@state.co.us
Highlands Ranch Areas: 80124 & 80126	Aleece Tatom	303-866-5958 aleece.barr@state.co.us
Parker 80134 & 80138	Elizabeth Chase	303-866-5958 elizabeth.chase@state.co.us
COLORADO DEPT. OF HUMAN SERV.	303-866-5958	https://sites.google.com/a/state.co.us/cdhs-dcw/
24 Hour Child Protective Line	303-271-4131	
Immunization Line	303-237-7178	
Colorado Dept. of Health	303-692-2035	
Rocky Mountain Poison Control	303-222-1222	
NAFCC (National Assoc. for family Child Care)	800-359-3817	
CHILD FIND for Douglas County Schools	720-433-0020	
DOUGLAS CTY ZONING:	303-660-7460	
EIN (Employee Identification #)	800-829-4933	http://www.irs.gov/business/small/article/0,,id=97872,00.html
EMPLOYER	I	

Food Programs for Douglas County

Kids Nutrition Company	303-987-4851	
Southwest Food Program	719-573-2246	
Wildwood Food Program	303-730-0460	



Early Childhood Council

Licensed Family Child Care Provider Updated Trainings

To protect the health and safety of children, licensed child care providers are required to complete new pre-service and orientation training requirements guided by the 2014 Child Care and Development Block Grant Act Reauthorization.

Updated Training Requirements– must be completed by Dec 31 PDIS: www.ecpd.costartstrong.org			
Course Name	Where Available	How Often	Notes
Building and Physical Premises Safety / Storage of Hazardous Materials and Bio-Contaminants	♦ With support from licensing specialists	One time training	Counts as 1 hour of continuing education
Prevention of Shaken Baby Syndrome and Abusive Head Trauma	♦ PDIS– Available now	Annually	Counts as 1 hr continuing education
Recognition and Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect	♦ Through a state certified trainer ♦ Online at Office of Early Childhood	Annually	Counts as 1 hour continuing education http://www.coloradocwts.com/mandatedreporter/educators/
Prevention of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and Use of Safe Sleep Practices	♦ Through a certified SIDS Trainer ♦ Academy of Pediatrics ♦ PDIS– Available 12/31/16	Annually	Counts as continuing education
Standard (Universal) Precautions	♦ Through a state approved trainer ♦ PDIS– Available 12/31/16	Annually– regardless of what your certificate says, it will expire one year from the day you took the class.	Counts as 1 hr of training (formerly 90 min) and can be used as continuing education.
Immunization Training	♦ PDIS– Available now	Annually	Counts as 2 hours continuing education
Medication Administration including Prevention and Response to Emergencies due to Food and Allergic Reactions (NEW)	♦ Through a state approved trainer ♦ PDIS– Available 6/30/17	Every 3 years	Delegation for emergency responses due to food and allergic reactions must be renewed annually by Nurse Health Consultant
First Aid / CPR	♦ Approved state trainers only	Depends on trainer– every 1-2 years	Does NOT count as continuing education
FEMA Disaster Preparedness Training	♦ Through FEMA website	One time training	Counts as 2 hours continuing education https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-36

Throwing in the Towel: Are You Experiencing Burn-Out?

What is Burn-Out?

By: The Child Care Lounge



Burn-out is when you find that you are emotionally and psychologically drained from doing a task or job. Usually burn-out occurs after doing this task or job for an extended period of time. It is more than having an isolated "bad day". If you are glad when Friday rolls around, you may simply need a restful weekend. If, on Friday, you are already dreading going back to work on Monday; you may be experiencing burn-out.

People in service and caring professions do seem to be more likely to burn out. These professions may include the health professions as well as teachers and daycare providers. These are jobs that often require a person to be involved emotionally and psychologically with the people they serve or care for. Also there is a greater likelihood that you may take work home with you emotionally if not physically. After-hours, daycare providers may find themselves wondering how they are going to handle an anticipated conflict with a new family. The preschool teacher may be worrying how they will handle an on-going behavioral problem in the classroom.

Are You at Risk?

You may be at risk if you can identify with many of these statements:

- I have a hard time asking others for help.
- I tend to strive for perfection and have very high expectations for myself.
- I have difficulty saying no to additional requests for mytime.
- If only I would work harder, I would be successful.
- I should be able to do what others cannot.
- My work life comes first.

I am a giver, not a taker.

How Can Burn-Out Effect You?

Here are some of the more common feelings others have reported:

- Being overwhelmed
- Seeing everything in a more negativelight
- Difficulty concentrating and/or makingdecisions
- Being irritable or depressed
- Losing a sense of purpose or motivation

How Can I Prevent or Cope With Burn-Out?

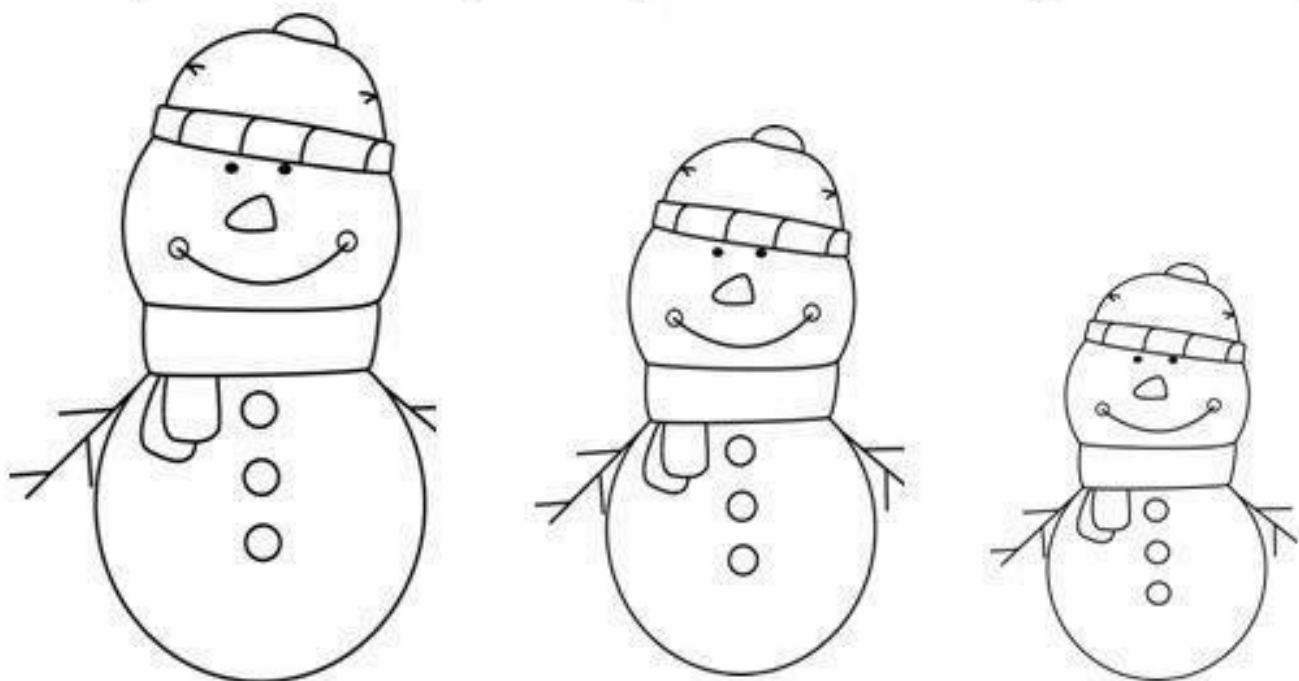
There are some very specific things you can do before you reach the point of throwing in the towel:

- Seek out the support of others in similar situations. Join a professional organization or support group.
- Work on setting limits and learn how to say no.
- Step back and re-evaluate your goals and priorities.
- Cut back on any tasks or responsibilities that are of lower priority.
- Recognize and accept your limitations.
- Take care of yourself. Be sure to eat right, exercise and get plenty of rest.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. Learn how to delegate.
- Schedule time for yourself. Seek out diverse hobbies or pastimes.

Engage in stress relieving activities or [relaxation exercises](#).

There may come a time when you just cannot continue. The feeling that you cannot face another day is overwhelming. This is when it may be best to take a break and try to gain a fresh perspective. You could discover that a short vacation is just what the doctor ordered. Or perhaps, it is time to choose a new career path.

Name : _____ Following Directions: Reading Color Words



1. Color the big snowman's scarf red.
2. Color the middle-sized snowman's buttons orange.
3. Color the little snowman's hat yellow.
4. Color the big snowman's hat blue.
5. Color the middle-sized snowman's scarf purple.
6. Color the little snowman's buttons green.
7. Color the big snowman's buttons black.
8. Color the middle-sized snowman's hat brown.
9. Color the little snowman's scarf blue.
10. Color all of the snowmen's noses orange.

Clipart by: Whimsy Clips Content by: www.creativeclassroomconnections.com

Wintertime Finger Plays

Chubby Little Snowman

A chubby little snowman had a carrot nose. (form snowman with right fist, with thumb sticking out for a carrot nose)

Along came a bunny, and what do you suppose? (use two fingers of left hand to hop to snowman).

That hungry little bunny, looking for his lunch,

Ate that snowman's carrot nose (bunny grabs snowman's nose) Nibble, nibble, crunch

I'm a Little Snow Person (I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little snow person

Short and fat

Here are my buttons,

here is my hat.

When the sun comes out,

I cannot stay.

**Pattern for Snowman story,
Finger play or felt board**

Five Little Snowmen

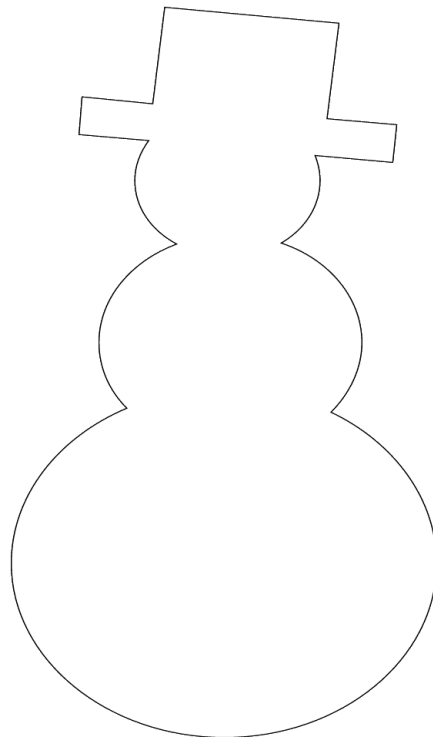
Five little snowmen riding on the sled

One fell off and bumped his head

I called Frosty and Frosty said

"No more snowmen, riding on that sled!"

Four little snowmen...etc.



Snowflake Dance

(Sung to: "Are you Sleeping")
Dance like snowflakes, Dance like snowflakes
In the air, In the air
Whirling, Twirling snowflakes, Whirling, Twirling snowflakes
Here and there, Here and there

Cloudy Day

The day is cloudy and the wind is bold. Dress up warmly, you mustn' t get
cold!
Put on your coat and zip it up tight, put on your left boot, put on your right.
Put on your scarf and put on your hat, put on your mittens and clap-clap-clap!
Go outside and play and play. Come in again, and then we'll say-
Take off your coat that was zipped up tight,
take off your left boot, take off your right.
Take off your scarf, take off your hat,
take off your mittens, and then take a nap!

Five Little Groundhogs (on FEB 2)

The first little groundhog digs a home in the fall,
And curls up all winter rolled up like a ball.
The second little groundhog comes out of his lair,
On February second to get some fresh air.
The third little groundhog looks up at the sun,
He then sees his shadow and goes on the run.
The fourth little groundhog at his dark shadow peeks,
He goes back to his burrow for six more weeks.
The fifth little groundhog hopes that skies will be gray,
So that he will know that spring is on its way

VALENTINE'S on 2/14/17

I have five valentines for Valentine's Day.
I have five valentines I can give away.
The first is for mom, the second for dad.
When they get them, they'll be glad.
Grandma and grandpa, this third one's for you.
Now I am left with only two.
For my teacher at school I've saved number four.
Now it's time to give away one more.
This last valentine I'm going to send is for you,
My very special friend.

Be My Valentine

Sung to Mary Had A Little Lamb
You're a special friend of mine,
Friend of mine, friend of mine.

My Valentine Heart

When I say I love you—(Point to lips)
It comes from my heart—(Hand on heart)
You hear it in your ear—(Point to ear)
And it sounds very smart—(Point to head)
I love it when you're proud of me—(Stand very tall)
You say it all day long—(Stretch arms wide)
And when I hear you say it—(Point to ear)
My heart sings a merry song- (Hand on heart)

WASHINGTON WAS THE PRESIDENT on 2/20/17

Tune: "Yankee Doodle"

Washington was the president
Who fought for our nation.
That is why we honor him
With this President's Day celebration!

Leprechaun Fingerplay – Original Author unknown

Leprechaun, Leprechaun
Hiding in the hay (hide pointer finger under opposite hand.)
Leprechaun, Leprechaun,
Don't you run away (Hop pointer finger around.)
Leprechaun, Leprechaun
Let's go outside and play. (Hop both pointer fingers together.)
Leprechaun, Leprechaun
It's St. Patrick's Day. (Dance pointer fingers up and down.)

I'm a Little Leprechaun - Original Author Unknown

I'm a little Leprechaun, dressed in green,
The tiniest man that you've ever seen.
If you ever catch me, it is told,
He'll give you his pot of gold.

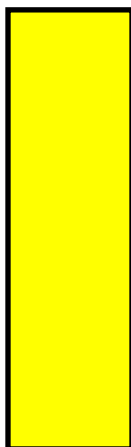
I'm a Little Shamrock - Original Author Unknown

Sung to: "I'm a little teapot"

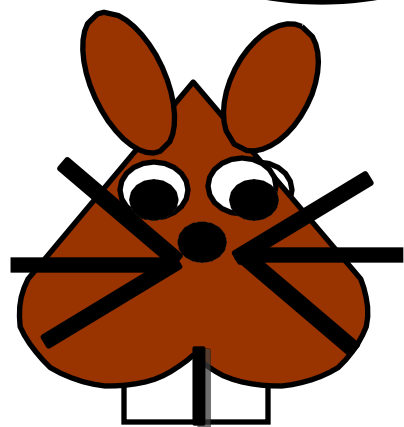
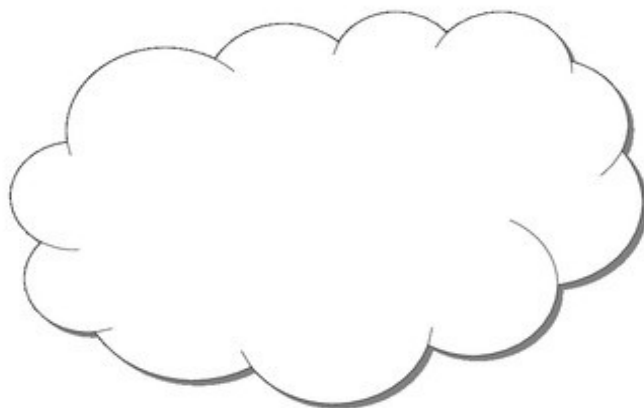
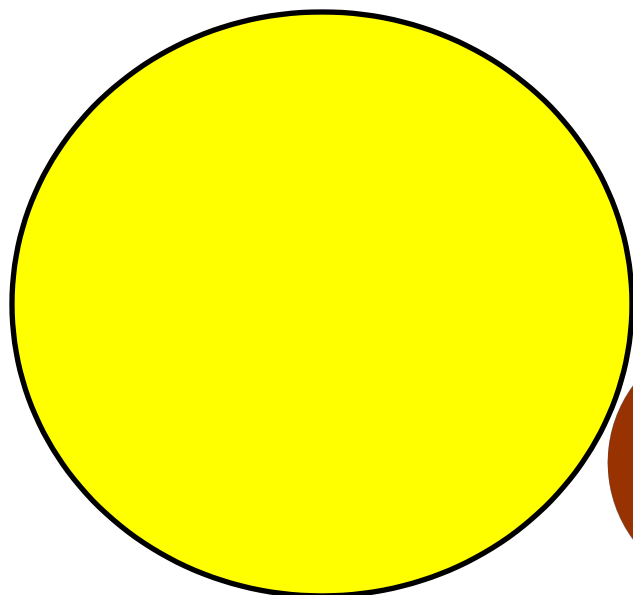
I'm a little shamrock see my leaves.
Count my three petals if you please.
If you give me water and lots of sun,
I'll bring you good luck and lots of fun.

Groundhog's Day

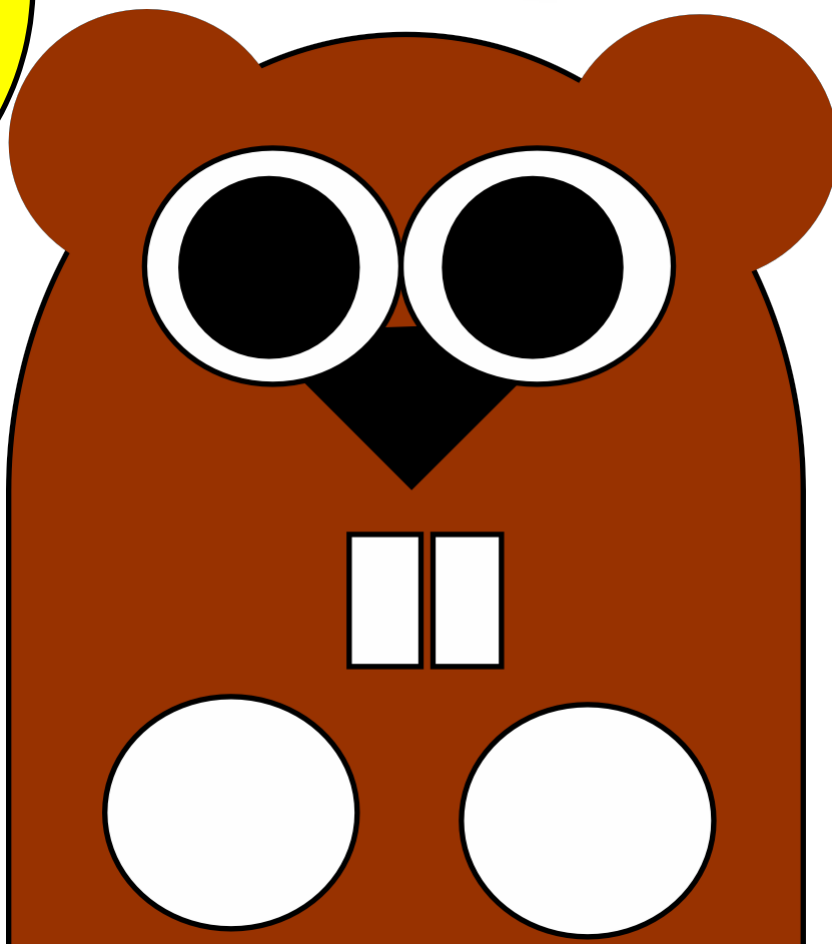
FEBRUARY 2,



Groundhog Puppet
housingaforest.com



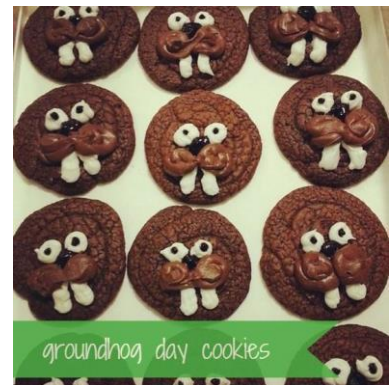
housingaforest.com



GROUNDHOG'S DAY SNACK IDEA

- 1 box of brownie mix
- Ingredients required to make brownies (according to the box) minus the water, I ended up needing 2 eggs and 1/2 c vegetable oil
- Vanilla/white icing for the eyes and teeth
- Chocolate frosting for cheeks, Black icing for nose and pupils.
- Mix together ingredients for brownie batter according to package, WITHOUT the water. If your brownie box has options for “fudge like” brownies v. “cakelike” follow directions for “fudge like.” Place brownie batter in a piping bag, and cut a small slit at the end of the bag.
- Create a round-shaped stencil, or use a cookie cutter. Draw a circle, or the outline of groundhog's faces on parchment paper. Be sure to leave space between each circle so that the circles don't run into one another – they will spread some when baking.
- Line cookie sheets with the parchment paper.
- Pipe the brownie mix to fill in the circles (see photo).
- Bake brownies at 350 for 10-12 minutes. Since they are thin, watch to make sure they don't burn.
- Cool completely before frosting! Use the white frosting to make the eyes and the teeth. Then use the black icing to draw on pupils and the nose. Then use the chocolate frosting and make the cheeks. I used a piping bag to make them extra cheeky.

Makes about 2 dozen groundhogs



To make your own Snow:

Add the desired amount of baking soda to a sensory bin or container. Then, slowly mix in shaving cream. I used one large box of baking soda and almost a full can of shaving foam. As you slowly mix in the shaving cream you will discover a fantastic mold-able snow. The snow is super soft, silky smooth, and smells so clean and fresh. It is also naturally cold. I am not sure why exactly but it is! It feels just like fresh fallen powder in your hands. growingajeweledrose.com

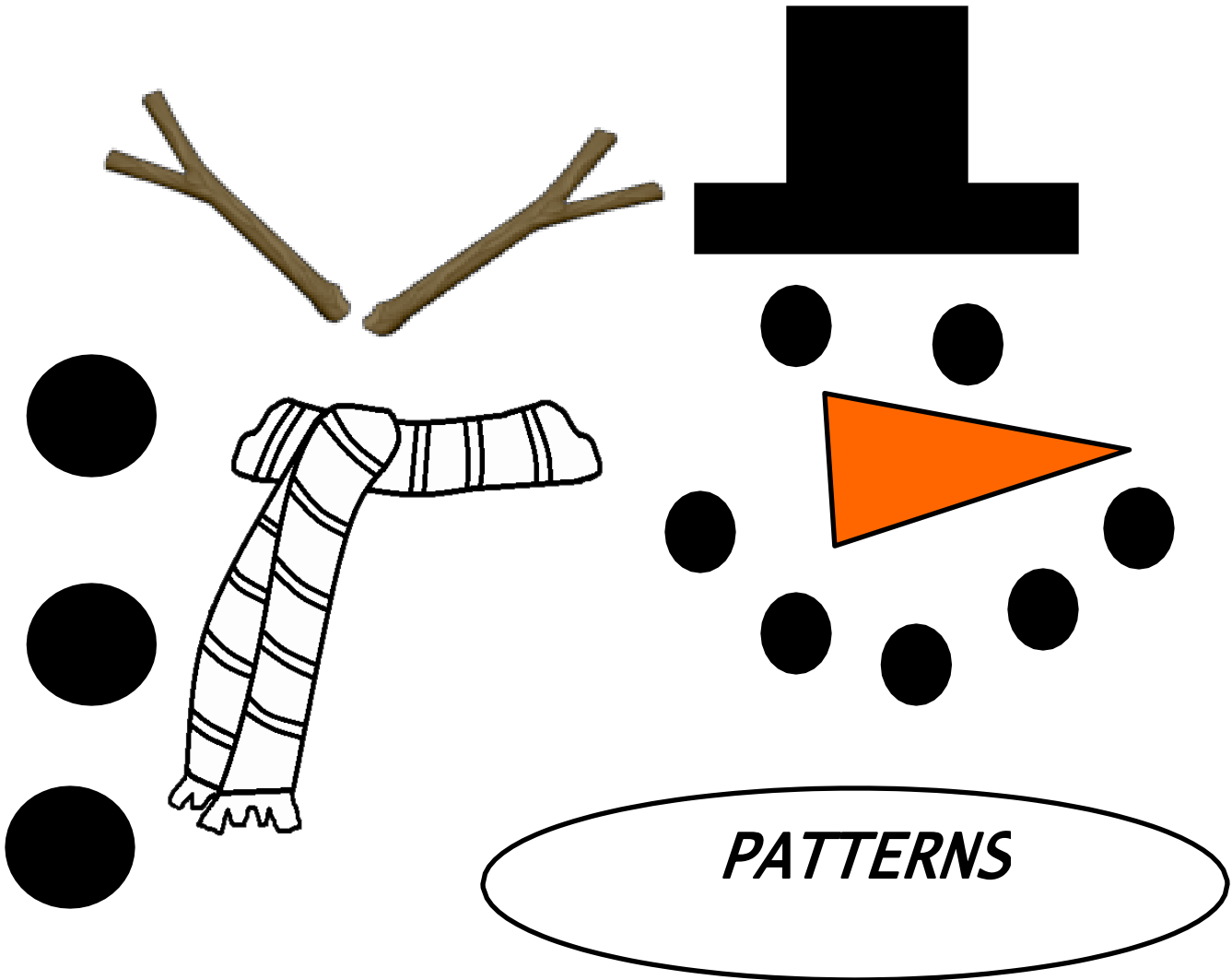


EXPERIMENT

SNOWMEN CRAFT



This is really cute, did it last year with the kids. Have them use a sponge or cotton ball and dab away on a piece of blue construction paper. I drew with pencil the 3 circles and asked them to stay in the lines, they did pretty good. After it dried I decorated to be a snowman.



SNOWMEN CRAFTS



By: Mom inspired life

Setting Up the Snowman Craft

Blue, white, black, brown & orange construction paper

Scissors, Glue sticks

1. Cut out squares from the white construction paper. Kids can do this themselves also.
2. Cut out small circles from the black construction paper. Then cut out larger black circles for the eyes.

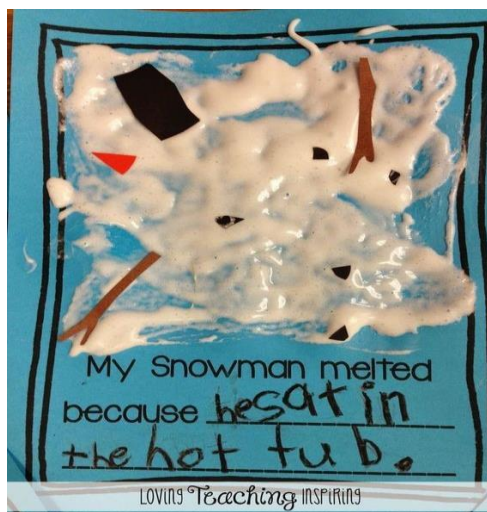
Cut out a triangle from the orange construction paper.



MELTING SNOWMAN

3 white circles (2 large, 1 medium)
1 square red hat (any color could be substituted)
1 orange triangle
nose
2 googly eyes
buttons
brown
marker

Using their materials, the kids assembled their own snowmen on blue construction paper based on what they thought a snowman would look like from the story. While they constructed their snowman, they told me stories of



MELTED SNOWMAN

Mix equal amounts of shaving cream and glue. Have kids paint this mixture onto paper. Make sure they don't paint on the puffy paint too much, or it won't dry puffy, just get the solution onto the paper.

Cut out shapes used for the snowman and drop into the solution before it dries.



SNOWMAN BALL TOSS GAME

SUPPLIES NEEDED;

SHARPIES

PLASTIC BALLS (\$1.00 STORE)

PLASTIC BIN (\$1.00 STORE)

Snow Globe

Supplies:

- Empty baby food jars all sizes work just fine,
- mini fake trees, OR other decoration
- Goo Gone
- Glycerin {I found it at Michaels}
- Glass & Bead glue OR Epoxy
- Glitter {colored chunkier glitter works best. Don't use clear or fine glitter}
- Gold spray paint
- distilled water

THEN press the tree onto the lid and let dry 24 hours..

4. Add about 1 teaspoon of glitter into each jar.

5. Fill with distilled water and add 5 drops of Glycerin. {5 drops seemed to work the best.} Screw the lid {with the tree} onto the top and you've got yourself the cutest mini snow globe ever!



Valentine's Day



FEBRUARY 14TH



The roses are red thumb-prints.

Funhandprintartblog.com

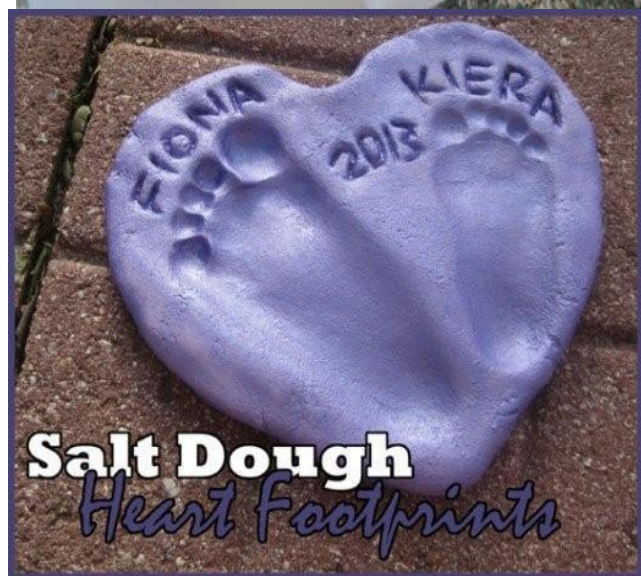


Ingredients

1 cup salt, 1 cup flour, 1/2 cup of Water. Mix altogether, should feel like playdoh.

Stamp feet or hands, do any writing, then bake at 200 for about 3 hours. If you want to hang it up, put a hole in the top before baking. Once cool, use Metallic paint to cover it and let dry. Don't forget to date and put name on the craft before baking.

[Hubpages](#)



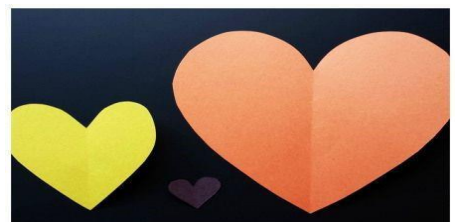
HERES THE FINISHED
PRODUCT. IN THIS
PARTICULAR CRAFT
THEY USED 2 SISTERS
FOR 1 CRAFT

Crafts using different size hearts

Heart Shaped Animals



Heart Frog Craft



VALENTINE SNACK IDEAS



Hogs & Kisses *Valentine*



CUP OF APPLESAUCE (ABOVE SHOWS STRAWBERRY)

DECORATED WITH 1/4 OF A PIPE CLEANER TAIL, SMALL POM-POM NOSE, 2 FLANNEL HEART EARS & 2 WIGGLE EYES WITH A HERSHEY KISS ON THE SIDE.



Conversation Hearts Rice Krispie Treats



RICE KRISPIE TREATS. COLOR THE MARSHMALLOWS BEFORE STIRRING IN THE RICE KRISPIES. WRITE ON THEM USING TUBES OF FROSTING.



President's Day

FEBRUARY 20

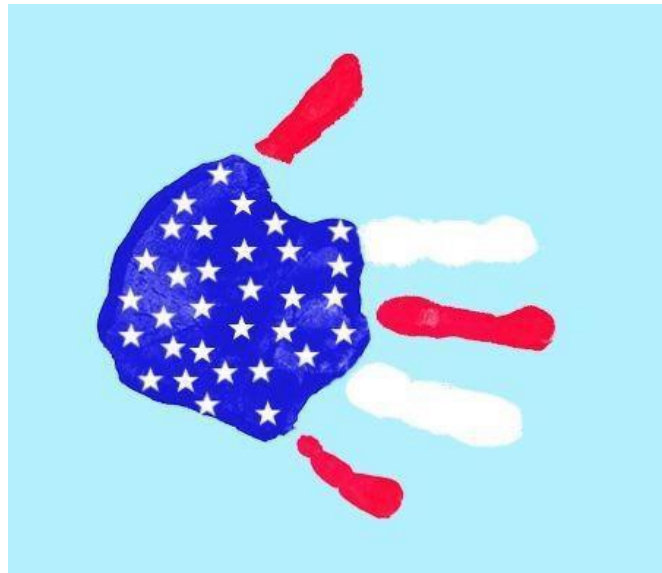


- Paint the bottom of the paper plate flesh colored or you can leave your plate white.
- Draw a mouth and a nose with a black marker. Cut two circles from white paper for eyes and two smaller circles from black construction paper for the pupils.
- Cut some rectangles from black and white paper to assemble a hat
- Cut strips of brown construction paper (about 1 inch wide and 3 or 4 inches long) and roll them around a pencil to curl them. Glue them all the way around the plate as hair and a beard (except where the hat goes). WWW.DLTK-KIDS.COM

PATRIOTIC PRINT

Using red, white and blue paint, print child's hand as shown in the picture. Use sticky stars to adhere once the hand is dry.

WWW.THEIDEABOX.COM





Large marshmallow shamrock stamping.

Theinterestedparent.com



My directions as I see this craft. Paper Plate— Rectangles cut from green paper (1 tall and one much smaller and skinnier) for hat black rectangle hat band, and a yellow square , fold it and cut a smaller square out of the middle. Draw a face on the Leprechaun ,and the beard is small orange pom pom's. (or even small orange paper circles)

BY: [SHE KNOWS](#)

[See patternsattached](#)



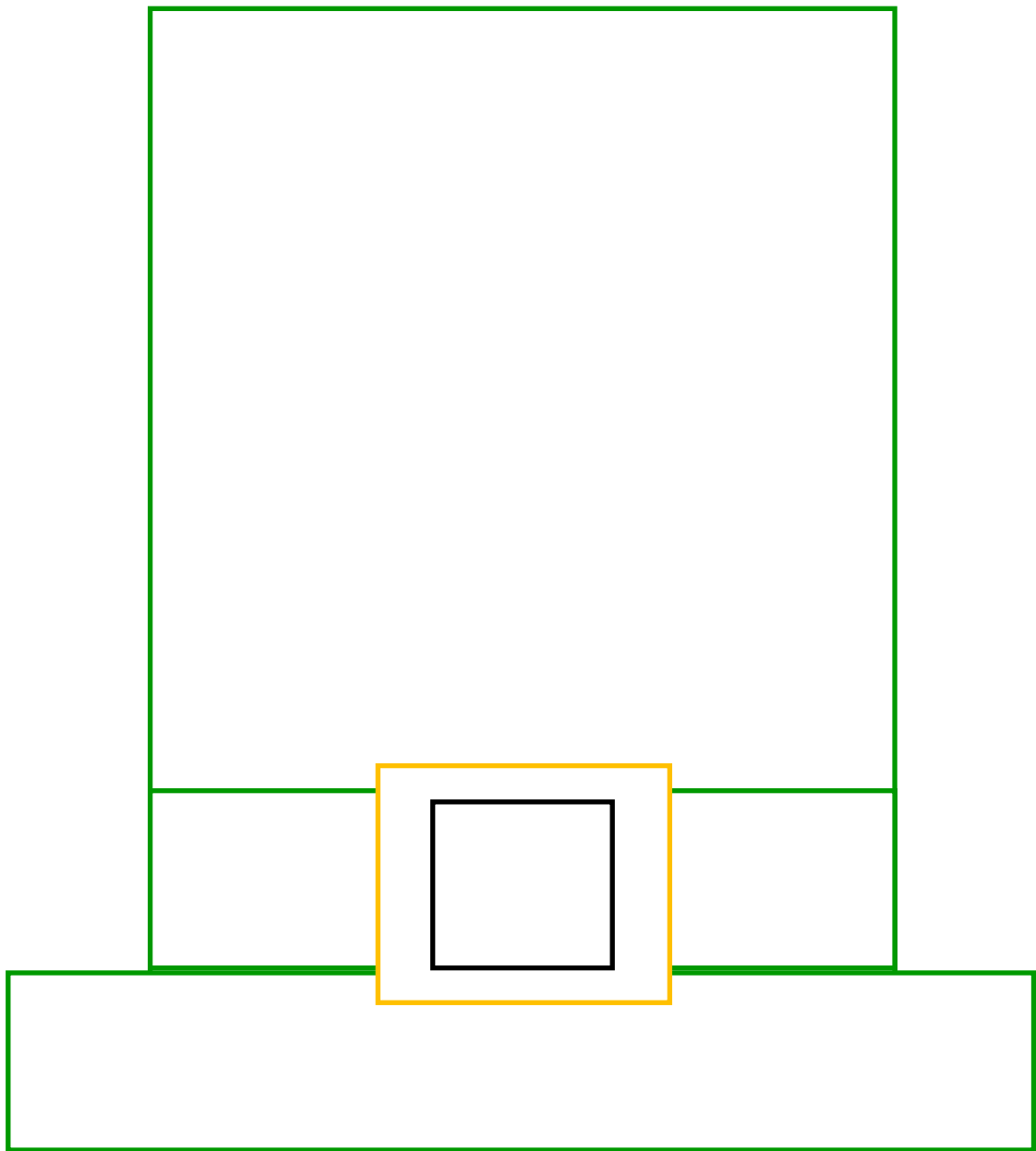
Long strip of paper & rainbow colors of paint:

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, (indigo) & violet.

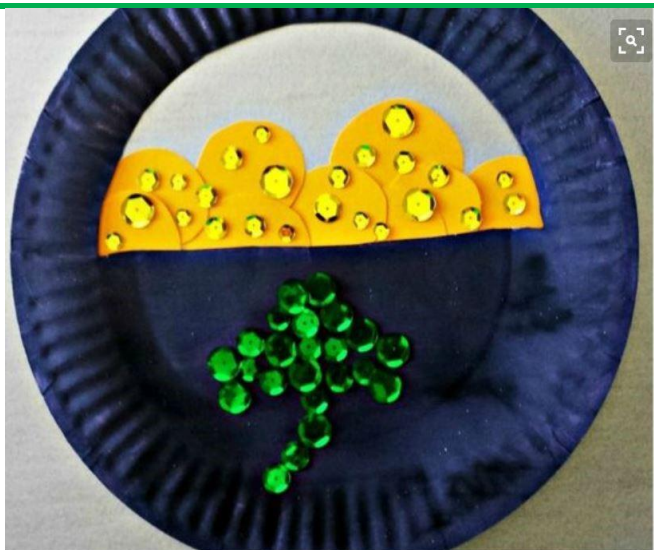
Have the kids use one color at a time and print hands. Possibly add to the bottom the child's prints their name and date.

Cut out a black cauldron shape pot glue to the purple end (not shown) and add gold thumb prints above and around the pot to look like gold.

Craftymorning.com (see patterns attached)



Activity
-village



PAINT A PAPER PLATE BLACK. WHEN DRY CUT A SEMI CIRCLE OUT OF THE TOP. GLUE A "PILE" OF YELLOW CIRCLE (GOLD). TO MAKE THEM APPEAR SHINNING ADD YELLOW GEMS OR SEQUINS.

MAKE A SHAMROCK OUT OF GREEN GEMS OR SEQUINS.

WWW.SASSYDEALZ.COM (SEE PATTERN)



LEPRECHAUN HANDPRINT.

PAINT CHILD'S HAND WITH FLESH COLOR PALM, ORANGE FINGERS FOR BEARD AND PAINT WITH BRUSH A LITTLE BIT OF ORANGE HAIR. ADD EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH. PAINT GREEN HAT. ADD BLACK STRIP FOR HAT BAND, ADD YELLOW BUCKLE.

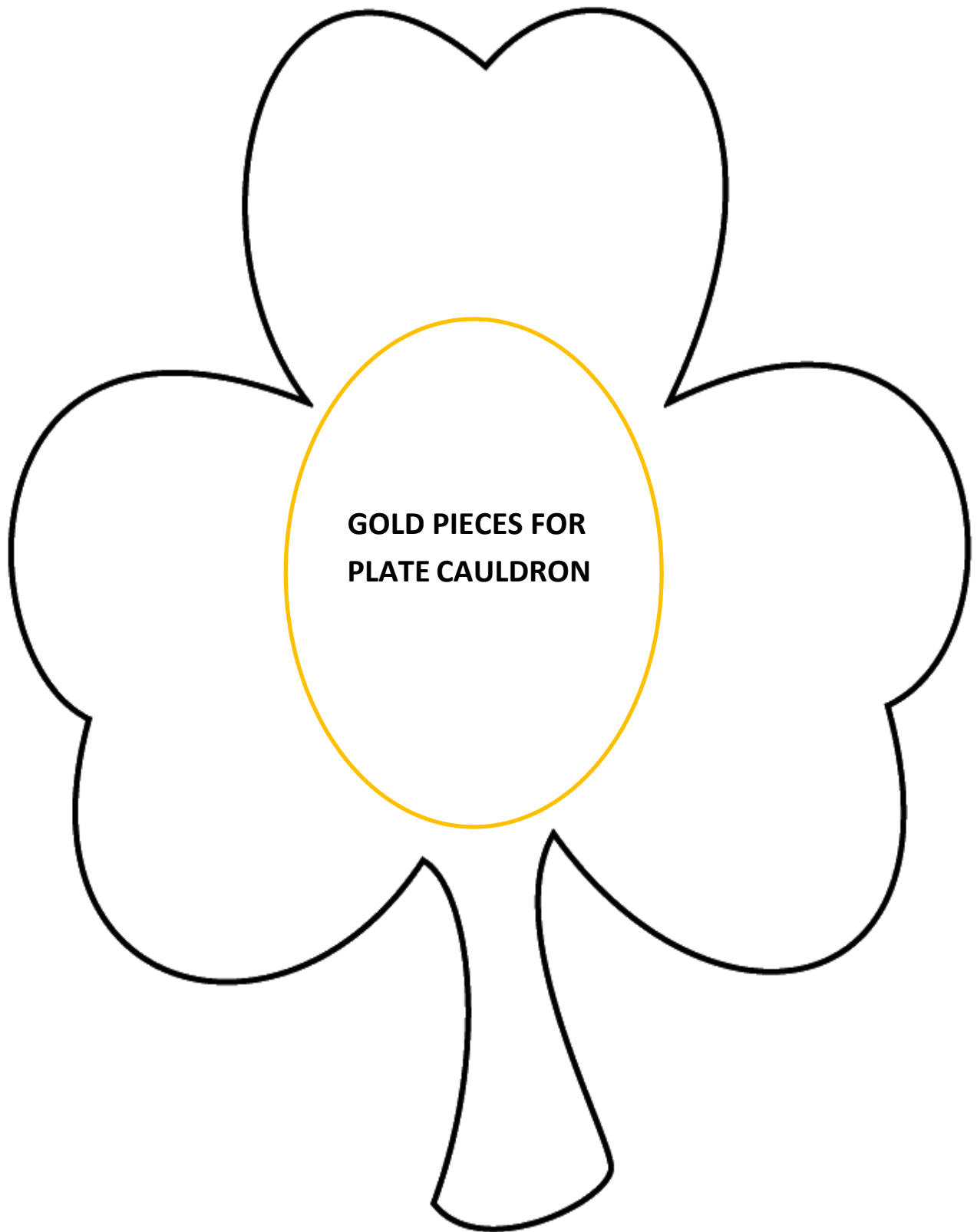
WWW.SASSYDEALZ.COM

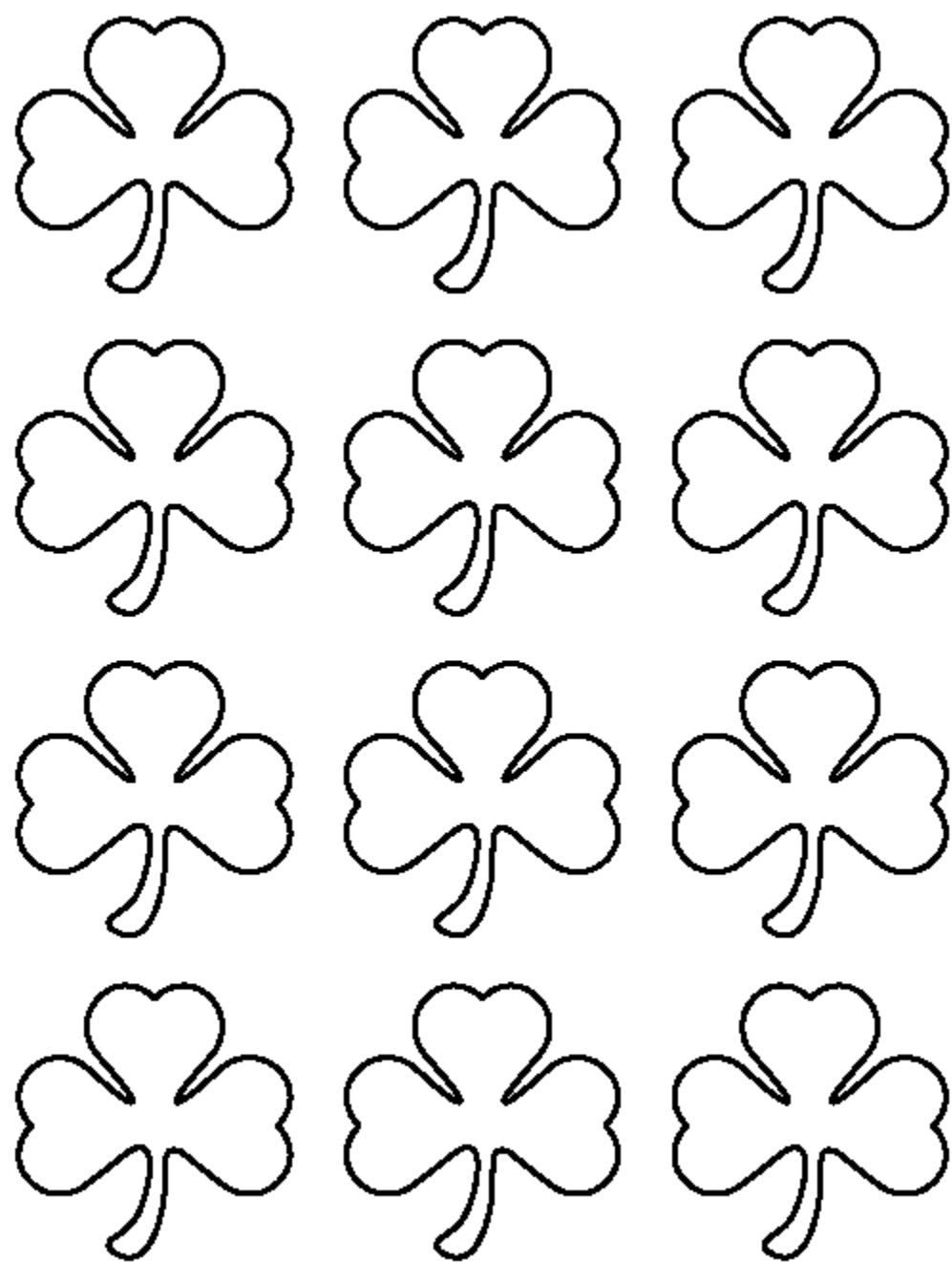
Shamrock Man



Pattern pieces on following pages

Theresourcefulmama.com





ST. PATRICKS DAY SNACK IDEAS

HEALTHY FRUIT SNACK. USING A SNACK BAG, USE FRUIT OF EACH , LINE THE FRUIT INSIDE THE ZIP LOCK BAG AND YUM!!!

STRAWBERRIES, ORANGES, PINEAPPLE, GREEN GRAPES, BLUEBERRIES & PURPLE GRAPES



HEALTHY SNACK—GREEN FRUIT SKEWERS

KIWI, GREEN GRAPES, GREEN APPLES, & HONEY DEW MELON

COVERED PRETZELS

USING WILTON CANDY MELTS, BUY WHITE AND GREEN MELTS. MELT THE CANDY IN A MICROWAVE, 15 SEC. AT INTERVALS, COVER AT LEAST 3/4 OF THE PRETZEL ROD WITH THE MELTED CANDY, THEN SPRINKLE ON THE SPRINKLES OF CHOICE, LET THEM COOL/HARDEN AND ENJOY.

