

Make: Cards to Give

Each child will make a card to send. The kind of cards children make and who they make them for is up to you! (For example: thank your Pastor, Campaign Director, Sunday School Director, Sunday School Campaign teachers, refreshment volunteers, *etc.* Or send a card to someone who has had a new baby, or someone who is sick or sad.) This activity is open-ended. Choose a theme, an art idea (see suggestions on the next page) and one of the messages provided, or make up your own message.

Supplies Needed for Each Student

- blank piece of paper that can be folded to make a card
- art supplies of your choice for decorating
- crayons or markers
- a card you have received from someone to show to the children
- copies of messages that can be pasted in the cards—some samples are provided
- envelopes
- addresses and stamps if needed to send the cards



Preparation Needed Ahead of Time

- Fold cards in half or quarters ahead of time to define the area children will decorate.
- Decide which kind of cards the children will make.

Project

1. “Have you ever received a card? Sometimes people get cards when it’s their birthday, or when it’s Christmas. I just got this card in the mail. Who do you think it could be from?” (Build curiosity through guessing.)
2. “I wonder why they sent it to me! Maybe it is because... (I have been sick; I have a new baby; it’s my wedding anniversary; I have a birthday coming up; *etc.*) I can’t wait to see what it looks like! Let’s open it up and see what’s inside!”
3. (Read the message to the children.) “I feel so happy that _____ sent me a card.”
4. “Today each one of us will make a card to send to someone. Just think how excited they will be when they open it!”
5. Explain who the children will be making cards for.
6. Distribute cards and art supplies and have children decorate the cards.
7. Paste in the messages.
8. Have each child sign his or her card.
9. If the cards are for people in the congregation, the children can deliver them themselves. If they are for others, explain how the cards will be sent.
10. *Optional:* Put the cards into envelopes for sending.
11. “When we send people cards, we are helping the Lord by sending His love to thank them, or to help them feel better.”

Card Making Ideas

- **Stamped Designs**

Materials: commercial stamps with a variety of pictures, colored stamping ink
Choose small stamps with pictures suitable for cards.

- **Draw a Picture**

Materials: crayons, markers, pens, pencils, oil pastels
Draw a picture. Use beautiful colors to show how much you love someone!

- **Decorate a Picture**

Materials: glitter, sequins, beads, felt, fabric, yarn, feathers, etc.
After drawing a picture, decorate it to be special. Or create a picture out of special materials.

- **Torn Tissue**

Materials: torn tissue in a variety of colors, glue, paintbrushes
Using a paintbrush, put a layer of glue on the card. Cover with torn tissue in bright colors.

- **Prints**

Materials: interesting vegetable or fruit slices (star fruit, apples, potatoes), water-based paints in a shallow dipping trays (or use paintbrushes), water to clean the vegetables between colors
Cover the table with paper or a drop-cloth. Cut vegetables into halves or slices. Set them cut-side down on a paper towel to dry the surfaces. Prepare paints in 2-4 colors and put a little in several shallow bowls or muffin tins. If you are concerned about clothing, have the children wear old shirts or art smocks. Demonstrate how to dip the slices in the paint and make a print on the paper.

- **Fingerprint Painting (Level B)**

Materials: water-based paint in various colors, paint trays, water for washing fingers, fine pens
Children dip their fingertips into paint and print them on the paper. By using a variety of colors and different parts of their fingers, they can create pictures of trees, butterflies, animals, etc. Add small features such as eyes and whiskers with a fine pen. Many examples of this kind of art are available on the Internet to help start your thinking. Demonstrating a few ideas will get this activity off to a creative start!

- **Special Pens (Level B)**

Materials: sparkly, glittery, gold or silver pens
A special pen can help an ordinary picture become extraordinary. Use the special pens for details or for the whole picture.

Sample Card Messages to Cut and Paste

THANK YOU
for helping!

Congratulations!

Hope you feel
better soon!

Sending love
to a special person.
Thanks for all you do!