Learn by Doing

Choice Secret Samaritans

Practice being a neighbor to others by creating a surprise gift to give to someone in your family or another person who you think needs love. Choose between making *Painted Heart Cards* (p. 2), or *Woven Hearts* (p. 3) that open to hold a surprise inside.

1. Have you ever received a surprise gift for no reason or from someone you did not know? How did it feel?
2. We are going to make a gift that you can give to someone secretly, when they do not expect it—just as the Samaritan surprised everyone by helping out when no one would have thought he would.
3. Introduce the project you have chosen: *Painted Heart Cards* (p. 7) or *Woven Hearts* (p. 8). Follow the directions as given.
4. Brainstorm ways in which the children could surprise someone with the gift, e.g. leave it on someone’s bed, at someone’s place at the table, in a backpack, in a sleeve of their coat, etc.
5. Give the children bags to put their projects in so they can keep them a secret while they take them home.



Materials Needed

Materials vary depending on your project choice. See *Painted Heart Cards* p. 2 or *Woven Hearts* p. 3 for a list of supplies you will need. Children will each need a bag to keep their projects secret while they take them home.

Prepare in Advance

Gather supplies and make a sample. If you choose to make Woven Hearts you may want to have a viewing device to show children video directions.

Woven Hearts

View video directions online at www.bitly.com/WovenHearts.



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Painted Heart Cards

Supplies Needed

- stiff paper cut into rectangles approx. 4.25 x 5.5” (11 x 15 cm)
- colored construction paper to paint on
- heart stencils to share
- water based paint in bright colors
- paintbrushes, scissors, glue, pencils or markers



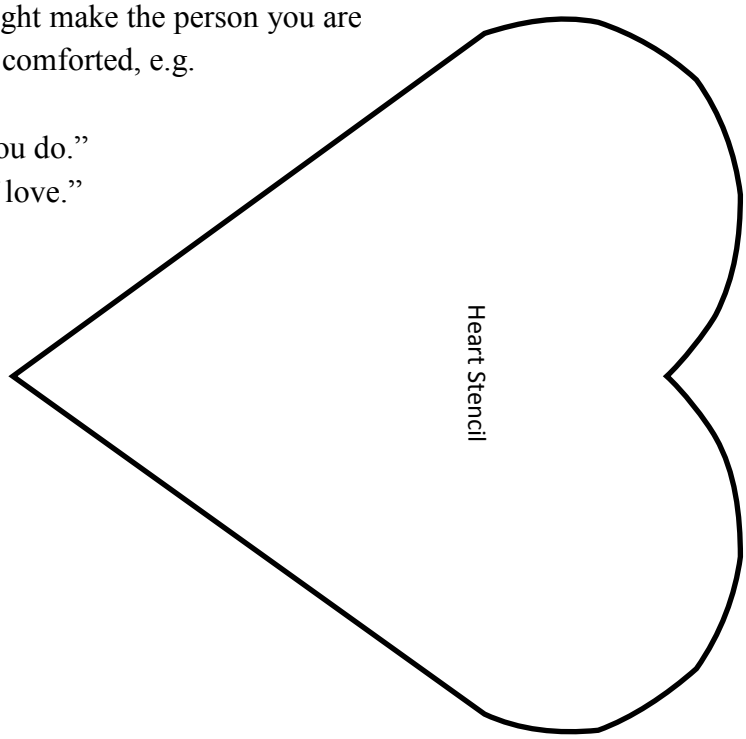
Make a Heart

- Make random colored strokes of paint on the construction paper using as few or as many colors as you want.
- Allow to dry.
- Cut out the heart stencil (below).
- Place the stencil over the painted paper.
- Draw around the heart and cut it out.



Make a Card

- Using markers or a pencil, draw or write a message for your Secret Samaritan on one side of the card. (*Note*: Card does not open, it is a single stiff paper rectangle.)
- Think about what might make the person you are giving it to happy or comforted, e.g.
  “You are kind.”
  “Thank you for all you do.”
  “Sending you lots of love.”
  “Have a happy day.”
- Turn the card over.
- Glue the heart to the blank side of the card.



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Woven Hearts

This heart is a basket that can be filled, e.g. with a picture, something found in nature, something a child makes, stickers, etc. It could be filled in class, or you can suggest the children do this later, before giving it away.

Supplies Needed for Each Child

- two pieces of paper in contrasting colors, e.g. green and yellow, red and white, blue and pink.
- scissors
- pencil
- copy of stencil (below)

Prepare Ahead

- Fold colored paper in half widthwise. Cut to approximate size to fit the stencil using a paper cutter. Each heart takes two half sheets of 8.5 x 11" (21.5 x 28 cm) paper.

1. Give each child two folded pieces of paper in contrasting colors.
2. Give each child a stencil and a pair of scissors. Cut out the stencil on the black outer lines.
3. Choose one of the two colors. Lay the stencil over the folded paper.



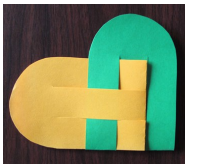
4. Cut around the stencil. Cut along the lines inside the stencil. Be sure to cut accurately all the way to the top. If you do not, you will not be able to assemble the project.



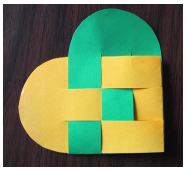
5. Repeat the last two steps with the second color. You will now have two pieces like this.



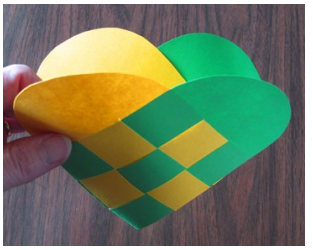
6. Lay the two pieces next to each other. Open the fold in the strand on the right and put the first strand on the left through it.



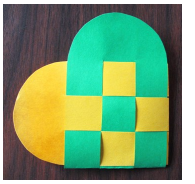
7. Open the second strand on the left and insert the strand on the right through it. Repeat step 6.

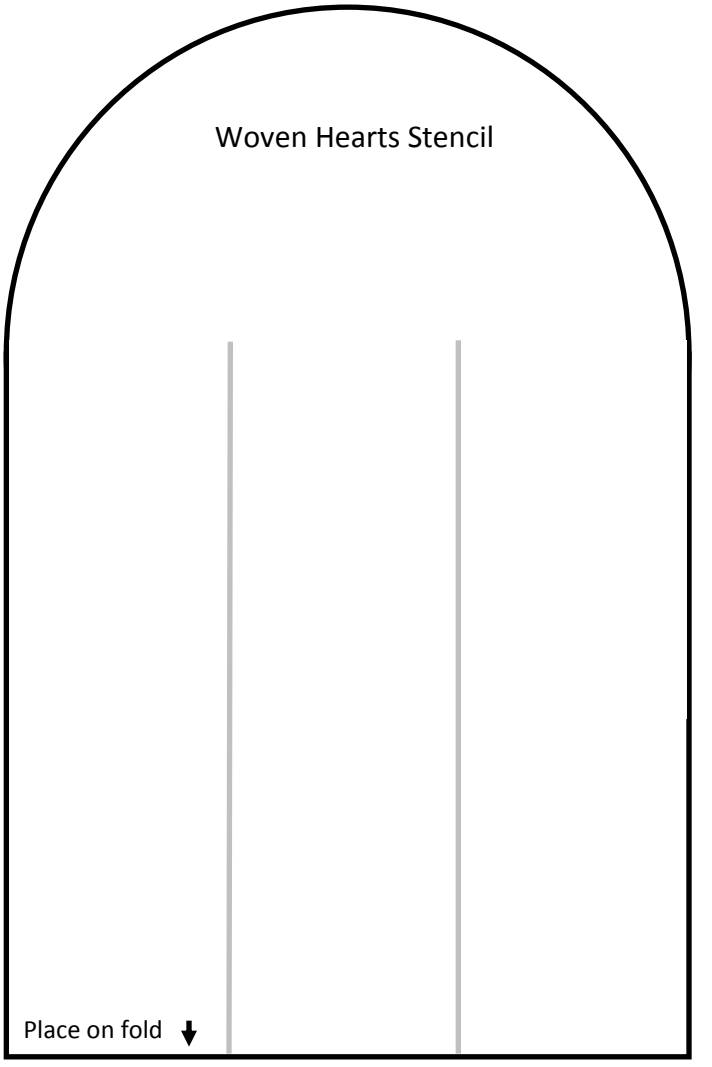


8. Continue weaving the heart until all strands are woven in.



9. You should now be able to open the heart to put something inside.





Video directions at www.bitly.com/WovenHearts.

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