



Cardboard Lighted Lantern

Here's what you'll need to make a cardboard lantern at home:

- Cardboard box, cereal box, etc.
- Design for sides of box – create a stencil & tape to box, or draw onto box
- Cutting implement. (This is a step for the grownups!)
- Something to protect your work surface – cutting mat, newspapers, scrap cardboard, etc.
- Strong packing tape or a hot-glue gun (Also for adults!)
- Rope or strong string for a handle.
- Markers or paint for decoration (Tissue paper decoupage also works!)
- Wax or parchment paper, clear film, tissue paper.
- Non-flame light source – battery candle, glow stick, LED light, flashlight, etc. (no open flames allowed.)

Small kits will be available at the Sept. 13 Party in the Park, in Lincoln Park Rock Island, from 5:30 to 7pm.

Stop by the Library table in the big Pavilion to make a paper bag lantern!

INSTRUCTIONS

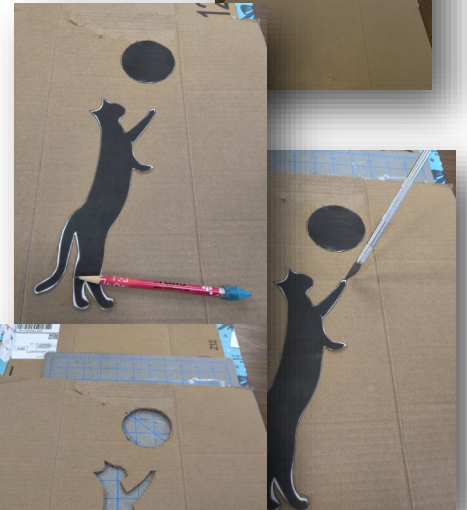
Building a Lantern From a Cereal Box

1. Protect your work area with newspaper, etc.
2. Slit cereal box down one side. You will glue your design to the printed side.
3. Using a sheet of paper, do a line drawing with simple big shapes. Each shape will use a different color of tissue paper. You may also use a coloring sheet, as long as the design is simple.
4. Cut square out of box leaving a margin around the square and the box (1 to 1.5 inches). The size of your square needs to be slightly smaller than the edge of the paper you're using for a design.
5. Cut different colors of tissue paper in $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ sheets. You may want 2 layers of paper.
6. Place tissue on drawing and trace a shape. Cut the tissue paper at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch around shape you traced.
7. Continue tracing and cutting your shapes until you have all the shapes for your picture in different colors.
8. Cut out your shapes on the paper design.
9. Glue tissue pieces together applying glue just outside the lines. Stick pieces together in the pattern, overlapping pieces. You can trim off excess later. Make sure your design isn't sticking to the newspaper or table, etc.
10. Once entire design is glued together, let it dry.
11. Run a bead of glue along the edge of the picture window. Place design face down to glue it on the printed side of the box, and let dry.
12. Open up the box, and fold so the plain side faces the outside. Retape back into original form. Leave the top open for now.
13. Poke holes through each side of top, insert string, and knot on the inside for a handle. Tape or glue top down.
14. Cut hatch on undecorated side for battery operated light.
15. Decorate outside of box however you like.

Continued next page

Building a Lantern From a Larger Cardboard Box

1. Open up box. Decide where design will go. You may want to use the inside, unprinted side. Pencil mark the top of the box.
2. Trace or draw design on the outside of your box, leaving a margin around the sides. You may also glue a pre-made silhouette or coloring page on as a guide. Bold lines and simple shapes are the easiest to cut.
3. Cut out the shapes of your design where you want light to shine through.
4. You may use cardstock (heavier paper) to make a frame for your design. (See window example)
5. Carefully separate the cut out from the box.
6. Cover cut-out sections with parchment paper or tissue paper, etc.
7. If you want to add shading or other details to the tissue paper or parchment, do so while the design is flat. You may also tape detail on to the paper.
8. When you are finished, fold the box back together, taping or gluing edges. You may need to notch the box corners to make it fold properly.
9. Cut hatch as needed for placement of battery light.
10. Add handle to top.
11. Decorate or paint outside of box for a more finished look.



HOW TO MAKE A LANTERN

SUPPLIES

WOODEN FRAME WITH CANDLES (FLA LIGHT CANDLES WORK WELL OR
~~VOTIVE CANDLE IN TUNA FISH JARS~~) OR ELECTRIC LIGHTS

BROWN PAPER

VARIOUS COLORS OF TISSUE AND/OR CREPE PAPER

EXACTO KNIFE

WHITE GLUE

STAPLE GUN AND STAPLES

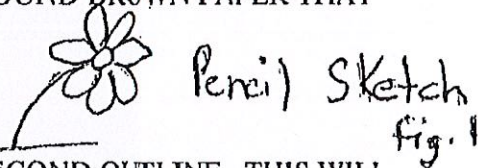
PUTTY KNIFE

1. BROWN PAPER SHOULD BE CUT TO SIZE TO COVER FRONT OF FRAME WITH ENOUGH TO WRAP AROUND FRAME SUPPORTS. WILL ALSO NEED TO COVER BACK, TOP AND SIDES OF LANTERN. bottom WILL BE LEFT OPEN

2. DO A PENCIL SKETCH OF DESIGN, KEEP IT SIMPLE.

3. MEASURE AND MARK A 3" BORDER ALL AROUND BROWN PAPER THAT WILL HAVE DESIGN.

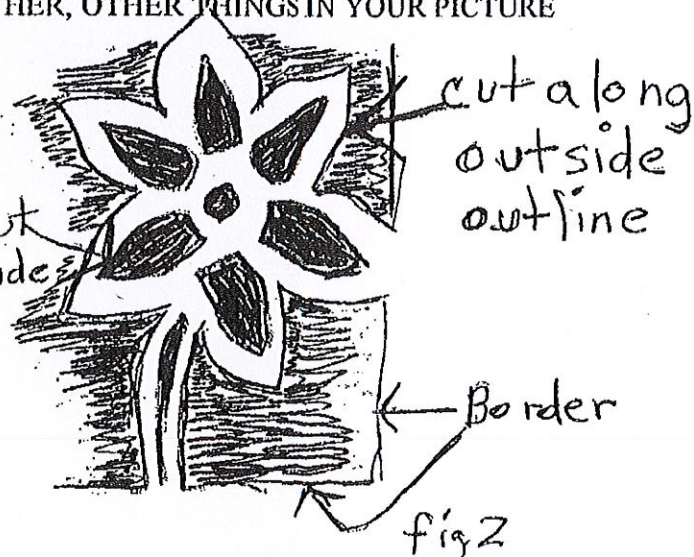
4. DRAW DESIGN ON BROWN PAPER.



5. DOUBLE LINE YOUR PICTURE, MAKING A SECOND OUTLINE. THIS WILL MAKE THE LANTERN LOOK LIKE STAINED GLASS. MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOUR DOUBLE OUTLINES ARE AT LEAST 1/2 " WIDE, AS YOU WILL BE GLUING PAPER TO IT. ALL OF YOUR OUTLINE, WHICH WILL BE LEFT AFTER YOU CUT AWAY THE PART THAT WILL BE COVERED WITH TISSUE, MUST BE CONNECTED, TO EACH OTHER, OTHER THINGS IN YOUR PICTURE AND/OR THE BORDER. SEE FIG. 2.

shaded areas
will be cut away
and replaced
with colored
paper

cut out
along inside
outline



line of
glue for
petal

Back of lantern

line of
glue for
background
paper



fig. 3

6. CUT OUT YOUR DESIGN CAREFULLY USING EXACTO KNIFE.

7. CUT TISSUE PAPER TO SIZE OF AREA TO BE FILLED IN. APPLY WHITE GLUE TO BACK SIDE OF BROWN PAPER, ALONG THE DOUBLE OUTLINE. CAREFULLY PLACE TISSUE ON GLUE. GENTLY TEAR AWAY EXTRA TISSUE PAPER.

8. WHEN YOUR ENTIRE PICTURE IS DONE, AND DRY, STAPLE IT TO THE FRAME.

9. COVER THE TOP AND SIDES OF LANTERN WITH PLAIN BROWN PAPER.

10. COVER THE BACK OF LANTERN WITH BROWN PAPER. ~~USING CANDLES, USE AN EXACTO KNIFE TO SLASH LARGE X'S SO THAT YOU CAN CAREFULLY LIGHT THEM.~~

~~you must also cut large holes in top for the smoke can escape~~

HELPFUL HINTS

1. ADULT SUPERVISION IS NECESSARY AT ALL TIMES, SOME OF THESE TASKS MUST NOT BE DONE BY SMALL CHILDREN!!
2. LOOK THROUGH COLORING BOOKS TO HELP FIND PICTURES YOU CAN USE. THESE PICTURES ARE USUALLY SIMPLY DRAWN AND WORK VERY WELL FOR THE DOUBLE LINING PROCESS.
3. FREQUENTLY STAND BACK FROM YOUR PICTURE TO REORIENT YOUR EYES. IT IS VERY EASY TO GET CONFUSED, ESPECIALLY WHEN DOUBLE LINING. REMEMBER THAT THE DOUBLE OUTLINE WILL BE LEFT.
4. SMALL OBJECT, LIKE EYES FOR EXAMPLE, CAN BE GLUED DOWN ON TOP OF THE TISSUE PAPER, THIS IS EASIER THAN TRYING TO CONNECT THEM TO SOMETHING ELSE IN THE DESIGN.
5. IT IS HELPFUL TO SHADE IN THE PARTS OF THE PICTURE THAT WILL BE REPLACED BY TISSUE. THESE ARE THE PIECES YOU WILL CUT OUT.
6. A PUTTY KNIFE OR OTHER STRAIGHT EDGED TOOL IS HELPFUL IN TEARING OFF EXCESS TISSUE AFTER GLUING. PLACE IT ON THE GLUE LINE AND GENTLY TEAR TISSUE TO THE EDGE OF THE PUTTY KNIFE.
7. YOU CAN USE THE PIECE OF BROWN PAPER THAT YOU CUT AWAY AS A PATTERN FOR THE TISSUE PAPER THAT WILL GO IN ITS PLACE.

8. MAKE CERTAIN THAT YOUR CUTOUT AREAS ARE NO LARGER THAN THE LARGEST PIECE OF TISSUE YOU HAVE IN THE DESIRED COLOR. SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO BREAK UP A LARGE AREA WITH UNPLANNED DESIGNS, LIKE AN EXTRA FLOWER OR CLOUDS.

9. FOR A TRUE, AUTHENTIC ROCK ISLAND LANTERN, THE BACKGROUND SHOULD BE CUT OUT AND FILLED IN WITH COLORED PAPER. THIS GIVES YOUR LANTERN THE LOOK OF STAINED GLASS. IT DOES HOWEVER MAKE IT VERY FLIMSY BEFORE THE TISSUE PAPER IS APPLIED, TREAT IT VERY GENTLY!