

Galaxy Rocks

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ Rocks about as big as your palm or larger
- ☐ Crayons
- ☐ Cookie sheet or baking dish
- ☐ Aluminum foil
- ☐ Towel
- ☐ Oven

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°.
2. Cover cookie sheet with aluminum foil and place rocks on top of foil.
3. Bake rocks for approximately 10 - 15 minutes. If you're using large rocks, you may need to bake them longer. If your crayons aren't melting, stick them back in the oven for another 5 minutes.
4. Spread a towel down on your work surface and then a layer of aluminum foil over the towel. The towel will prevent the heat from harming your work surface and the aluminum foil will catch any melted crayon that flows off the rock.
5. Remove the rocks from the oven and use tongs or oven mitts to carefully place the rocks onto the work surface.
6. Use crayons in galaxy colors (or whatever colors your wish) and drag over rocks in different swirls to look like the night sky. You may need to peel some or all of the paper off of your crayons. Be careful not to burn your fingers!
7. Let the rocks cool for 30 minutes or more. Use them as decorative items in your house or in the garden.



Cat Castle

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ Cardboard boxes
- ☐ Utility knife
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Optional: wrapping paper, cat toys, cat nip, felt, ribbons, blanket, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Consider the size of your cat and how large you'd like your cat castle to be. Draw a diagram showing how you'd like the boxes to fit together and where you need openings cut into the box.
2. Using your diagram as a guide, draw the openings on your box and any other design elements you need to cut.
3. If you cannot easily cut your openings using scissors, ask an adult to use an utility knife to cut out the openings.
4. If you'd like to add any cat toys or ribbons hanging in your boxes, add these details now.
5. It's time to affix your boxes together. As you stack your boxes according to your diagram, add a good amount of glue to stick them to each other. Use the tape to hold your boxes in place while the glue dries.
6. Let glue dry overnight.
7. Once the glue has dried, you can take the tape off or keep it on. If you'd like to add some more character to your box, you can wrap it in wrapping paper, newspaper, or use markers to color designs.
8. Put anything else in the box that your cat likes, like toys, blankets, cat nip, etc.
9. Unleash your cat on his or her new cat castle. Enjoy!



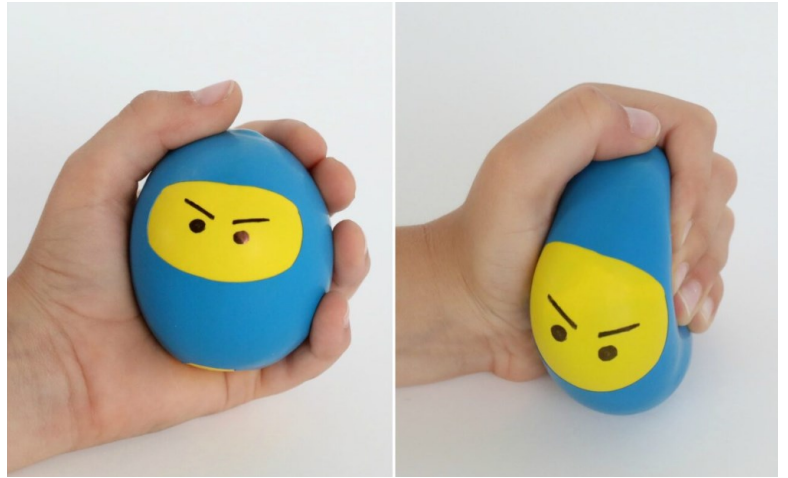
Ninja Stress Ball

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ 2 balloons in different colors
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Flour or playdough
- ☐ Small plastic baggie
- ☐ Black marker or pen

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fill a baggie with 3/4 cup flour or playdough. Flour will make a firm stress ball. Playdough will make a softer stress ball.
2. If your baggie has a plastic closing or ziplock on the top, cut this off and twist and fold the baggie to close.
3. Next, take one of your balloons and cut the neck off of the balloon.
4. Stretch the balloon over the plastic baggie. This will be your ninja face.
5. Take your second balloon and cut off the neck. Cut a small opening for the ninja face (pictured in photo).
6. Stretch the second balloon over the stuffed balloon, covering the opening so that the flour or playdough baggie does not come out.
7. Use a black marker or pen to make a ninja face where the first balloon shows through the hole you cut in the second balloon.
8. Done! Squeeze, throw, and smush your stress ball.



Looking for a good homemade playdough recipe? Check out our DIY Playdough video on [Facebook.com/SkaneatelesLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/SkaneatelesLibrary).

DIY Window Clings

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Plastic sleeve protector or plastic wrap
- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Fabric glue
- ☐ Dish soap
- ☐ Food coloring
- ☐ Small containers for mixing paint

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Draw a design with your pencil and paper. This will be your guide for your window cling design, so make sure it's something that you can easily color in.
2. Put your drawing in a plastic sleeve protector and tape it down on your work surface. Don't have one? You can use plastic wrap. Tape your drawing down on your work surface. Pull the plastic wrap tightly over your design, making sure there aren't any wrinkles or air pockets, and tape in place.
3. Now it's time to make the paint! In a small container, squirt a few tablespoons of fabric glue—there's not an exact measurement here. Then, add a few drops of food coloring and a drop of dish soap. Stir this mixture together. Repeat recipe with as many colors you need to make your design.
4. Once your paint is ready, begin painting your design on the plastic. Use your drawing as a guide and make sure you paint thick layers and that your entire design is connected. When we peel the window cling off the plastic, we want to make sure it comes off in one piece.
5. Let dry for an hour or more.
6. Once fully dry, slowly and carefully begin peeling your design off the plastic. You should notice that your window cling is shiny and you can see through it.
7. Stick it to a window!



Sidewalk Chalk Mosaic

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ Water
- ☐ Cornstarch
- ☐ Food coloring
- ☐ Measuring cups and whisk
- ☐ Small containers or muffin tin
- ☐ Masking tape or painters tape
- ☐ Paintbrush

INSTRUCTIONS

1. First, make some sidewalk chalk paint. Take 1 cup of water and whisk in 1/4 cup of cornstarch. Divvy this mixture into small containers or different compartments in a muffin tin. Add food coloring to each container to get several different colors of paint. This recipe is easy and makes sidewalk chalk paint that lasts longer than regular sidewalk chalk. If you'd rather use sidewalk chalk, that's fine, too!
2. Use your masking tape or painters tape to create a mosaic design on the sidewalk or in the driveway. You can make cool shapes or write a message — it's up to you.
3. Once your tape is laid out and pressed down securely, begin painting with a paintbrush.
4. After your chalk paint has dried, begin peeling off the tape to reveal your mosaic.

