

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!



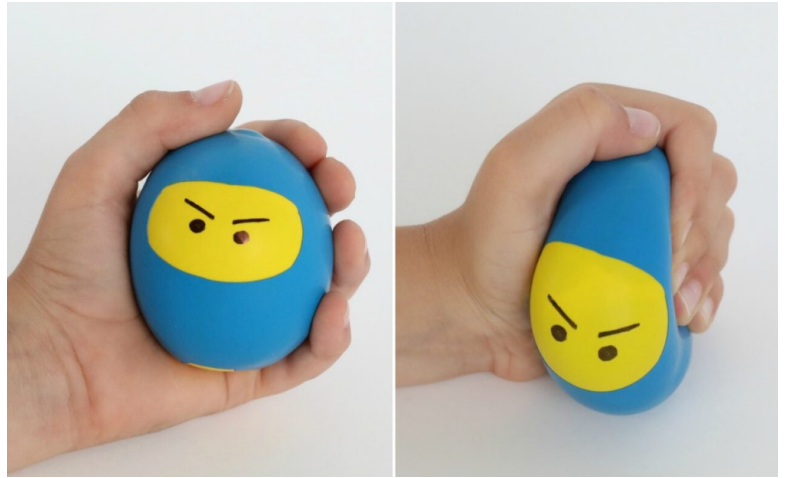
Ninja Stress Ball

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.



Marbling with Oil

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ Vegetable oil
- ☐ Food coloring
- ☐ water
- ☐ Paper
- ☐ Pie dish or something similar
- ☐ Cups and forks to mix oil and food coloring
- ☐ Spoon

INSTRUCTIONS

1. First, pour a small amount of oil into a cup and add food coloring. Stir vigorously with a fork so the big drops of color are dispersed throughout the oil as smaller droplets. Repeat with as many colors as you like.
2. Pour an inch of water into your pie dish. Use a spoon to transfer small amounts of color and oil into the water. Use as many color combinations as you like.
3. Cut your paper into 4 or more squares.
4. Lay a square of paper on top of the water and lift to reveal your marbled paper.



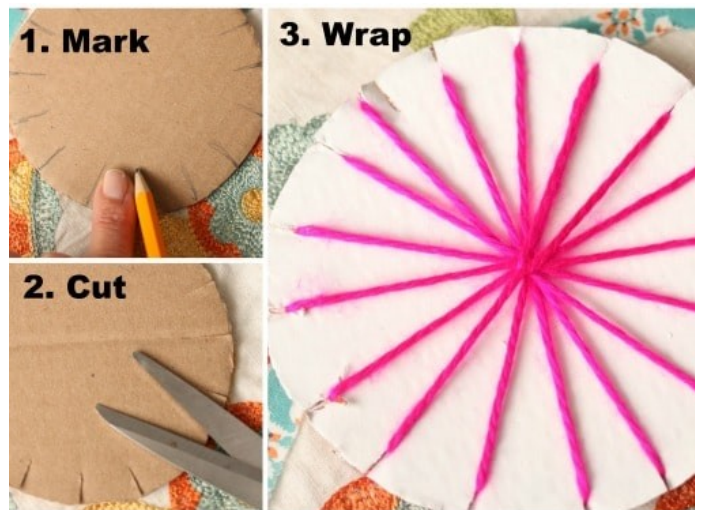
Cardboard Weaving 1

MATERIALS NEEDED

- ☐ Piece of sturdy cardboard
- ☐ A round container or bowl to trace
- ☐ Pencil
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Yarn
- ☐ Plastic sewing needle

CARDBOARD LOOM INSTRUCTIONS

1. Grab a round container about 4 to 5 inches across. Trace the container on a piece of cardboard and cut out the circle/
2. Draw an odd number of evenly-spaced marks around the edge of the circle. You can eyeball the spacing or use a finger for spacing, but you need an ODD number of marks.
3. Snip a 1/4 inch notch into each pencil mark.
4. Secure a piece of yarn into one of these notches, leaving a tail hanging behind the cardboard.
5. Carry the yarn across the loom to the notch directly opposite, and up the back of the loom to where you started.
6. Insert the yarn into the next notch over and repeat what you did last time, taking the yarn down the front to the opposite notch and up the back again.
7. Continue winding around the loom this way until you get to the last notch. NOTE: to finish, you'll take your yarn across the loom to a notch that's already been used. It will look like you have two spokes going into this notch, but you'll fasten them to together in a minute, and treat them as one when you're weaving.
8. Cut your yarn, leaving a tail, and tape the loose ends to the back of your loom. Your loom is warped! It's time to weave! (See instructions for weaving on next page.)



Cardboard Weaving 2

WEAVING INSTRUCTIONS

1. To begin, thread a 1-2 foot length of yarn through your needle.
2. Slip the yarn underneath all of the warp threads and knot them together in the center of the loom. You'll notice your double spoke comes together so you can treat it as one. Trim the tail of the knot, leaving enough to trap underneath the first few rounds of your weaving.
3. To begin weaving, slip your needle under one of the warp threads at the center of the loom, and then over the next. Continue weaving in a circle, over and under, around the loom, pulling your yarn gently to close in any gaps as you weave.
4. When you reach the end of your yarn, tie a new color on with a double knot. You can either trap the tails of your know under the next couple of rounds or weave them in or trim them when you finish your project.
5. Continue weaving in circles until you get to the end of your warp strings.
6. Cut your yarn, leaving a tail.
7. To take your weaving off the loom, cut through the middle of the warp threads that criss-cross the cardboard.
8. Next, gently pry the warp threads out of the notches to release your weaving from the loom.
9. Lay your project on a flat surface, and tie all of the loose tails together in sets of two. Be sure to tie the tail of your colored yarn to one of the warp threads so your weaving doesn't unravel. Don't pull too tightly when knotting, or the edges of your project will curl.

