

Cinco de Mayo Crafts

Mexican Metal Folk Art

Materials:

36-gauge aluminum tooling foil

Tape

Paintbrushes

4" X 4" paper for rough draft

Pencils

Permanent markers

Wire (optional)

Beads (optional)

A soft, giving work surface

Directions:

Create a bold design on rough draft paper. Place foil on soft surface when tooling. Either trace the design by putting it on top of the foil or draw it free hand with the wooden end of your paintbrush. Emboss by rubbing larger areas to make it pushed out on the other side. Turn it over and emboss using the other side. Color the metal using permanent markers.

Optional: Finish by putting these together as a group project with beads and wire.

Frieda Kahlo Headband

Materials:

Faux flowers (varying sizes)
Hot glue and gun
Wide headband

Directions:

Begin by attaching larger flowers to the headband using the hot glue. Next fill in spaces with smaller flowers. Finally add a little greenery by attaching small leaves.

Mexican Centerpiece

Materials:

Glass cylinder (purchase from dollar store)
Tissue paper
Glue
Votive candles (optional)

Directions:

Cut tissue paper to fit cylinder. Fold accordion style and trim the ends to points. Cut triangle or circle shapes down the sides. Place a few colored bands of tissue paper behind the cutouts. Attach together using small dabs of glue. To make fringe, accordion fold the paper, folding the last side back. Lay it flat, securing it with small pieces of tape. Then fold that last side over top the edge and the tape. Trim all the edges of the one side. Cut in equal strips without cutting to the folded edge. Leave about a quarter of an inch. Then fluff and crinkle a little and attach to cutout tissue panel with small amount of glue. Attach the one side of the tissue panel with a small amount of tape, then bring the other side around and attach with small dots of glue. Optional: Add votive candles.

Worry Dolls

Materials:

Wooden clothespins
Embroidery thread or yarn
Pipe cleaners
Felt (optional)
Markers (optional)



Directions:

Wrap and twist a pipe cleaner around the clothespin to create arms. Cut to size for arm length. Begin wrapping your clothespin with yarn. Wrap over the pipe cleaner as well. When wrapping gets to the waist, you can start wrapping each “leg” individually. Use markers to add a facial expression, hair, skin tone, shoes, etc. Use felt to add embellishment to clothing.

Recycled Maracas

Materials:

Small water bottles
Toilet paper rolls
Electrical or duct tape
Buttons, beads, rice, or beans for filling



Directions:

Fill small water bottle with a handful of the buttons or filling of your choice and screw the top back on. To create the handle, take the toilet paper roll and make a straight cut from one end to the other. Tighten the roll in on itself to about the size of lid of the bottle and then apply your electrical tape. Start wrapping the tape around the bottom part of the bottle and move down onto the new handle. Wrap slowly, covering all the cardboard of the toilet paper roll until you have created a sturdy handle.

Yarn Picture

Materials:

Piece of cardstock or construction paper
Yarn in assorted colors
Glue
Toothpick
Scissors



Directions:

In pencil, draw a simple picture onto the cardstock. Work in small sections at a time to trace the pencil outlines in yarn, filling them in with bold colors. First, spread glue in the selected area and then, using a toothpick, gently press the yarn into place. Coil one continuous piece of yarn or cut it into smaller pieces, whichever is easier.

Egg Maracas

Materials:

Plastic Easter eggs
Plastic spoons
White tape
Popcorn kernels
Sharpie markers



Directions:

Fill the eggs with popcorn kernels. Tape 2 plastic spoons to the sides of an egg. Tape the ends of the spoons together. Decorate with colored markers.

Mini Sombrero Centerpiece

Materials:

Styrofoam or paper cup
Mini paper plate
1" wide strip of brown felt
¼" wide strip of red felt
¼" wide strip of orange felt
Acrylic paint in red and yellow
Medium pompoms in various colors
Paintbrush
Hot glue gun



Directions:

Paint paper plate and cup with yellow paint. Let the first coat dry and then add a second coat. Paint the outer edge of the plate rim red. Let dry completely. Glue the cup upside down to the center of the paper plate to form the hat. Glue the brown felt around the bottom of the cup to make the hat band. Glue the red and orange felt over the brown to create stripes. Glue the pompoms to the red edge of the paper plate.

Faux Bark Painting

Materials:

Scissors
Brown paper grocery bag
Water
Iron
Wide-tipped black marker
Acrylic, tempera, or craft paint



Directions:

Cut a large rectangle from a grocery bag, wet it with water, and crumple it up. Squeeze out the extra water, and then flatten out the paper. Use an iron set on low to dry the paper and to smooth it further. Draw the outline of your design using a wide-tipped black marker, and then fill in the spaces with colorful acrylic, tempera, or craft paint. To make your paint colors brighter against the brown paper background, mix in a bit of white paint.

Ojo de Dios (God's Eyes)**Materials:**

Two popsicle sticks or 6"- 8" twigs
Colorful yarn
Scissors
Glue

**Directions:**

Glue the sticks together in the shape of a cross and let dry. Take a color of yarn and tie the loose end of the yarn to one stick, as close to the place where the sticks join as possible. Wrap the yarn over and around one stick, then over and around the next, over and around the next, and so on. Continue until you are satisfied with the size of the weave. Cut the first color of yarn and tie on a second color. Continue on with the second color and then a third, fourth, and fifth as desired.

Papel Cortado**Materials:**

Tissue paper (about 8" x 10")
Scissors
String
Scotch tape



Directions:

Fold tissue paper several times. Cut shapes from around the edge of the paper. Unfold. Fold the top ¼" of the paper cortado over a long piece of string and tape to hold in place. Add additional sheets to form a long decorative streamer.

Woven Mexican Place Mat**Materials:**

Scissors

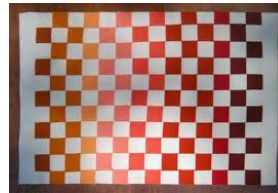
Glue

Ruler

Pencil

18" x 12" piece of construction paper

16 strips of construction paper in a single color or multiple colors (1" x 12")

**Directions:**

Take the large piece of construction paper and fold it in half across the width. Use the ruler to mark the paper at 1" intervals along the folded edge.

Do the same along the open edge, except the marks should be 1" from the edge of the paper. Draw a line connecting the marks. With the paper still folded and starting at the fold, cut along the lines, being careful to stop 1" from the open edge. Unfold the paper to reveal the loom. Weave the inch strips through the loom. Glue the ends of the strips to the edges of the loom to hold them in place.

Newspaper Sombrero**Materials:**

4 sheets of

newspaper Black or

red paint Masking

tape Scissors

Single hole punch

Yarn or ribbon



Directions:

Stack the sheets of newspaper, and place the newspaper on top of your partner's head. Wrap masking tape around the crown 2 or 3 times. Cut the brim in a circular shape. Roll the brim up and apply masking tape to hold in place. Paint the hat and let dry. Punch holes all around the brim of the hat. Thread yarn through the holes to decorate the brim. Punch holes on either side of the hat crown. Wrap a piece of yarn around the crown to create a hat band. Put the ends of the yarn through the holes on either side of the hat crown and tie loosely under the chin.

Tissue Flowers**Materials:**

8 Sheets tissue paper 20" x 26" (or 8" x 10" for smaller flowers)
Green Pipe Cleaners

**Directions:**

Stack the paper in a pile and fold it like an accordion. Fold tissue bunch in half and twist the pipe cleaner tightly around the middle. Gently separate the sheets starting at the top and pull each sheet toward the center. Shape the flower as you work layer by layer.

Mexican Flag**Materials:**

Sheet of construction paper, cut in half
Green, white and red tissue paper
Glue
Pencil and ruler



Directions:

Using the pencil and ruler, divide the paper into 3 equal sections. Tear or cut tissue paper into 1 ½" - 2" squares. Apply glue to the first section of the flag. Crumple up pieces of green tissue paper and stick to the glue on the first section. Continue until entire first section is filled with green paper. Repeat for the center section with white paper and the last section with red paper. Optional: The Mexico flag has a coat of arms in the center of the white section. You may choose to print a copy and glue it to the white tissue paper.

Pinch Pots**Materials:**

Self-Hardening Red Clay
Bowl of Water
Toothpick

**Directions:**

Roll a piece of clay into a ball about the size of your fist. Keep water handy so clay doesn't dry out and crack as you work. Push one thumb into the middle to begin shaping the pot. Begin pinching with thumbs and fingers to thin out the walls of the bowl. Turn the bowl as you work to help make it more even. If clay cracks, smooth over cracks with wet fingers. Gently flatten the bottom so the bowl will sit flat. Use a toothpick to make designs on the outside of the pot. Let dry.

Cinco de Mayo Garland**Materials:**

100 coffee filters
Food coloring
Sewing machine



Directions:

Separate filters into short stacks of 10 -20, then dip into dye baths composed of 1 cup water and 20 drops of food coloring (more for brighter colors). Gently wring out excess liquid. Allow to dry overnight. Shuffle the dry filters randomly and stack them next to the sewing machine. Using regular poly/cotton thread, sew a straight line using a small stitch, inserting stacks of 6-7 filters as you go. Fold the filters in half and cut fringe around the perimeter. Fluff the fringe and hang garland.

Fringe Garland**Materials:**

Colored parachute rope, twine, or yarn
Scissors
Tape measure

**Directions:**

Use scissors to cut rope into measured 12" pieces, and then fold in half and place each piece over a long base string. Loop around the base string and pull through the loop. Pull tight and continue to fringe.