

## ART AT HOME

*Fostering a creative foundation in your child with art*

Imagine, create, experiment and discover. Art is where children learn to express ideas and feelings, solve problems, and develop self confidence and self discipline. You can nurture and develop an interest and passion for creative thinking in your own children right from your own home. All you need are some basic art supplies, time, and a kitchen table.

Presented here, are simple and fun literature and art projects offering a rich and creative experience for your child, and are very simple for you to guide. Enjoy!

## **Materials:**

*FC Tempera paint*

*FC Construction paper*

*FC 9 x 12 white drawing paper*

*Paper plate (for palette)*

*Round soft paint brush*

*Pencil, glue, scissors*

*Vinyl tablecloth or newspaper*

*The book, "Jingle Bells" by Kathleen N. Daley*

## **Vocabulary:**

*Oval*

*Color mixing*

*Tint*

*Dimension*

*Texture*

*Depth*

## **Make an example of the art:**

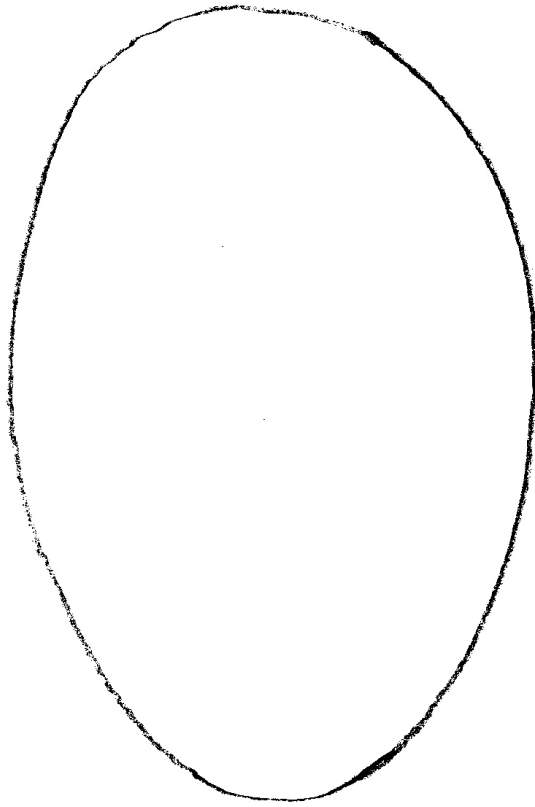
Besides creating an example to inspire your child, taking the 30 minutes to follow the simple steps and make the art yourself allows you to experience the art processes and any potential pitfalls. It will enable you to guide your child through the project with confidence and experience, easing any complications or stress, thus creating a successful experience for both of you.

## **Set up:**

Prepare your kitchen table for an art project! An old re-usable vinyl table cloth works best for protecting the surface and providing a water-proof background. It can later be wiped clean, or left dirty (with dried paint), and folded up. Old newspaper will also do, although it can slip around, and paint or water can soak through. Set out all of the materials for the art project.

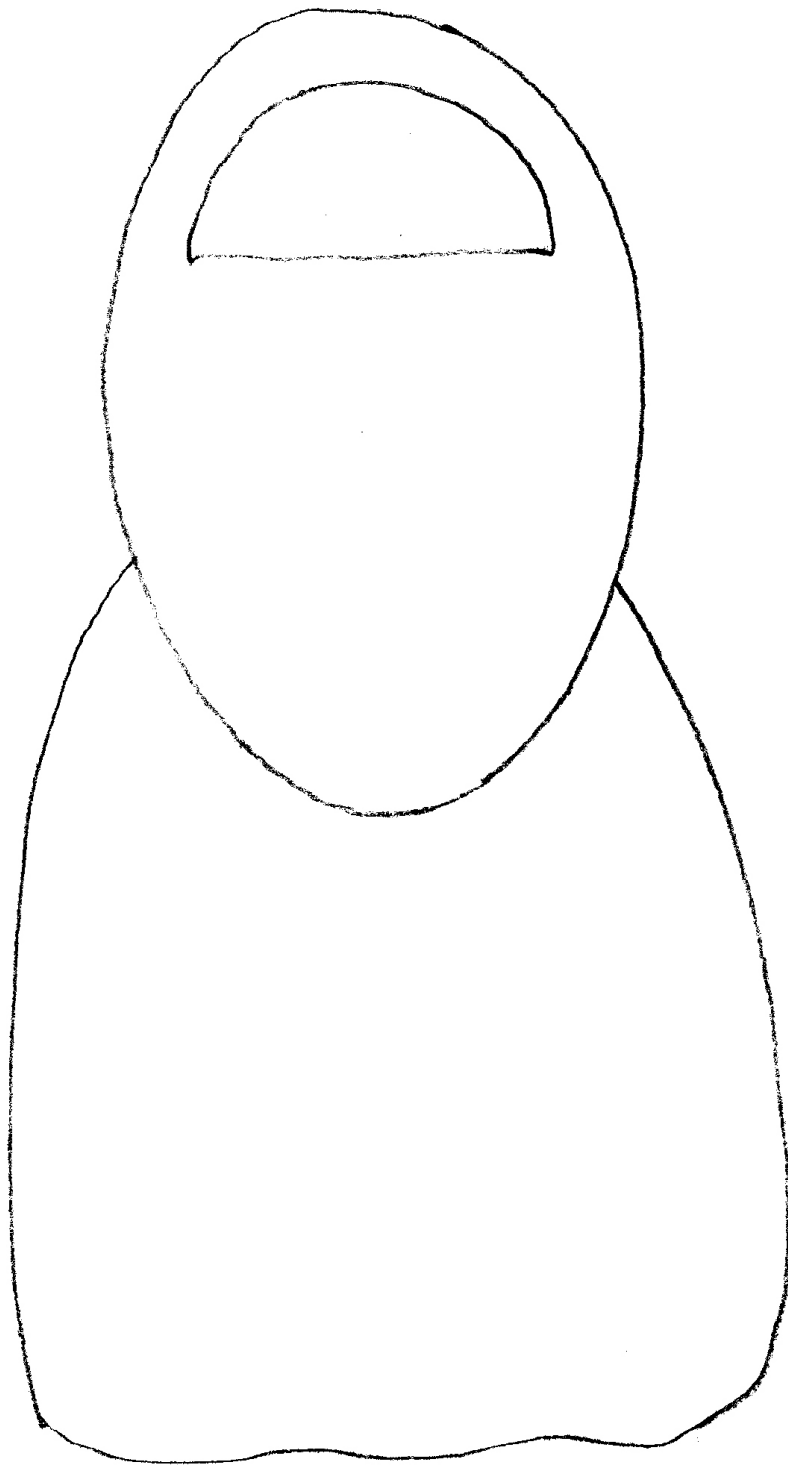
## **Reading:**

Establish a comfortable place for reading and read aloud, "Jingle Bells" to your child. Share the charming illustrations and discuss the fun of a sleighful of animals helping Santa deliver presents when his reindeer get sick with a cold!

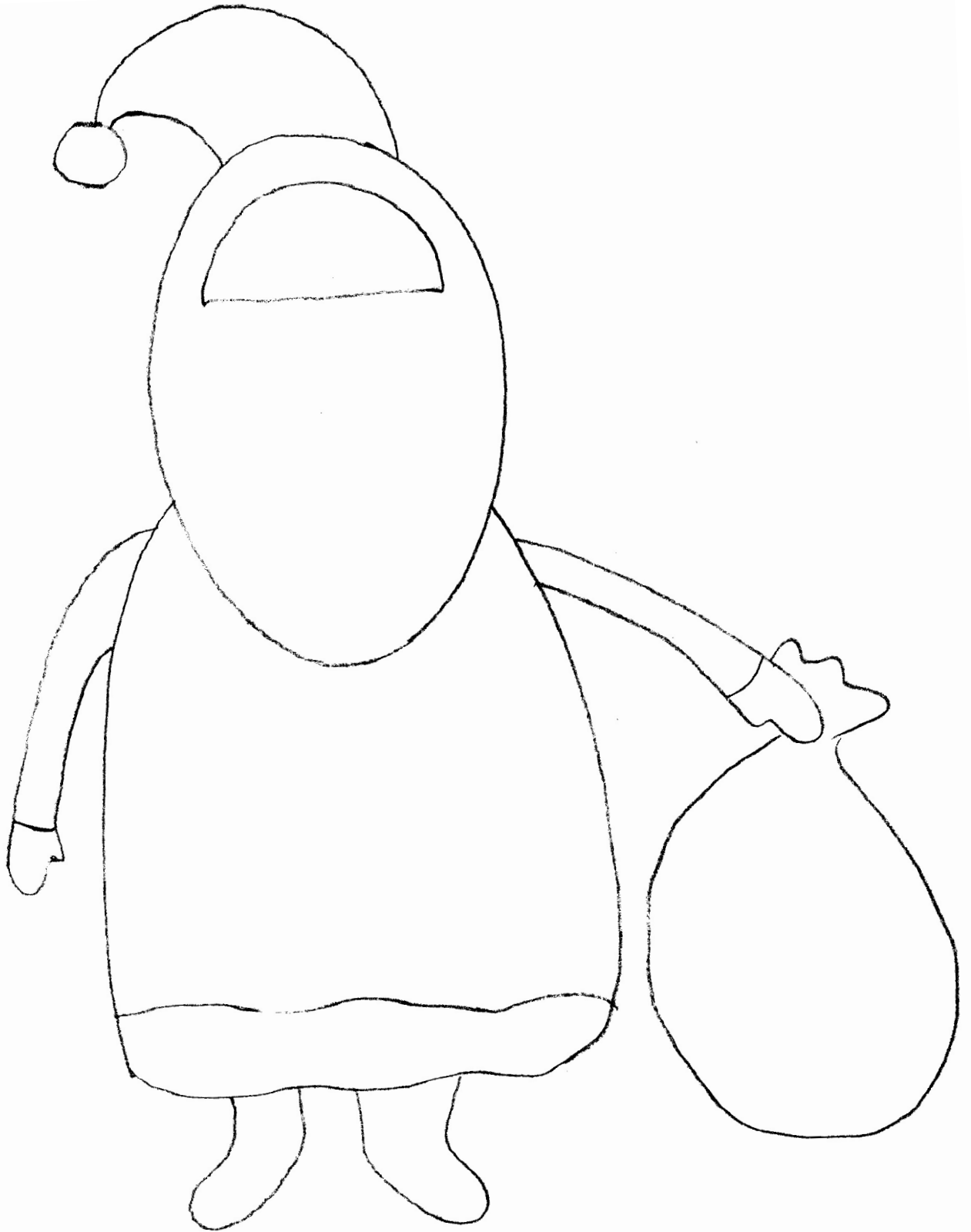


### ***1. Let's draw Santa!***

Show your child how to draw a basic oval on the 9 x 12 white paper. Be sure to help him or her to position the oval on the upper half of the paper- the Santa's body is to follow below this shape.



Show your child how to continue the drawing by making Santa's middle shape as shown, then the half circle for Santa's face.



Finally, show your child how to complete the Santa drawing by adding the hat, arms, toy bag, fur line on the suit, and boots. The drawing may not look exactly like this, but it will be funny and charming!



## **2. Painting Santa**

This snazzy Santa suit is painted with a combination of red, yellow, and white, and the colors you get by mixing them. Introduce the concept of **color mixing** and **tints** to your child in this very simple and fun way.

Using a paper plate as a **palette**, make three pools of paint—red, yellow and white. Show your child that by adding different amounts of red to yellow, you will get shades of orange. Show how to make **tints** by adding different amounts of white to orange to get peach, or white to red to get pink, or white to yellow to get pale yellow. Have your child paint Santa's face a light peach.

Show your child how to paint the suit and hat loosely with the new colors.

Show your child how to add dimension and interest to Santa's beard and fur by adding a small amounts of blue to white. Use a smaller brush to loosely paint short strokes here and there to get a **texture** effect on the white.

Finally, have your child paint Santa's toy bag green.



### **3. Outline Santa**

Show your child how to outline the Santa and his toy bag with a black oil pastel or crayon. Color in the boots and make buttons. When drawing his face, a fine black marker will work better for the small detail. Add pink cheeks with an oil pastel or crayon. Cut out Santa's moustache out of white paper and glue down. Add fat white eye brows.



#### ***4. Making the background***

Have your child paint the white, snowy ground on a piece of light blue Construction paper. Show how to add depth and interest by painting in a swirling motion with some of the blue paper showing through.





## **5. Assembling**

Finally, show your child how to cut out Santa and glue him into position on the blue paper background. Cut closely to, not on, the black outline.

Add branches by piecing together thin strips of cut paper. A bird can be cut out of red paper or drawn directly onto the background. Red berries look good too!

Finally, have your child paint the falling snow!

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