

# Create a Festive Bookmark

When the days grow dark and the weather is cold and windy, there's nothing more comforting than the sight of a cosy home, its windows glowing with light, and full of the festive cheer of the people who live inside.

Many well-loved fairy and folk tales also feature special homes and dwellings. Do you know which fairy tales these houses belong to?

Grandmother's house in the middle of the wood.  
A house made of gingerbread and sweet treats.  
A house made of bricks (not straw or sticks).  
A house with chicken legs.  
A tall tower with a small window and no door.

You can find the answers on page 3.

We invite you to create a festive bookmark based on a house you know – it could be from a fairy tale of favourite story, or it could be based on a cosy home that you are familiar with.

You could keep your bookmark, or you could give it away as a lovely festive gift. Simply follow the instructions opposite.

You will need...

- Scissors
- Craft knife
- Colouring pencils
- Glue stick
- Embroidery thread
- Cardboard

Before you begin...

Print off the template (page 3). You might want to try printing onto paper that is a bit thicker than usual printing paper.

You will probably need some adult help to do the cutting, especially when using a craft knife.



Front template



Back template

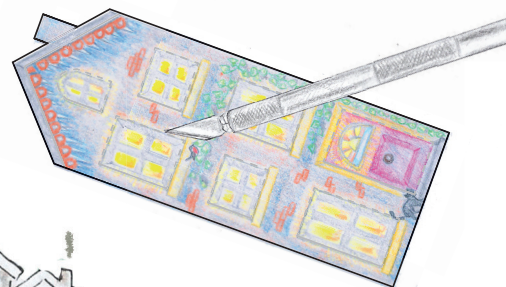
*One:* Colour in the front template. This will be the front of your house. You can colour in the windows to make it look like a light is glowing on the inside. We decided to make a nice safe brick house for three little pigs – of course, it needs to be a house with a chimney!

*Two:* Colour in the back template. The only part that will be seen will be within the windows. We have put our three pigs into the house, but because they are feeling full of festive spirit, they've let that naughty old wolf come inside!

*Three:* Get an adult to help with the cutting. Cut along all the solid black lines to cut out the front and back template.

*Four:* On the front template, cut the dotted grey line only. This will allow the windows and door to open to reveal the characters behind.

*Five:* Spread glue everywhere on the back template except on the windows, and then stick the front template to the back template.





Next you could make some smoke come out of the chimney of your bookmark by making a tassel...

**One:** Get some smoke-grey coloured embroidery thread (or choose another colour, if you like).

**Two** Cut a rectangle of cardboard, 10cm x 5cm. Wrap the embroidery thread around the cardboard until the wrapped thread is 1.5cm wide. Repeat to make a second layer.

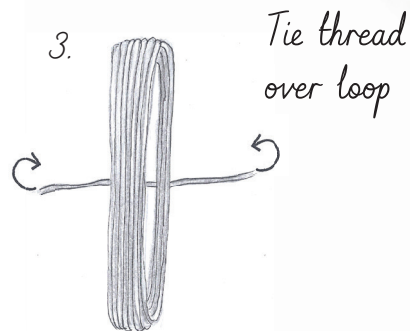
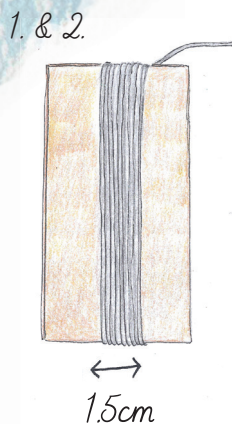
**Three:** Cut 10cm of thread. Slide the looped yarn off the cardboard and place it on top of the 10cm thread. Use the 10cm thread to tie a knot around the looped thread.

**Four:** Fold the looped threads down. Snip through the looped ends.

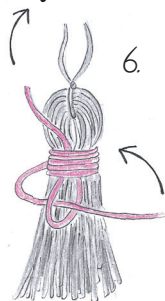
**Five:** Next, take a 30 cm piece of embroidery thread and make a small loop at one end. Lay the small loop on top of the looped yarn as shown. We've used red so you can see the loop clearly.

**Six:** Now wrap the rest of the thread over the loop to separate the 'head' and 'skirt' of the tassel. Put the end of the thread through the loop and pull the loop to secure. Use a darning needle to thread the loose ends back through the tassel.

**Seven:** Make a small hole in the chimney of your bookmark and attach your tassel to the chimney.



Pull end to tighten



Use a needle to thread loose ends back through the tassel



*Little pig, little pig, let me come in!*



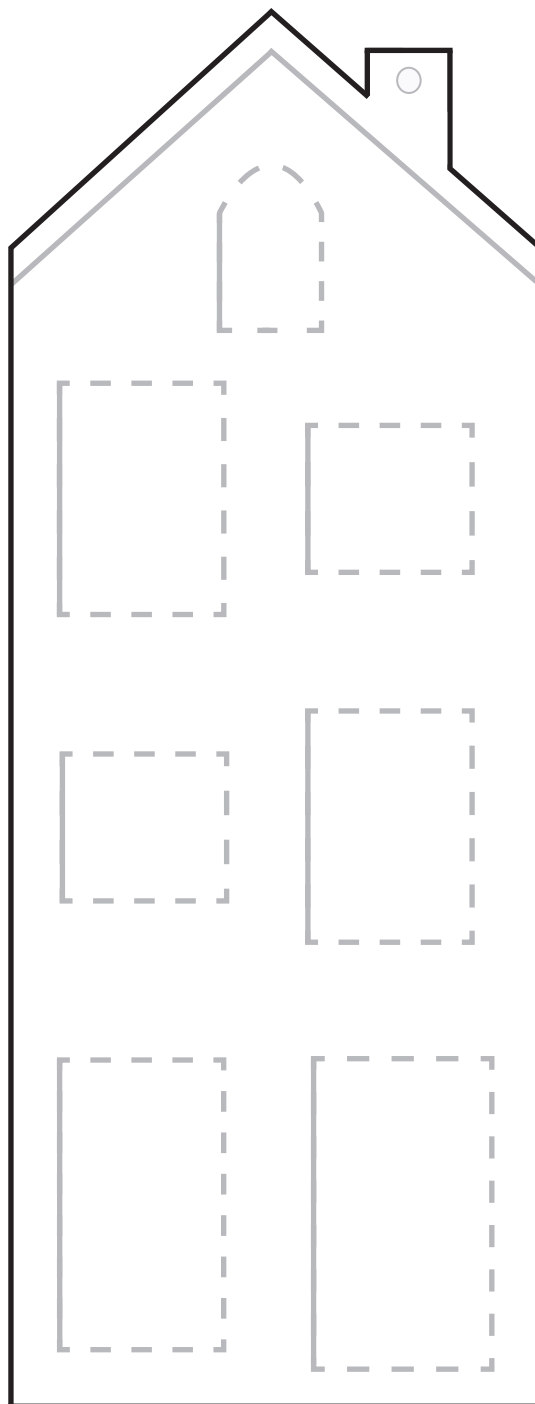
# Bookmark Templates

- - - - Cut with craft knife
- — — — Cut with scissors
- Punch hole for tassel

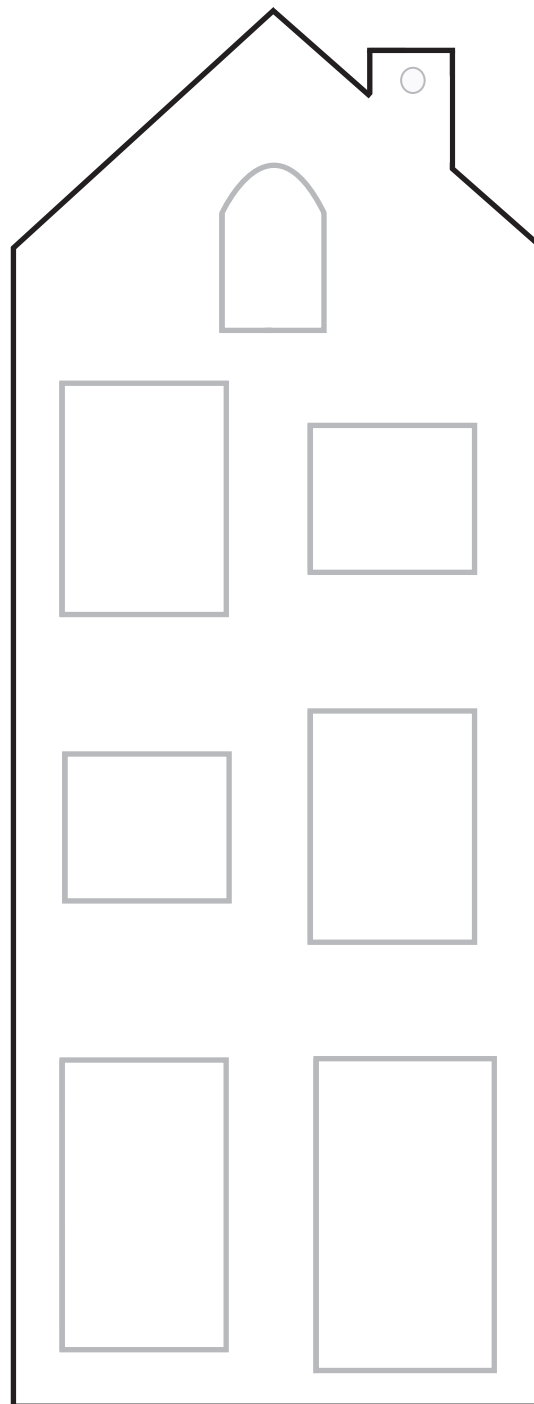
A Year and a Day is a seasonal magazine that aims to guide children into the inner world of traditional stories and out into the natural world around them.

Each issue of A Year and a Day includes three full stories, fifteen story-based activities and several additional seasonally themed pages, including recipes, posters and quizzes.

Find out more at  
[www.ayearandaday.co.uk](http://www.ayearandaday.co.uk)



Front template



Back template