

WEEK 1 BOX

AGE: 8-11 YEARS

ONE STRANGE BIRD
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CRAFTS FOR THE WEEK

1. Decorate Box
2. Ojo De Dios
3. Stress Ball
4. Lanyard Keychains
5. Coffee Filter Dancer

OJO DE DIOS

Ojo de Dios' are so colorful and beautiful!
It represents the power of seeing and understanding
unseen things.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED:

- 2 sticks
- Yarn
- Scissors

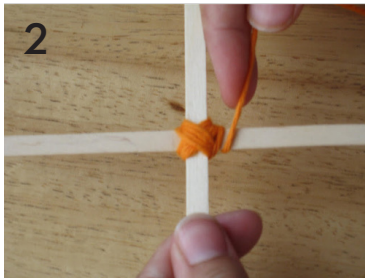
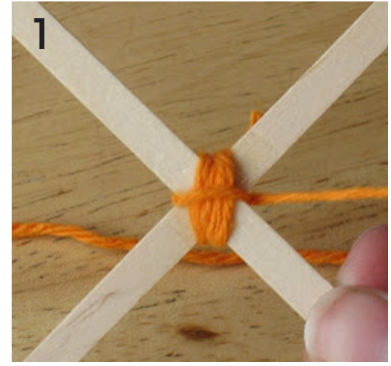


Process:

~ The trick is all in the beginning. Hold the sticks tightly in a cross, then start by wrapping the string diagonally one way 6 or 7 times, then the other way. (Sometimes I use a bit of glue-gun first to keep the two sticks in place before wrapping.) When the sticks feels secure, you can start the weaving

OJO DE DIOS, STEP-BY-STEP

Step 1: Hold two sticks together with your thumb & forefinger. (You can also super glue the sticks together so it makes it easier to handle.). While holding the sticks, wrap the yarn around the sticks diagonally two to three times and then two to three times the opposite directions.



Step 2: Next, wrap the yarn around one side of the cross, as shown



Step 3: Carry it over, diagonally following the line of the previously wrapped yarn.

Step 4: Continue step 3 until you have formed a rhombus with the yarn. When you are ready to change colors, tie the two pieces of yarn together and continue wrapping. I snip the ends off and tuck them away so they only show on the backside of the Ojo.. Continue to wrap the yarn over each side and across diagonally (see video below for further visual explanation).



It should look like this so far...Continue wrapping until you reach your desired number of rows



Here is a short video of the wrapping technique in action: [click here](#)

Here is my progress so far. I've switched to yet another color.



OJO DE DIOS, STEP-BY-STEP (continued)

Last Step:

When I have reached my desired color combo and length, I take the yarn and at one end of the craft stick, I tie it off loosely. It doesn't look like it holds, but it does! The little bit of extra yarn is perfect for hanging the Ojo. You can also add a little super glue right at the tie off to secure. I thought about knotting it off, but I thought it wouldn't look crisp and clean.



WATER BEAD STRESS BALL

MATERIALS:

- Water beads packet
- Empty water bottle
- Balloon
- Scissors

1. Prepare water beads according to instructions on packet.
(place beads in water and let sit overnight, then drain.)
2. Once the beads are big, fill the water bottle with beads.
3. Blow up one of the balloons and place it over the top of the bead-filled bottle.
4. Turn the water bottle upside down, shake and squeeze the bottle until all of the water beads have been transferred from the bottle to the balloon.
5. Tie the end of the balloon



COFFEE FILTER DANCERS

YOU WILL NEED

- Coffee Filters
- Washable Markers
- 2 Pipe Cleaners
- Tiny Elastic
- Scissors

If you want the dresses to have strong colors, make sure you cover a lot of the coffee filter with marker, leaving very little white space. The more marker you add, the darker the colors will be. (If you add lots of dark colors without white space it almost turns black.)



I highly recommend using colors from the same color families for each of your coffee filters.

If you add too many colors you could accidentally end up with brown coffee filters. And somehow brown dresses just aren't as fun!



Using an eye dropper, or a small measuring spoon, carefully drop water all over the coffee filters until it's completely soaked through. They should be completely wet, but they shouldn't be sitting in a pool of water.

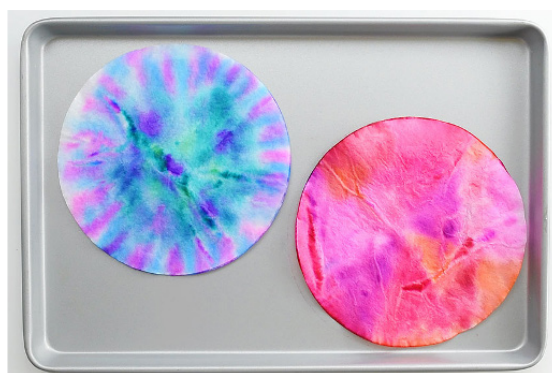
Once it's completely soaked, stop adding water. Don't flood the pan with water, otherwise your colours could run a little too much and it will take foreeeeeever to dry!

COFFEE FILTER DANCERS (continued)



So here's the progression of the coffee filters. I don't know why, but I always find the before and after photos so fascinating!!

And here they are after we added the water:



And here they are after they were dry:

How to Dry the Coffee Filters

There are a few ways you can dry your coffee filters:

1. You can let them air dry overnight. This is easiest, but I'm incredibly impatient so I'd really rather not wait so long!
2. You can set them out in the sunshine on a warm day to dry. This method works really well, and they'll dry in about half an hour in direct sun. But be careful, because the minute they're dry, they tend to blow away with the slightest wind, so you have to keep a close eye on them!
3. My favorite method is to dry them in the oven. Set the oven temperature super low to 120F. It only takes 20 to 30 minutes for them to dry in the oven! I've had success at 130F as well, but if you don't take them out in time the edges start to curl. (You can iron them between two pieces of paper on super low heat to fix that). I have found that an oven temperature of 120F works the best.

COFFEE FILTER DANCERS (continued)

While you're waiting for the coffee filters to dry, you can make the form for your person. You'll need two 12 inch long pipe cleaners, in whatever colours you like.

Start by bending the pipe cleaner in half. But don't pinch the fold in the middle. This will be the head of your dancer and it looks better when it's not squished closed.



Line up the second pipe cleaner behind the one that's folded in half, a little below where the "neck" of your dancer will be.

Wind the two "arms" around the middle pipe cleaner several times to make a body. Keep winding until you have about 2.5 inches of pipe cleaner left on both sides. Make sure when you're finished winding that the arms come out right below the head at the position of the neck.



Bend the bottom pipe cleaners at a right angle to make small "feet" for your dancer.



COFFEE FILTER DANCERS (continued)

When your coffee filters are dry, you can separate them. See?? Two nearly identical, beautifully coloured coffee filters for the first dress!



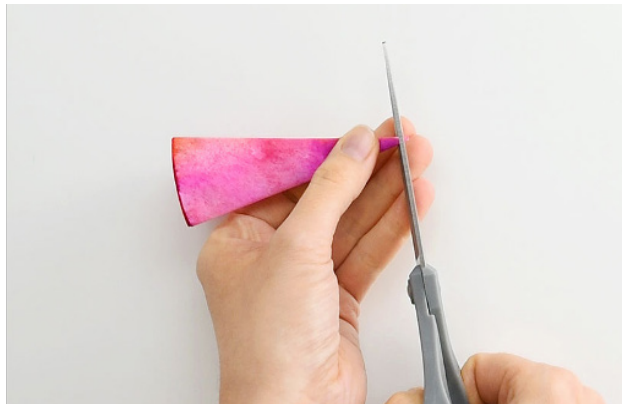
Fold one of the coffee filters in half.



Then keep folding it in half until it's about the size below.

Cut a tiny point off from the tip. Make sure it's small – you'll be surprised how much bigger the hole gets when you open up the coffee filter again!

Unfold the coffee filter until it's only folded in half. Cut two small slits about 1/4 inch away from the middle hole. These will be the holes for the "arms" to go through.



I'm including a second photo on the blue "dress" to make sure you can really see those small slits for the arms.



COFFEE FILTER DANCERS (continued)

Bring the pipe cleaner "arms" up over the doll's head. (Reminds me of getting my kid dressed...)

Then carefully slide each arm through one of the small slits you cut into the coffee filter.



Carefully pull the coffee filter down over the body. The head should easily fit through the bigger hole in the coffee filter.

Bunch the coffee filter around the doll into the shape of a dress. Wrap a tiny elastic around the dress, roughly at the position of the waist so that it looks like a belt.

Cut a small hole into the center of the second coffee filter (fold it in half a few times then snip off a tiny piece at the tip, just like you did with the first coffee filter).

Then slide the feet through the hole in the second coffee filter.



Push the dress up to the waist of the doll, shaping it into a beautiful, frilly gown.

I didn't bother attaching the second coffee filter, but if you need to you can add another tiny elastic to hold it in place.

COFFEE FILTER DANCERS (continued)

You don't have to add two coffee filters to the dress if you don't want to. The doll on the left in the photo below has a cute little short dress using only one coffee filter.

But with only one coffee filter, the doll won't stand on it's own.



You can bend the arms of your coffee filter dancers however you like. And with pipe cleaners, you can change the arm shape again and again!



Colors for the Dresses:

So here's all the coffee filter dancers we made. I chose the colour I wanted the dress to be, and only used the colours in that family:

Pink Dress – Pinks, reds, purples

Green Dress – Greens, turquoise, blues

Yellow Dress – Yellows, oranges, light browns

Purple Dress – Purples, pinks, blues, turquoise

I dried the yellow and green coffee filters on the same baking sheet and you can see that the colors bled into each other a



LANYARD KEY CHAINS

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Lanyard material
- Keyring

Instructions can be found here:

[Lanyard Keychain](#)

