

Crafts 'n Snacks

A Monthly Series from Keepsake Curriculum

December

Craft: Construction Paper Mittens

Snack: Popcorn Snowballs

Story Ideas:

"The Mitten" by Jan Brett

"The Mitten" by Alvin Tresselt

"The Mitten Tree" by Candace Christiansen

"The Missing Mitten Mystery" by Steven Kellogg

Construction Paper Mittens

Decorate your own mittens for this cute and easy winter craft!

Materials:

Mitten template (included)

Colored construction paper (your choice - mitten color and background)

4 cottonballs

Glue

Glue stick

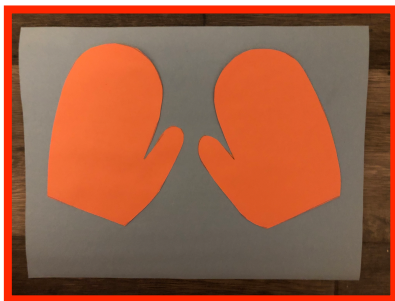
Crayons

Scissors & Pencil

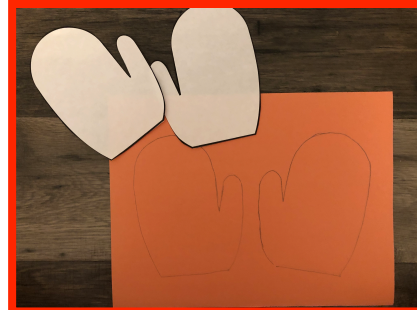
Yarn/String/Ribbon

Instructions:

1. Print and cut out the mitten templates. Trace two mittens onto your desired construction paper.



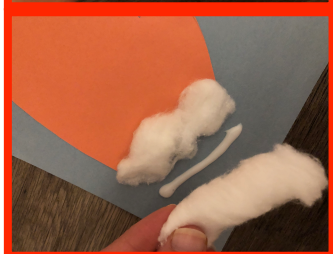
2. Cut out mittens and glue them to your background color with a glue stick.



3. Take 2 cotton balls and gently stretch them out.



4. Place a line of glue along the bottom of the mitten and lay one of the stretch cotton balls across it; draw a second line of glue underneath and stick down the second cotton ball.



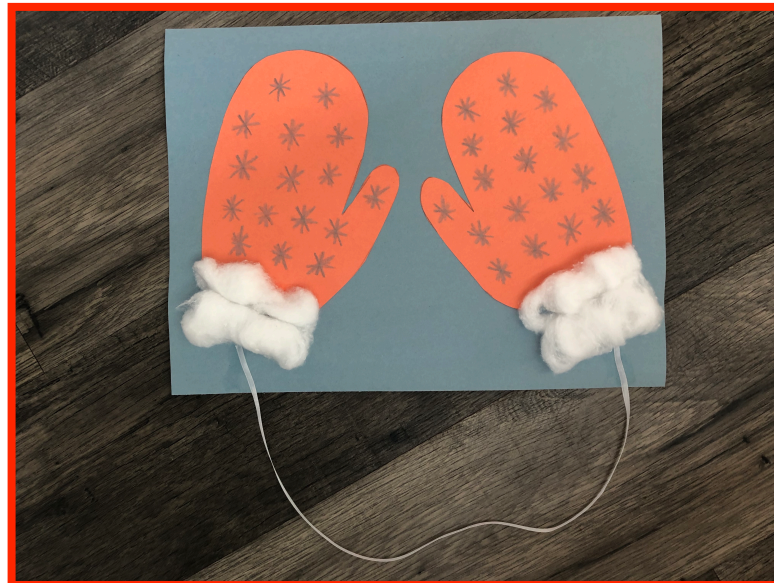
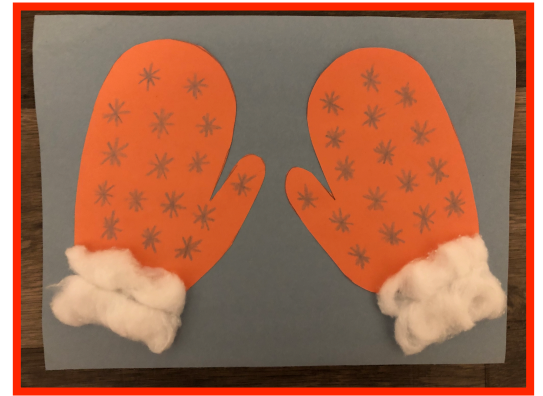
5. Repeat for the other mitten.



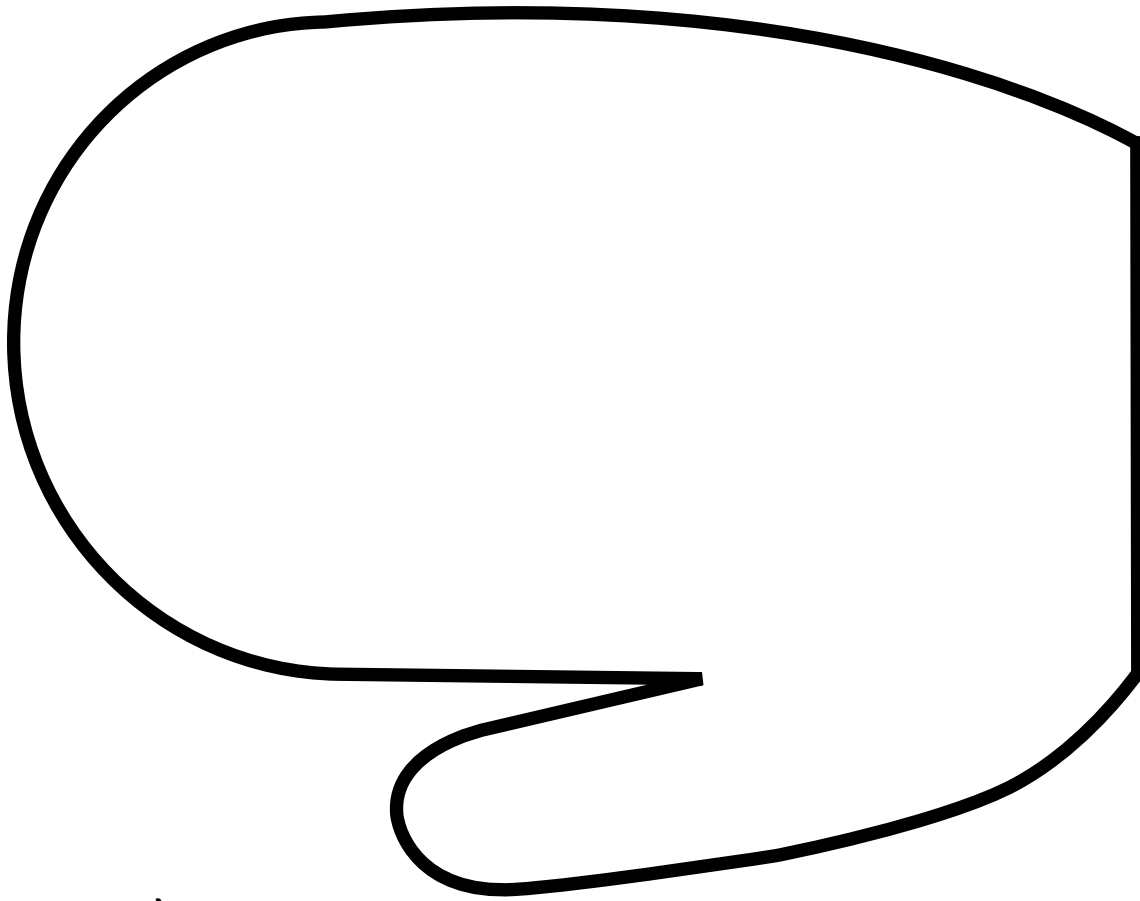
6. Use crayons to decorate the mittens as desired.
7. Cut a piece of yarn/string/ribbon approximately 15 inches long.



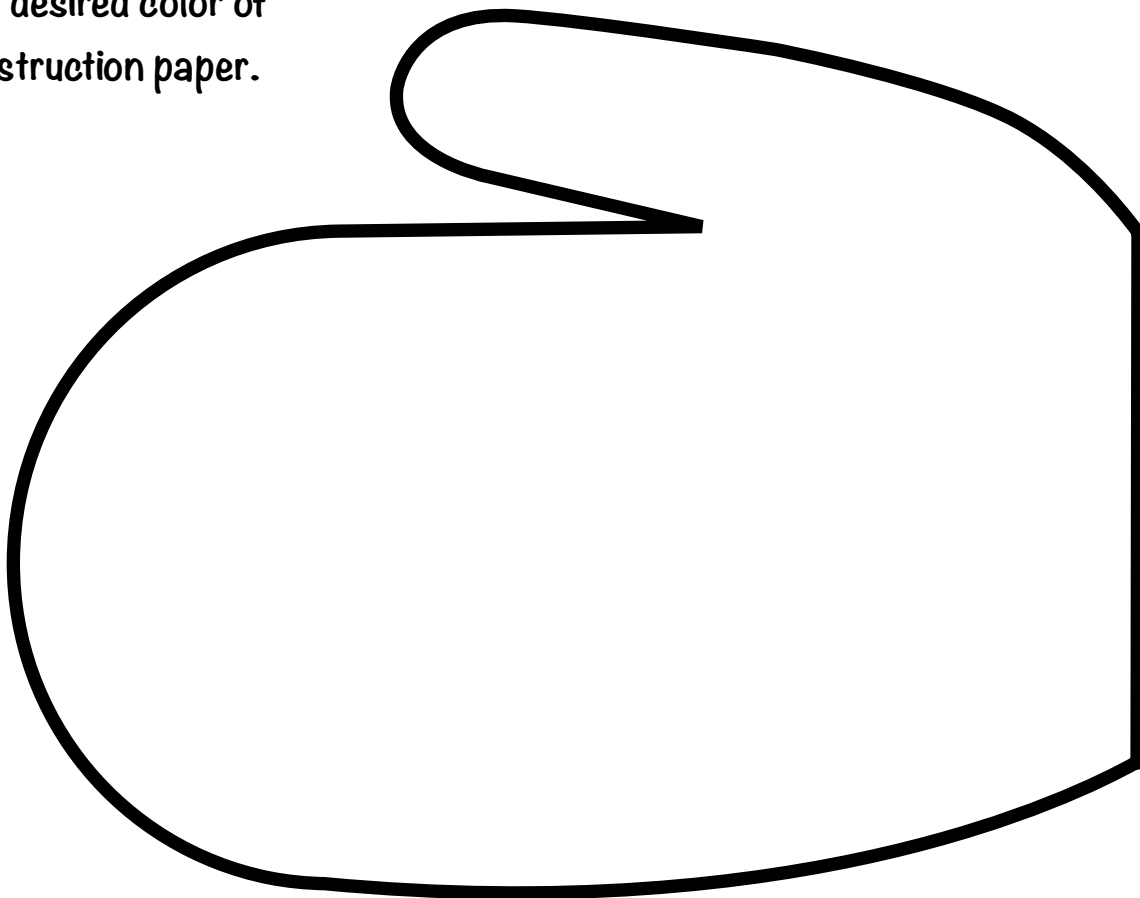
8. Glue each end of the yarn/string/ribbon to the bottom of each mitten; allow to dry.
9. Hang somewhere around the house and enjoy!



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Print, cut, and trace
both mittens onto
your desired color of
construction paper.



Popcorn Snowballs

Ingredients:

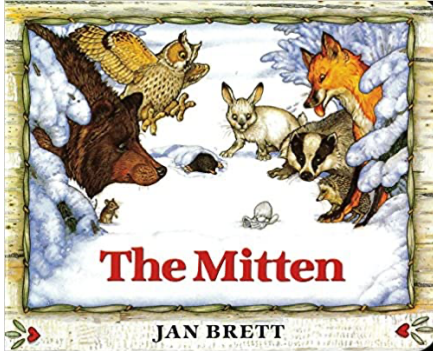
- 1 quart popped popcorn
- 2 cups crisp rice cereal
- 20 large marshmallows
- 1/4 cup butter, cubed
- 1 cup red and green milk chocolate M&M's

Directions:

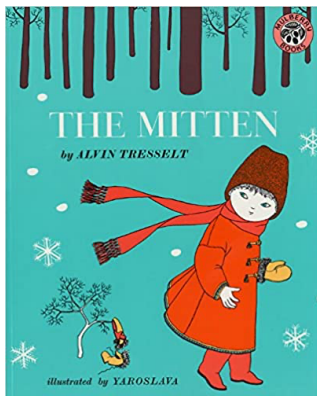
1. In a large greased bowl, combine popcorn and cereal. In a large saucepan over low heat, combine marshmallows and butter. Cook and stir until marshmallows are melted and mixture is smooth. Pour over popcorn mixture. Add M&M's; stir until combined.
2. When cool enough to handle, shape 1/3 cupfuls into balls with lightly buttered hands. Place on waxed paper-lined baking sheets. Cool.

* This recipe was found at tasteofhome.com

Mitten Read-Alouds



“The Mitten” by Jan Brett - When Nicki drops his white mitten in the snow, he goes on without realizing that it is missing. One by one, woodland animals find it and crawl in; first, a curious mole, then a rabbit, a badger and others, each one larger than the last. Finally, a big brown bear is followed in by a tiny brown mouse and what happens next makes for a wonderfully funny climax. As the story of the animals in the mitten unfolds, the reader can see Nicki's snowy outing in the borders of each page. (Amazon description)



“The Mitten” by Alvin Tresselt - Deep in the woods on the coldest day of winter a little boy drops his mitten. And that lost mitten stretches and stretches—and stretches—to provide shelter for many woodland creatures. Originally published in 1964 and adapted from E. Rachev's version of the Ukrainian folktale, Yaroslava's distinctly charming illustrations and Alvin Tresselt's detailed text are as timeless and universal as the story itself. (Amazon description)



“The Mitten Tree” by Candace Christiansen - One snowy day an elderly woman, Sarah, watches children gathering at the bus stop. While they never seem to notice her, she notices them, especially one little boy who has no mittens. That night, Sarah knits the boy a pair of cozy mittens and places them on the blue spruce tree for him to discover. It soon becomes a game, with the children looking for new mittens on the mysterious tree every morning, and Sarah joyfully knitting new ones each night. With its touching message and delightful illustrations, adults and children will enjoy this intergenerational tale for years to come. (Amazon description)



“The Missing Mitten Mystery” by Steven Kellogg - Annie and her dog, Oscar, have had a busy day playing in the snow. Somehow Annie's red mitten has disappeared in all the fun. They look high and low. . . . It's not on the sledding hill, and it's not by the snow castles. Maybe an eagle carried it off to keep its baby's head warm. Or maybe a mouse is using it as a sleeping bag. When the sun goes down, Annie and Oscar have to give up their search and go inside. But when Annie looks out the window, something red catches her eye. . . . (Amazon description)