

CANDLE DIPPING

Second Grade

Planned Number of Participants: 450

Classroom Coordinator:

Holiday Fair Contacts: Kimberly Martin – 720-231-7071

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Children create hand-dipped or rolled beeswax candles.

Materials:

- Blocks of beeswax for melting
- Sheets of beeswax for rolling (150, cut into 8" squares)
- Wick, cut into 8" lengths (300-500)
- 4 crock pots
- 4-6 large tumblers for cold water
- 1-2 pitchers for cold water
- Twine
- Wooden spoons for stirring melted wax
- Tongs to pull out candles
- Plastic sheeting and thick rolled paper to cover tables
- Duct tape/wide masking tape
- Tarps to cover the floor
- Aloe vera gel (for burns)
- Sharpies
- Broom, dustpan, cleaning wipes, paper towels, sponge, cleaning spray
- Laminated and bound activity instructions sheets:
 - Volunteer schedule for your activity
 - Set-up and clean-up instructions

PRE-FAIR PREPARATIONS

1. Class coordinator will assist in recruiting other class parents to help set-up the classroom on Friday, December 1st from 3pm to 5:30pm as well as organizing class supplies.
2. Using a hammer, break up the 5 lb. blocks of beeswax into smaller pieces. There are 8-10 blocks.
3. Cut 500 wicks – 8" each.

ROOM SET-UP

Candle Dipping will be held in the High School Life Sciences room this year. This room will be ready to set-up by 3pm with the goal to finish by 5:30pm on Friday, December 1st so that the only thing left for the morning is to plug in the crockpots. The Class Coordinator is responsible for leading volunteers in the set-up of the room.

1. Move the teacher's desk and 2 chairs to the front door (that leads to High School hallway) to be used to check in children. Move all desks and chairs to one end of the room (temporarily).
2. Put tarps on the floor and secure with wide masking tape.
3. At the check-in desk, place wicks underneath so they can be handed out when checking in. Also put a clipboard, instructions, sharpies, scissors, etc. at the check-in desk.
4. Combine 4-6 desks into stations. Put 4-6 chairs around station which will be for rolling beeswax sheets. Place wax sheets on this station.
5. Set-up row of 5 tables down middle of room. Cover all tables in plastic sheeting then with heavy paper and secure with the wide masking tape.
6. Set up # sets of crock pot and tall tumbler/vase of water. One set at each end and 2-3 in between. This should create a continuous loop of crockpots and water vases around work station. and configure the extension cord to be as out of the way as possible. Tape down cords with duct tape if necessary.
7. Cover 4 chairs with large black garbage bags and secure with twine. These will be available for smaller children who need to be elevated while dipping.
8. After chopping blocks of wax into many, many small pieces, put blocks of beeswax into the crockpots in preparation for melting, but DO NOT plug in or turn on. This will be done by the first staff member to arrive Saturday morning. Lay out wooden spoons, tongs and large tumblers.
9. Set out pitchers and fill with cold water. This will be used to replenish the water in the tumblers.
10. Once the room is completely set-up, please find the Children's Activity Chair and ask for the sign to hang on the door, indicating that the room is set-up.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACTIVITY

Dipped Candles

1. Dip the wick into the wax and let it excess wax drip back into the crockpot.
2. Dip into the cold water tumbler.
3. Repeat twice around table.
4. Aim is for candle to be size of pointer finger.

Rolled Candles

1. Rolled candles are more appropriate for younger children.
2. Lay wax at one side.
3. Roll wax tightly and with assistance, dip once or twice into the hot wax to seal.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ROOM VOLUNTEERS

- **PLEASE ARRIVE ON-TIME FOR YOUR SHIFT!**
- Greeter – one volunteer needs to stand at the entrance to check each child in.
- Check the child’s activity bracelet.
 - BLUE bracelets are unlimited activity passes and the child can be let in with no further action.
 - SILVER bracelets are 3-activity passes. Place a single sharpie line mark on the child’s silver activity bracelet. Silver bracelets can only have up to 3 sharpie marks. If the child is out of passes for activities, they may be directed to the front desk in the main lobby to purchase more children’s activity bracelets.
- Keep track of each child with a tally mark on a sheet of paper.
- Hand each child a wick.
- Direct the child to another volunteer to explain the activity.
- Facilitate the activities and provide support.
 - Guide the child through making their candle.
 - Refresh water in the tumblers with cold water.
 - Add more wax to melt as needed, continue to stir.
- Watch over the children as well as the room to ensure safety.
 - Provide aloe for any wax burns.
 - Assist in the retrieval of dropped candles in crock pots.
- **MONITOR THE SIZE OF CANDLES BEING MADE! SEE EXAMPLES.**
- Notice how many people are in the room and the number of children participating in the activity so we can decide on the best occupancy number for the room.
 - If the room seems really full, implement the process of 1 child out, 1 child in.
- Write down any thoughts or suggestions on improving this activity for the following year.

CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES

Children’s Activities close at 2:45pm, though there will certainly be some finishing their projects after that time, the clean-up process can begin then. All Children’s Activities rooms must be cleaned and back to their original configuration by 5pm on Saturday, December 2nd.

- Unplug the crockpots so that the wax may cool. Leave on the tables.
- Empty the tumblers and pitchers – put into bins with other supplies (leftover wicks, rolling wax, etc.)
 - Please be organized about storing materials – they will be used for next year.
- Remove all paper, plastic and tape from the tables and put in the trash.
- Remove trash bags and twine from all chairs and put in the trash.
- Wipe all tables/desks and move everything off the tarp on the floor.
- Sweep the tarps and floor and wipe down any areas that need it.
- Remove tape from tarps, fold the tarps neatly.
- Pick-up trash. Dispose of all trash bags in the dumpster outside the school.
 - Large trash bags are available in the front office.
- Return the classroom to the original set-up.

- A photo of the original set-up will be provided.
- Any unclaimed candles can be placed on a table in the front hall.