



SELMA'S 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Get ready for some FUN!

Selma Parks and Recreation has 12 crafts that are easy and fun for the whole family to enjoy.

Each day, starting on Sunday, December 13th, we will post a different craft to make with things you already have.

**Share YOUR pictures on our Facebook page
@selmaparksandrec**



The 12 Crafts are:



December 13 - Dipped Pretzel Wands

December 14 - Popsicle Stick Reindeer

December 15 - Paper Snowflakes

December 16 - People Puppy Chow

December 17 - Snow Cream

December 18 - Salt Dough Ornaments

December 19 - Tissue Paper Ornaments

December 20 - Family Handprint Tree

December 21 - Cotton Ball Snowmen

December 22 - Paper Chain Garland

December 23 - Magic Reindeer Food

December 24 - Hot Cocoa For Santa

Dipped Pretzel Wands

1 Bag of 24 Pretzel rods

12 ounces chocolate chips or candy melts (white, dark, or milk chocolate)

1 tablespoon shortening ONLY if using chips (do not use with melts)

Optional: Colored nonpareils, sprinkles, chopped nuts, etc.

Utensils: microwave-safe bowl, wax paper, stirring spoon

Step 1: Prepare chocolate

Place chocolate & shortening OR candy melts in a microwave-safe bowl. Microwave on medium in 30-second increments or until melted. Stir until smooth.

Step 2: Dipping the pretzels

Place chocolate into a tall heat-proof glass. Dip each rod halfway into the chocolate. Tap the rod against the side of the glass to remove excess.

Step 3: Decorate

Decorate rods as desired and set on wax paper or parchment to dry.

Store in an airtight container for up to 2 weeks.





POPSICLE STICK REINDEER

Materials:

Popsicle sticks, paint, pom-poms, googly eyes, ribbon, glue or hot glue.



Step 1: Make your Reindeer Shape

Hot glue or glue between 2 popsicle sticks on top to create the antlers

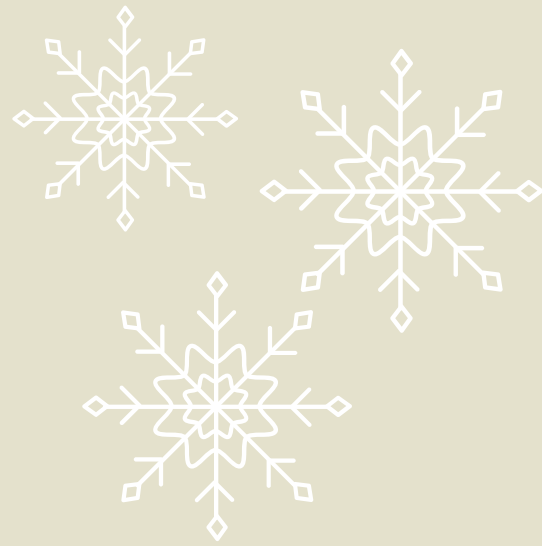
Step 2: Paint your reindeer

Step 3: Create your reindeer face

Use the pom-poms for your nose and add some googley eyes

Step 4: Finishing Touches

Add a ribbon to the back so you can hang it up!



PAPER SNOWFLAKES

Materials:

Paper

Scissors





People "Puppy Chow"

3/4 Cup Butterscotch Morsels

3/4 Cup Smooth Peanut Butter (or nut butter of choice)

(1) 12-oz box Crispix cereal

1 Cup Powdered Sugar

Utensils: saucepan or microwave-safe bowl; large plastic container with lid;
stirring spoon

(Optional: small sieve)

Step 1: Heat butterscotch morsels and peanut butter

Stovetop: combine in a small saucepan and heat on low until smooth, stirring frequently to prevent sticking.

Microwave: combine in microwave-safe dish and cook on low until smooth, stirring frequently

Step 2: Combine Crispix with butterscotch/peanut butter mixture

Pour Crispix in large bowl. Fold heated butterscotch blend into the Crispix. (Stir slowly and carefully to avoid crushing the cereal. It will be sticky!)

Step 3: Dust Crispix with Powdered Sugar

Gently shake powdered sugar over the Crispix, using 1/4 C. at a time.

(Tip: Use a sieve for more even application of the powdered sugar OR put the lid on the container and shake gently between dustings.)



Snow Cream



- Fresh Clean Snow
- 1-(14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk (fat free works great too)
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- VARIOUS TOPPINGS (decorative candies or candy sprinkles)



Step 1: Gather fresh, clean snow in a large bowl or place a bowl outside after it starts to snow to catch it. You will need the bowl to be very full.

Step 2: Mix in the sweetened condensed milk & vanilla. As you stir, the snow will reduce by about half. Keep mixing, by hand, until thoroughly combined; it will take a few minutes.

Step 3: Mix in or top with desired candies, sprinkles or ice cream toppings; or enjoy plain.

Salt Dough Ornaments



Ingredients:

4 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup table salt

1 1/2 cups warm water

Glitter, paint, and ribbon, for decoration

Polyurethane spray, for preservation

Instructions To Make Dough:

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour and salt. Slowly stream in the water while stirring with a spoon until it comes together. Finish mixing together with hands. Knead until dough is soft, about five minutes.

To Bake Ornaments:

Preheat oven to 300°F.

Place half of the dough between two large pieces of parchment paper.

Roll out until 1/8" thick. Remove the top sheet of parchment. Using cookie cutters, cut shapes (leaving them on the parchment). Peel away the excess dough. Transfer the parchment with shapes to a baking sheet. Using a straw or toothpick, poke a hole for ribbon or an ornament hanger. Bake in preheated oven for 1 hour, or until hard.

Once cooled, decorate using glitter and paint. To make sure the ornaments last a long time (I have one from 30 years ago!), spray with a light coat of polyurethane spray. Thread on a ribbon and hang on tree.



Tissue Paper Stained Glass Ornaments

MATERIALS:

Black Card Stock

Wax paper

Colored tissue paper (not bleeding)

Watered-down glue



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make ornament frames out of black card stock

Tear tissue paper into pieces or cut into geometric shapes

2. Brush watered-down glue on waxed paper. Tape down a sheet of waxed paper to use as the base for the stained glass. Then brush the glue all over the waxed paper, set a piece of tissue paper on the glue-covered piece of wax paper, then brushed more glue over the tissue paper.



3. Let it Dry Overnight

Once dry, cut around the edge of the ornament frame, leaving about a half an inch of wax paper. Hang up using string or tape to the window.



FAMILY HAND PRINT CHRISTMAS TREE

Materials:

Green Construction Paper
Yellow Construction Paper
Red Construction Paper
Scissors
Pencil
Glue or Tape

Step 1: Trace everyone's hands using a pencil and green construction paper

Step 2: Cut out a star from the yellow construction paper

Step 3: Cut out a tree trunk from the red construction paper

Step 4: Create your tree using the picture as a guide!





COTTON BALL SNOWMAN

What you'll need:

- cotton balls
- white paper (letter size)
- construction paper for background
- glue
- scissors
- decorations – buttons, sequin, scrap paper, popcorn kernels, popsicle sticks, pom poms, fabric, craft foam...
- Whatever you can find, naturally pick the age appropriate decorations, larger ones for toddlers and preschoolers, smaller one for older kids).





Materials:

Construction Paper
Scrapbooking Paper
Craft Ribbon
Scissors
Glue or Tape

Step 1:

Cut ribbon or paper in 6 in X 1 in strips -- can be different shapes such as triangles, hexagons or rectangles (no limits)

Step 2:

Tape or glue bands alternately interlocking to make a chain.

Step 3:

String garland on tree, mantel, walls, counters, etc. The sky's the limit.





MAGIC REINDEER FOOD

1 Cup Oatmeal

2 Cup Birdseed

1/3 Cup sparkly glitter (any color)

1 Heart Full of Christmas Hope and Love

Large bowl & stirring spoon

Directions:

Mix ingredients together in a large bowl.

On Christmas Eve sprinkle the food on your lawn and/or in a planter around your doorstep. The glitter will shine in the moonlight and lead Santa to your house before dawn. The smell of oatmeal will lead the reindeer directly to your rooftop. The Hope and Love from your heart will spread Christmas Cheer to others around the world!





HOT COCOA FOR SANTA

8 servings

1 Cup powdered sugar

1 Cup Hersheys Cocoa powder

Powdered milk

Hot water

Optional Toppings: whipped topping, cinnamon, chocolate syrup, colored sugar, mini marshmallows

Step 1: Make the Mix

Combine cocoa, powdered sugar, and powdered milk. Stir until evenly blended. Store in an air tight container. (Keeps up to 6 months)

Step 2: Make some hot cocoa for Santa!

Measure 1/2 cup cocoa mix into a mug. Heat 1/2 cup hot water in microwave or on stovetop. Add to mix and stir until blended.

Step 3: Decorate!

Add toppings as desired.

