

Holiday Helps

Ideas for Elementary Classrooms

Create cards to thank and show love to grandparents or leaders of your church's congregation.

Wise Owl Surprise Cards

What You'll Need

- construction paper or scrapbooking paper
- scissors (straight and decorative edge)
- markers
- glue or glue sticks
- optional: wiggle eyes, paper fasteners

What to Do

1. Create simple patterns for cutting a large oval, circles (for eyes), and claw-shaped feet. Choose a sheet of paper the color you want for the body of the owl; trace and cut a large oval from this paper. (Hint: Cutting the oval with decorative-edge scissors will give the body a feathered look.) Next, draw a straight line about a fourth of the way down from the top of the oval and cut off. Use this piece as a pattern and trace two wings from a contrasting color of paper; cut out the wings.
2. From fun colored paper, cut triangle shapes for ears and circles for eyes. Half circles can be used for eyelids. Wiggle eyes can be used, if desired. Cut a diamond shape and fold it in half to create an open beak. Trace and cut out two claw feet. Glue on all of these pieces.
Place the wings as shown so that they slightly overlap on the front of the owl. Fold a portion of each wing behind the body of the owl. Glue on the wings or attach the wings with paper fasteners, so that the wings can be moved when they are spread.
3. With the wings folded closed, write a message across the wings. If you are making the cards for Grandparents' Day (the second Sunday in September), write on the wings: "Who loves you?" Or make the cards for Ministry Appreciation Day (the second Sunday in October) and write on the cards: "Who is thankful for you?" Lift the wings and sign your name where it will be hidden until the wings are lifted.

Another Idea!

Decorate the classroom for fall with several of these fun owls. On the outside of each owl's pair of wings, write the first part of a Bible verse. Kids can see if they can say the rest of the verse and then lift the wings to check if they are correct.

