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& PLAY

Recalling moments and memories through art exploration!



WHO?

- This curriculum may be used by partners in homes, in group residences, or in locations where people gather and form social communities.
- It may be useful to those in early stages of memory loss.
- Topics may be useful to home health care givers, family members, and friends who are searching for activities that can be done together and feel isolation.
- The materials may be adapted to various grade levels through adults.

WHAT?

- Thematic activities rely on the **ViSUal** arts to focus discussion.
- Themes are introduced through art images or prompts; they promote dialogue. Activity may follow which is structured in steps.
- The "process" of the art activity is more important than the "product."
- The art making should be playful, non-judgmental.
- The goal is to reinforce memory, see associations, and communicate.

WHERE?

- The participants may work at home, in learning classrooms, or in social groups like churches, resident facilities, etc.
- The art activity outlined on-line may be simple, with common materials. In another forum with many tables, water, etc. an art activity may be substituted which is more complex.

WHY?

- This process has been successful in the Central Minnesota region, the four counties of Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright Counties.
- This on-line model is being tested.
- The goal is to expand to people who are new to the concept, isolated in their homes, or may not have access to local groups like ART BRIGHT, in Elk River, MN.
- When support groups are not available, we hope to develop on-line partners.

These educational resource materials were created in 2020 by
Paula Decker Benfer,
artist and art educator,
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Contact the above artist if you wish to use the curriculum resources in this Power Point.

mycellarstudio@gmail.com

Put the CD in a computer to play.

At <u>home</u>: 2 or 3 people could see the <u>computer screen</u> at the same time!

In a group residence: many people could view on a projection screen.

Care givers will want to become familiar with this CD before using it with their loved ones, or clients.

There are many sections in this program on toys & play.

You would NOT want to do them all at once.

Pick and choose areas which might interest your clients.



Home care giver and clients



Single friends

Groups with shared concerns

Moms and daughters



People recovering from strokes



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Committed partners or couples



Teachers and children

Goals & Objectives

- We will look at several examples of art based on a theme.
- We will look for details in the art. (Objective review)
- We will describe the way the art image makes us feel. (Interpretation)
- We will discover a theme in the work.
- We will encourage recall through memory activities. (Related to personal history)
- We will share our thoughts and observations with others.
- We will talk and have conversations to the best of our capabilities.
- We will think about related rhymes, games, and music based on the theme.
- We will be practicing story telling through sensory stimulus.
- We will be inclusive of other cultures and ethnic groups, as themes will relate to all human beings.
- We will share some social time with each other.
- We will be introduced to a hands-on art activity.
- We will be encouraged to create (to the best of our ability) with materials which should be easily obtainable.

The following, slides are shown to you as 2 printed images of 7 different ART MASTERWORKS:

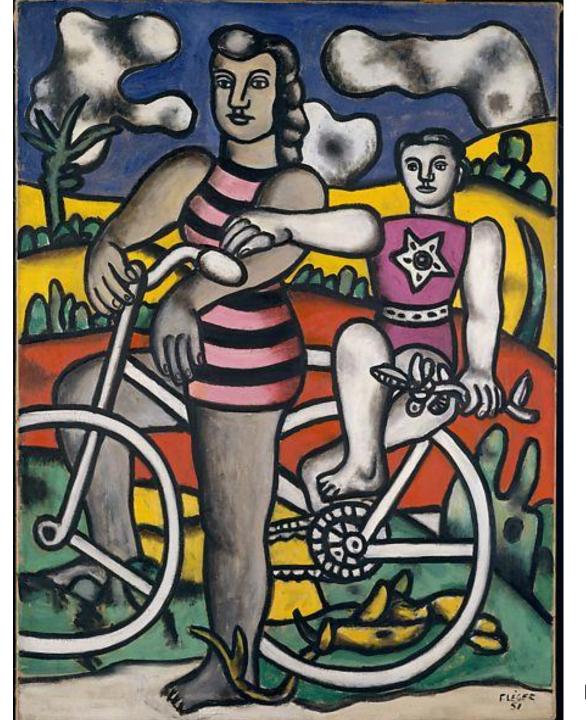
- 1. You will look at the first image carefully. Look for all kinds of details, things you NOTICE.
- 2. Then go to the second image of the same masterwork, but you will have some **questions** to help you NOTICE MORE.
- You may like some subjects of paintings more than others.
 You pick and choose which ones to spend the most time.
 Maybe the questions will help you like the art work more than at first glance.

So it is up to you....

Maybe you could do one a day for a week!

This method of looking is called **DESCRIPTIVE REVIEW**...it is explained in the next slide if you want to learn more.

It helps people SLOW DOWN and really LOOK.



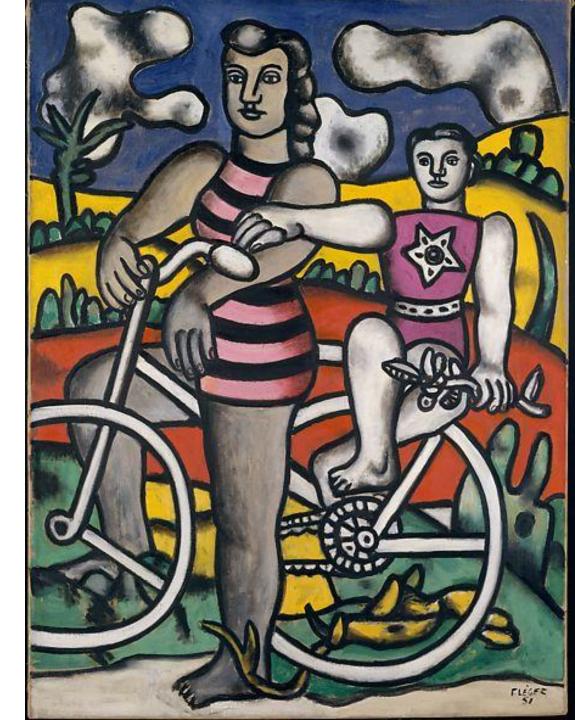
Fernand Leger

- Describe the people you see.
- What objects do you see in the picture?
- What do you notice about the colors the artist used?
- What actions are taking place in the image?
- Can you describe the location or scenery?

INTERPRETATING:

- How do you think the people know each other?
- What can you tell about the climate or the weather?
- What do you think the conversation in this picture would be?
- Why do you think these people are in this location?
- Describe the season and weather; why are these people here?

What kinds of things are being grown in this landscape?
Where do you think these figures have been, or are going?
Why do you think the figures are resting?
How are the people riding?
How do the people feel?
What title would you give this image?







What sounds do you think we would hear if we were in the picture? How do you think the artist knew these people? What do you think their mother told them before they left the house to play?

From where did these figures get their boats?

OBSERVING

- Describe the people you see.
- Describe the landscape?
- What objects do you see?
- What are the people wearing?
- What is important to the figures?
- Why did the artist arrange the picture like this?

INTERPRETATING:

- What do you think is the relationship of the figures?
- How does the artist suggest the weather and time of day.?
- What kind of conversation would these people be having?
- How do you think the figures found this location?
- What are the figures thinking about?
- What actions do you think will happen next?



John Singer Sargent

- Describe the people you see.
- Describe the rooms they occupy?
- What objects do you see in the background?
- How are the figures alike?
- How are the figures different?
- From where did the artist bring light?
- What is the arrangement of the figures?

INTERPRETATING:

- What do you think is the relationship of the figures?
- From what kind of family do they come?
- What do you think the figures are talking about?
- Who do you think the figures are looking at?

Who else might be important people to these figures?

What do you think the girl on the rug is doing? Who might want to play with these girls? What might they play?

John Singer Sargent





August Renior



- Describe the figure.
- Describe the objects you see?
- How did the artist use color?
- Describe the little figures?
- What action is taking place?

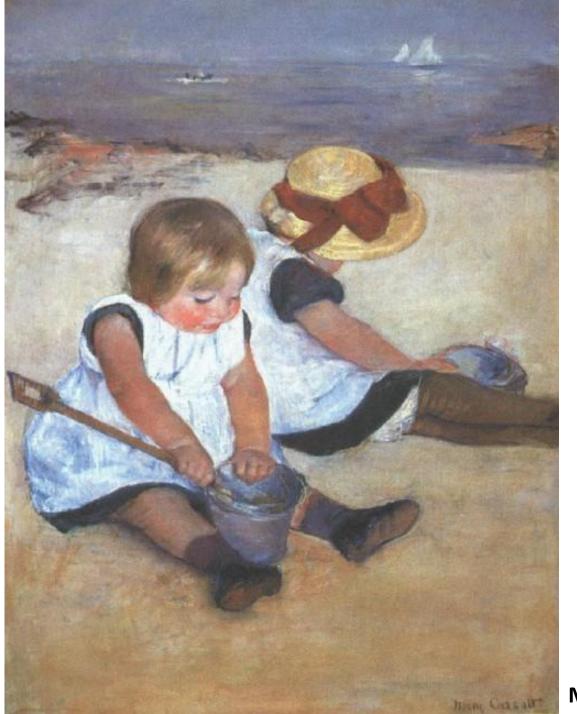
INTERPRETATING:

- Who do you think owns the figures?
- How do you think the child got the figures?
- What might the child be thinking?
- Where do you think the child is playing?
- What do the toys represent?
- What actions do you think are happening with the figures?

Who might like to play with these toys? How do boys and girls use them differently? What other toys do you think:

- * belong to girls
- * belong to boys? Why?

August Renior



Mary Cassatt

- Describe the figures.
- Describe the weather and season.
- What actions are taking place?
- What sounds might you hear?
- What might the figures be touching?

INTERPRETATING:

- What might the relationship of these people be?
- What might the child be thinking?
- What do you think the figures are making with their tools?
- Who do you think is watching this scene?
- What will the children do next as they play?
- Why are they wearing the clothes they have on?
- Where do you think the artist saw this scene?

What title do you think this painting has?
How would the children be safe?
What do you think the adults are doing while the children play?
When would the children visit the beach?





George Tooker



- Describe what is happening.
- Describe the figures.
- What is the action in the image?
- Describe the location.
- What do you notice about the colors?

INTERPRETATING:

- What might the relationship of these people be?
- What is holding the attention of the figures?
- What time of day is it? Season?
- Who do you think is watching this scene?
- Why are the children playing like this?
- Where do you think the artist saw this scene?

When do children play with "light?"
How would the children be safe?
What do you think the adults are doing while the children play with light?
Guess what might happen after the lights are hung?

George Tooker



Dwayne Hanson

- Describe the figure.
- How does this art piece look different than a painting.
- What objects are important in the sculpture?
- Who do you think the artist has used for a model?
- Why are these clothes important?

INTERPRETATING:

- What is of interest to this child?
- What might the child be thinking?
- What might worry the child?
- Who do you think gave the child these toys?
- Where might the child be going?
- Why is the child wearing the clothes they have on?
- How do you think the artist got the child to stand still?

Read the child's T-shirt. What do you learn about the child? When would a child this age enjoy these toys? What do you think the adults are doing when the child joins a team?

Who do you think taught the child how to use the toys/equipment?

Dwayne Hanson



In this section, you will read some examples of stories about toys.

Then let's look at some toys.

Do they make you think of stories from your childhood?

Tell your story to your friend.

Examples of: Stories About Toys or Play

- When younger we used to play on the wooden stairsteps in our farmhouse. It was a large staircase and at the bottom it made a turn. We got Slinky toys for Christmas. We would race them down the stairsteps from the top. You could not win the race unless the Slinky went down all of the steps and turned the corner, ending on the dining room floor below.
- I remember asking my mother to buy cereal boxes with toys inside. I would dump the whole box of cereal out into a bowl just to find the toy. Then I put the cereal back in the box. I remember finding a little plastic submarine. I put baking soda inside of it, filled the sink with water, and then put the submarine in the sink. The baking soda made the submarine sink under the water and float!
- My favorite doll was named Sally. She had yellow hair. Before Christmas she would "take a trip" my mother told me. For a few days she would be out of sight. At Christmas she would return under the tree with new doll clothes my grandmother was making secretly. Sometimes she came with a note from Mrs. Claus explaining that Sally had visited the toy shop at the North Pole.
- My brother spent a lot of time building toys in the old shed. He used Dad's tools. He made us a lot of rubber band "guns" with scrap wood and a clamp clothespin. We stretched the rubber band and released it with the spring of the cloths pin.
- The first bone I ever broke was my left wrist. On the farm the sidewalk was short and uneven. My roller skates hooked to my shoe with clamps which were tightened with a metal key I wore around my neck. I put rubber fruit jar, canning rings around the toes. It didn't help much. They came loose, and I stood with my skate on the cement step to tighten them. My other skate went out from under me. I lost my balance and landed on my wrist. I broke it.

Now it is your turn:

What was your favorite toy? Why? Who gave it to you?

Did you sleep with a toy at night? What happened to it?

Did you have a toy that made a sound? What did it sound like? What did you do to make the sound?





















Toys From Other Cultures

Can you name the toys? Have you ever visited these cultures?







Australia



Africa





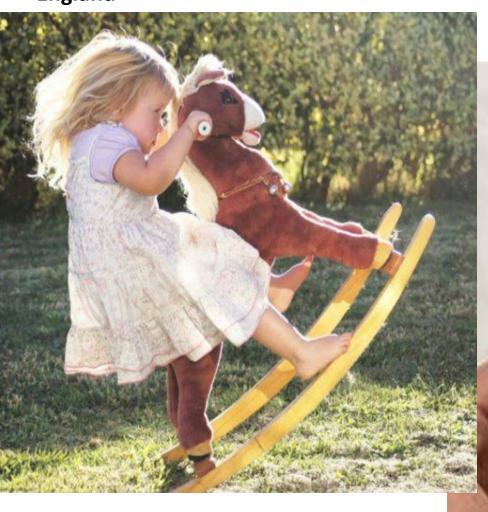
Sami

India



Czech Republic

England







Germany





Egypt

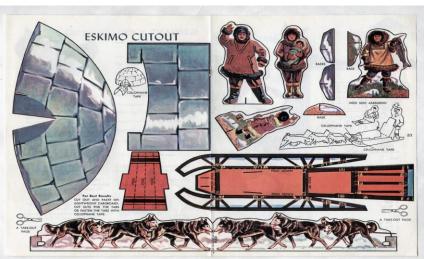
Native American



China

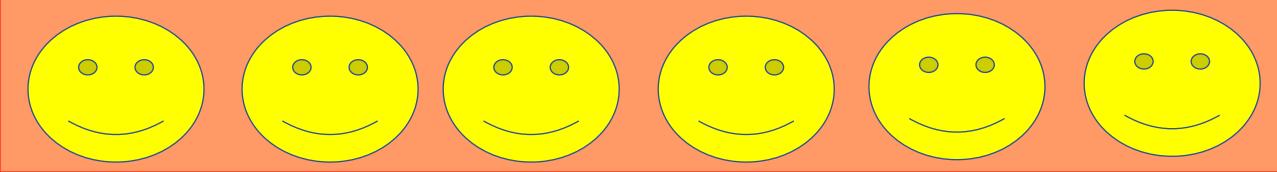


Eskimo



1 2 3

Tag, You're it! Come play with me!





Toys for Creating







What can you do with these toys?

Which ones can "make a mess?"

Do you know anyone who used to play with these toys?





What kind of toys are these?

What does this do?



What age child would play with this?

From what is it made?

Toy Soldiers for Generation

What do you think the children are playing with these figures?

Some children like to play with <u>little figures</u>.



These figures are make-believe from outer space.

Sometimes they borrow their costumes. Which fall holiday would they need a costume?

Did you ever see a movie about these figures?



What actions do these toys do?

Which one ROLLS?

Which one can you STRETCH out of shape?

Which one do you wind to make it MOVE?







Which set would you give a younger child?

Which tool might cut the leg of a wooden chair?

Who might get angry if a child did that?

Which tool box would lock the tools inside?

Tools!





Rhyme:

Little "stinkers" like to play with this toy.

That makes them little ____ !

Toys for Building!





More Toys for Building!

From what are these toy parts made?

How do children put all these parts together?

What kinds of things could a child make?





Some More Toys for Building!

Can you name these building toys?

Which one is named after a President?

Which one is made only from plastic?





Which toy has TINY Which one has BIGGER parts? Parts?

Still More Toys for Building!

Which toy is like a vegetable? Which vegetable is it?

One toy has to be plugged in for electricity. Do you know which one?

Toys for Play about Careers



What are children thinking about when they play with these toys?



Do any of these toys make sounds?



Dolls of All Kinds



What do you call a doll's hat?

What is this doll holding?

What is next to her?











own recognizable

Do you know their names?

names.

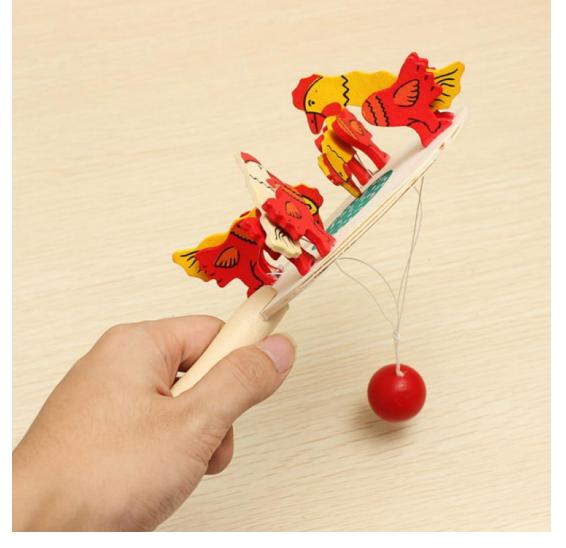
Folk Toys

Do you know from what plant is this doll made?



Here are some toys that older children might use.

To keep safe, which ones better be used outside?





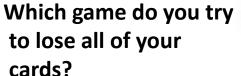
Can you guess what happens with this toy when the ball on the string rotates?



Games to Play with Friends

Who would you invite to your house to play a game?

Who do you move when playing Twister?













Toys for Children to Practice

Which dishes are glass, and which are tin?

Which dishes are for cooking during play?

Which dishes would look fancy at a tea party?





What color is the car that "father drove home?"

Pretend there are others in the family inside:

Who would be in the family?

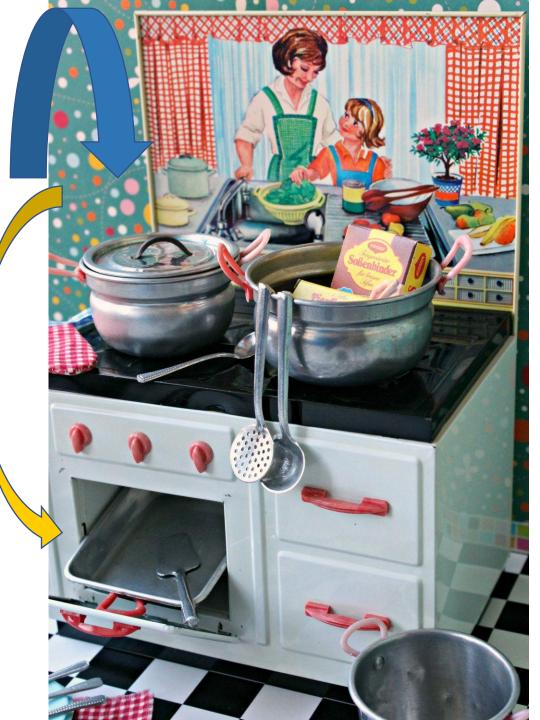
Pretending to Cook

What kinds of food would you pretend to cook on the stove with pots?

What kind of food would you bake on the tray?

What can be cooked in an Easy-Bake Oven?





Let's Make Some Music...or is it Noise?





Which picture sounds like a whistle?

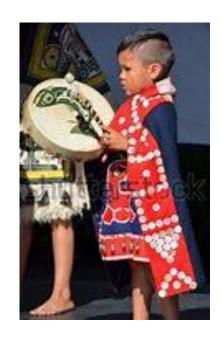
Which instrument sounds like metal jingling?

Which instrument might sound like a doorbell chime?









All Children Love Drums

Which children are beating with sticks?

Who is making sounds with their hands?

Can you find the child using a kitchen spoon?







Hear the sound, Touch the color, Play

another song?

Toys That Make Noise!

What happens

when a toddler

pushes this?

What sound

happens?



Let's Go Outside to Play!

What does the weather look like today?

Who is outside playing with the children?

What are the children doing?





How does the child warn people who are walking on the sidewalk?

What might this child want to do when they grow up?



The name of this fast toy, is the same as it's front tire!

Place this in the lawn.

Watch the wind move which part of the toy?









Spinning Toys

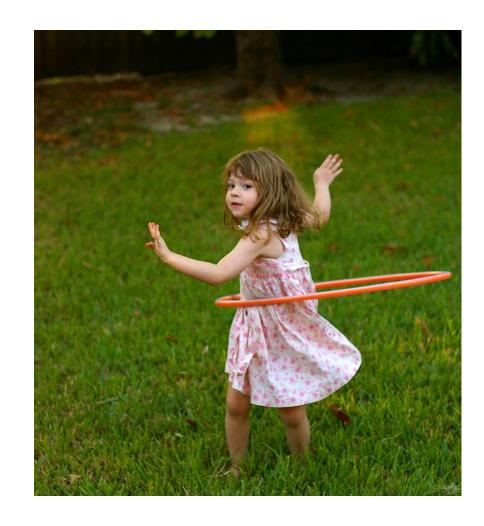
Which girl is not wearing any shoes?

Which girl has pigtails in her hair?



What time of day is it in each picture?

Who should go inside because it is time for bed?





Playing at Night

What time of day is it?

Which boy is wearing a baseball cap?

Who do you think is watching the boys play?

Can you guess what season it is?

What are the boys catching?

The boy got a jar from his mother. What did he do to the lid?





Toys That Go

Which toys would you play with in a sandbox?

You could pretend to fly this.

You might pull a wagon with this toy.



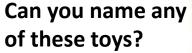






Popular Toys







Which toys would stretch?

Which toys made sounds?

Which toy could move down stairsteps?





First Toys for Toddlers

Which toys are for pushing?

Which are for pulling?

Which are for cuddling?



Where did the shape go?







When would a child need toys like these?

How do you fasten these on your feet?

What did children tie on the front of the white skates?

Toys for Children On the Move!







Toys That Move...

Can you name these toys?

How does a child make them move?

Which one spins? Rocks? Or chugs along?



Just For Fun Toys!

Sometimes children go on a long trip with their parents, maybe to Disneyland!
Which toy would you bring home from Disneyland? Do you know the dogs name?

Do you know what the dog does when you press the bottom of the toy?

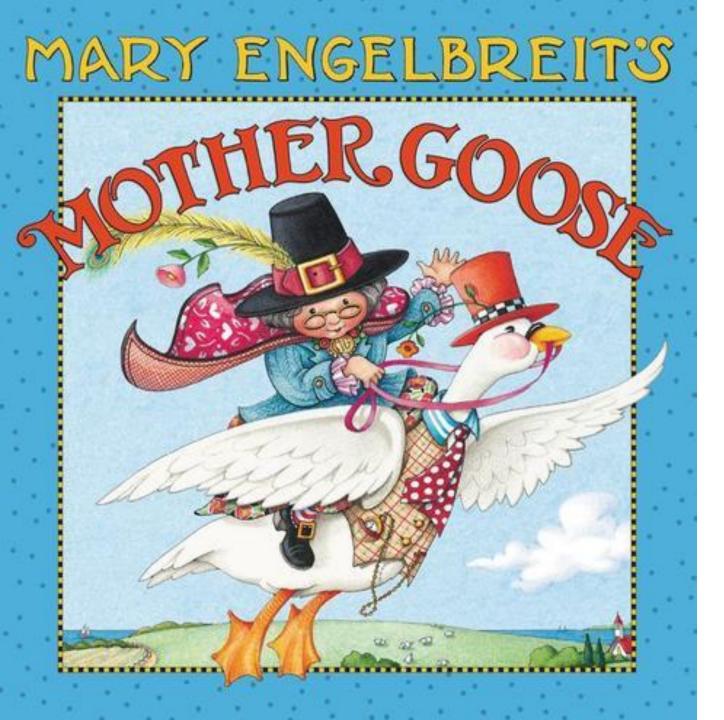
This silly toy has colored water in it.
When the weather changes, do you know what it does?

What animal does it look like? Does the green shape in back give you a clue?



Toys Are Everywhere!





Books Are Teaching Toys

Do you remember learning Mother Goose Rhymes?

Can you remember one about:

the cow and the moon

a cat and a fiddle

an old lady and shoe

a fall from a wall

to fetch a pail of water

Learning at Preschool

Children play in preschool. Then they learn to clean up their toys and care for them.

Here are two songs from preschool.

They are sung to tunes you may know.

Try them out! Can you sing along?

We're Putting Our Toys Away

(Tune: The Farmer in the Dell)

We're putting our toys away,
We hope it won't take all day,
To have more fun,
We'll get it all done,
We're putting our toys away,



Tidy up (Tune: Jingle Bells)

Tidy up, tidy up, put the toys away,
Tidy up, tidy up we're finished for today.
Tidy up, tidy up, put the toys away.
For we'll get them out again the next time that we play.

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From the Movie "Big"

BELOW:

In the movie Tom Hanks and Gene Hackman dance a tune on a toy that is a floor piano. It is fun to watch. You see them do that if you get on the internet. Go to YouTube & search for:

Tom Hanks Piano Dance BIG

ABOVE:

This is a famous toy store in New York City.

The people opening the doors for customers are in costume.

What character are they trying to represent?

How are they acting like real soldiers?



Do recognize the toys on the right?

Can you name the movie in which they were the stars?



Below are two figure toys from a Christmas Ballet. Do you know what the name of the toys are?



On the left, the stuffed toys are doing something together in the woods.

There is a song about it. Do you know it?



Tell each other about your life.

What toy was special to you? Why?

What did you do with the toy you remember?

That childhood toy you used to carry around with you 24/7.

LELSOTRUE CON-USERS-ZUSTWICTHERGOIL

Let's do something together!



MAKE A SIMPLE TOY....

STEP ONE:

You will want to find a sheet of colored paper.

8 ½ x 11 works

It might be:

colored computer paper colored construction paper a brown grocery bag old wallpaper or scrapbooking paper





STEP TWO:

See if you can find a piece of:

bubble wrap, any color Or some other foam wrap

It should be a little bigger than your paper sheet dimensions.

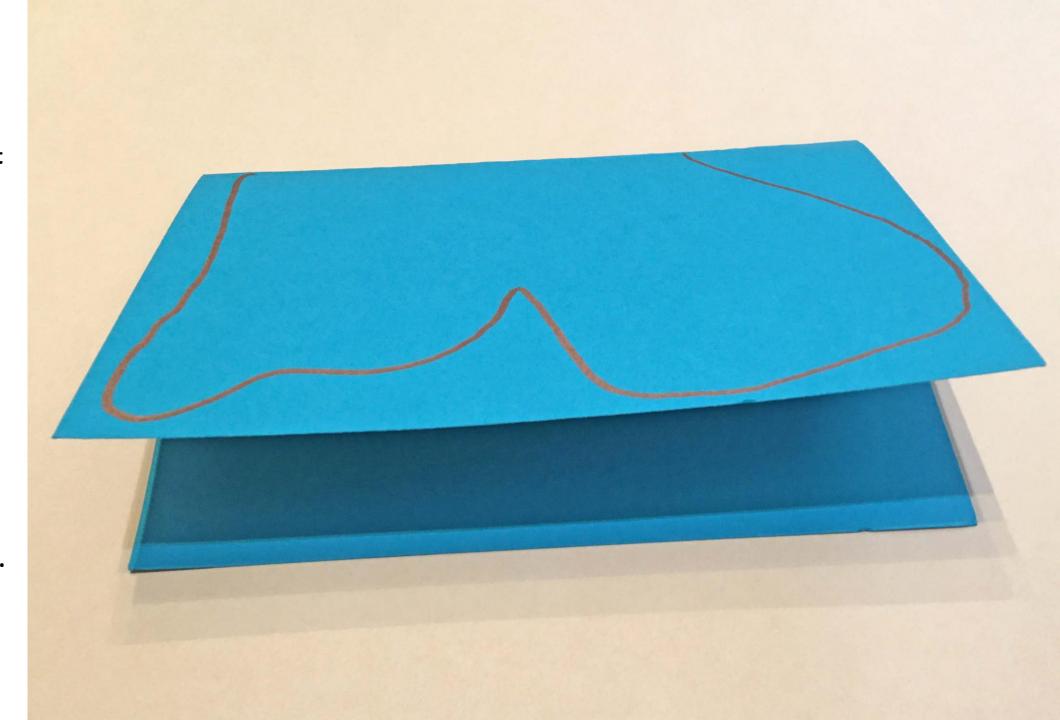
STEP THREE:

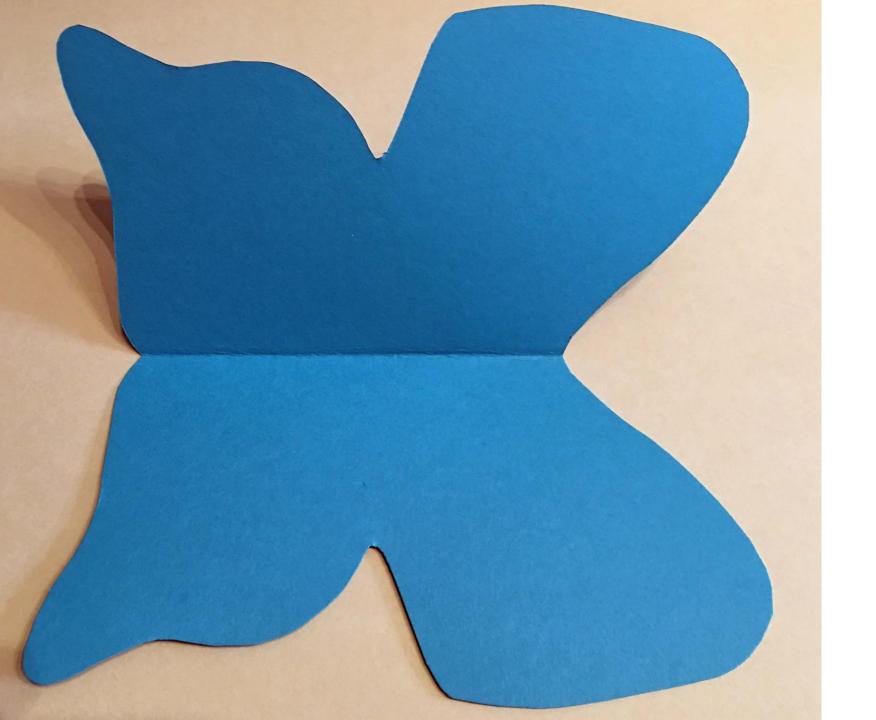
Using the shortest side of your paper, fold it in half.

Now, starting at the top of the fold, drawing to the bottom:

Draw one wing of a butterfly.

Be sure to use most of the space. Draw out close to the edges.





STEP FOUR:

Keep the paper folded.

Use a scissors and cut on the line.

You will be cutting out both sides in one action.

HINT:

This is just like when you were a child and folded and cut out valentines from one half.

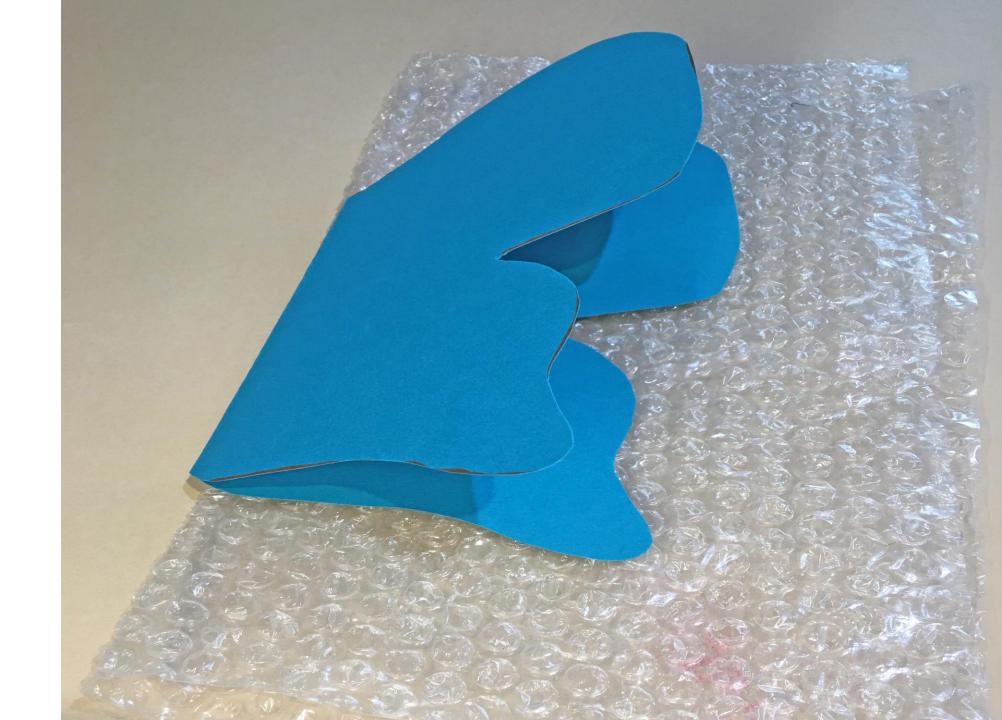
Unfold your butterfly shape

STEP FOUR:

Just like you first folded your colored paper in half...

Fold your bubble wrap in half.

Put the FOLDED side of the butterfly on the FOLDED side of the bubble wrap.





STEP FIVE:

Pick the paper and bubble wrap up as One.

If they are hard to hold without slipping you can clamp them together with a kitchen clamp, or clamp clothespin.

Or

Put the bubble wrap inside of the butterfly when the plastic is still folded.

Now cut the bubble wrap a bit larger than the colored piece of paper. This edge is <u>about</u> ½ in. bigger.

Unfold the bubble wrap butterfly.

STEP SIX:

Now you will want to get some colors of paint.

You don't need many, here are three.

If you put them on a paper plate it is easy to clean up.

These are acrylics. You may get them at a fabric or hobby store.

Or

You might have some cans of old wall paint to use up.





STEP SEVEN:

Now you will want to put some colors on the bubble wrap butterfly.

Start in the middle for the center of the body.

Use a small paint brush.

Or it is easy if you put the paint in the design using q-tips.

Only paint the bubbles.

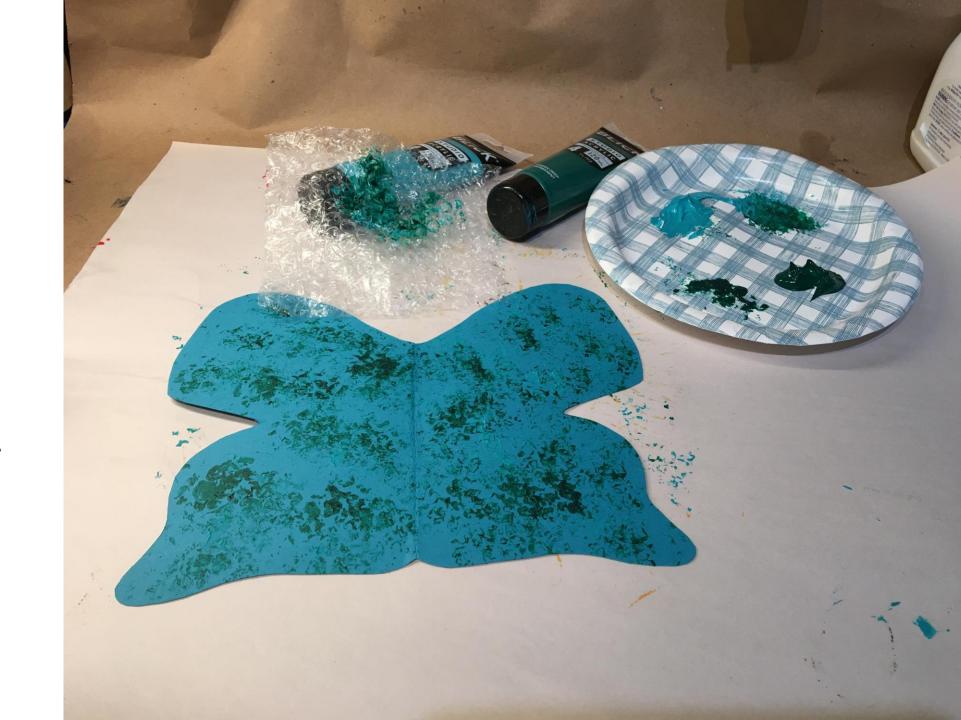
STEP EIGHT:

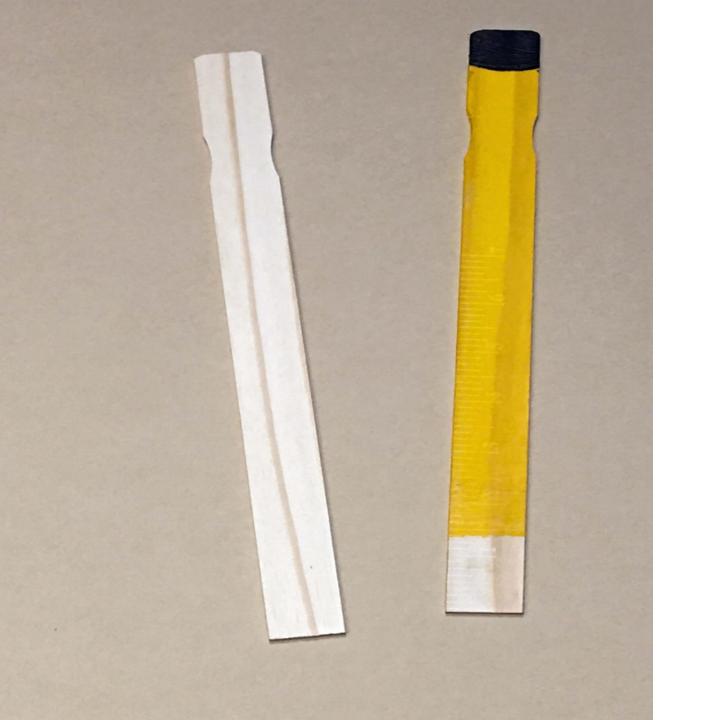
Place your butterfly down in the same direction you placed the bubble side.

This one has the large rounded wing shape on top.

You can use new paint colors, or the same, as you wish. Here are new colors.

Use some of the scrap bubble wrap. Crush it up, tap it in the paint lightly, and print an overall design on the paper cut out.





STEP NINE:

These sticks are simple paint sticks from a paint department at a hardware store.

This will make the body of the butterfly.

Paint one end a color for the head.

Paint almost all of the stick for the body, any color.

Do not paint the last 2 inches of the stick. That is where you hold the toy.

You can't see it, but the back is painted the same as the front.

STEP TEN:

When the stick is dry, you will glue it right down the crease line of the colored paper.

Be sure to glue it tightly.

Then glue the bubble wrap butterfly on top of the stick, painted side up.

Glue well, and tightly.

When dry, flip the butterfly over and crease the paper right next to the edge of the stick.

That will help the toy work better.





STEP ELEVEN:

Here is the finished toy butterfly.

See how the hand holds the unpainted area?

You can add more decorations if you wish.

Buttons can become eyes.

Painted q-tips can become antenna.

STEP TWELVE:

When you play with the butterfly, you move it up and down.

The separate wings will flutter individually.

As you play with it more and more the wings will loosen up. Or crease them along the stick edge.

You might use the butterfly like a stick puppet. It could be in a puppet show about butterflies, spring, or flower gardens.





I hope you found some of these images, prompts, and activities helpful in stimulating long term memory.

I hope it was easy to divide the program up into segments, so you were not overwhelmed and were able to revisit sections.

More than anything, I want you to feel supported as you move through this long journey.

Joyful moments are still ahead of you!

Thank you for trying this out. It must be frustrating for your loved one to feel puzzled. I would be grateful for any comments. Contact me at: mycellarstudio@gmail.com

Paula Benfer

Dear friends,
Please consider this a personal invitation to attend ART BRIGHT with us when health concerns are lifted. Watch the Union UCC website for updates. We would love to have you participate!

Or, if you prefer, contact the artist to schedule programing which may better suit your needs.

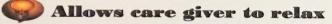
www.mycellarstudio.com
Or
Mycellarstudio@gmail.com

If this Power Point was useful to you, please share it with others dealing with aging, or perhaps, with memory loss.

Paula Benfer

ART BRIGHT





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Stimulates memories and conversations

Provides enjoyable art making at skill level

Paula Benfer

Artist & Certified Teacher
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FOUR SESSIONS OFFERED

Tuesdays 10 AM – 12 Noon

See back side of this ad for

session dates

To <u>register</u>, call or email: Union UCC at 763-441-1203

churchoffice@elkriverucc.org

The memory loss participant is accompanied by a spouse, a son or daughter, a loved one, sibling, etc. Or, they may be joined by their home healthcare provider or clinician.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesote through a grant from the Minnesote State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and

Host Location: Union Congregational UCC 1118 4th St. NW, Elk River, MN

Fully accessible and open to all!





Art Bright Site