

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## SOCIAL STUDIES

## Colonial Crafts

### Directions

Complete at least one project below.

Choose a Craft

### Braided Rug

Things you'll need:

- Nine to fifteen strips of fabric, about 1 inch wide and 3-4 feet long (more strips will make a larger rug)
- Scissors
- Strong thread and needle
- Tape or safety pin

Do the following:

1. Tie 3 of your fabric strips together in a knot right at the very end. Either tape the strips to a table, just below the knot, or pin them to sturdy fabric on a couch. The purpose of this is simply to hold them firmly in place.
2. Braid these 3 strips until you have braided all but the last two inches, and tape or pin the ends of the braid together so they don't unravel.
3. Using a backstitch, sew a new strip of fabric to each of the 3 braided strips so each strip is now twice as long as it was originally.
4. Continue braiding the fabric strips until you are within two inches of the end, and once again, sew a new strip to each of the braided strips to extend the length.

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5. When all your strips of fabric are used up and you have one very long braid, tie a knot at the very end of the braid. Now you should have a knot at each end of the braid.
6. One of the knots at either end of the braid will become the center of your rug. Choose one of the knots and coil the braid around it. Stitch the braid to the knot to hold it firmly in place.
7. Working little by little, coil and stitch the braid into the coil as you go, keeping it as flat as possible. Stitch carefully so your rug is held together firmly and will be strong.
8. When you get to the knot at the very end, stitch it down to the side of the rug that you decide will be the back. Now you can use your little rug!

## Stick Bread

Things you'll need:

- 1 cup flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 2 tsp. fat pinch salt
- Water (enough to make a workable dough)
- Peeled sticks long enough to wrap dough around and hold over an open fire

Mix the ingredients together into a dough that holds together well but is not overly wet. Mold the dough into long snakes, about two inches wide. Wind it onto a hot peeled stick that has been dusted with flour, and toast until done over the coals. Eat and enjoy!

## Baked Apples

Things you'll need:

- One apple per person
- A little brown sugar and cinnamon (you may use honey instead of sugar)
- Small amount of raisins or sliced almonds
- A little butter
- A baking pan an open fire

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Dig out the core of your apple down to about halfway from the bottom. Don't go all the way through, and don't peel your apple. Mix the brown sugar, cinnamon, raisins or almonds together and stuff into the hole you have made in the apple. Put a little butter on top. Put the apple in a small baking pan and barely cover the bottom of the pan with water. Add only enough so the pan won't burn! Bake the apple at 375° for 45 minutes or an hour. The apple is ready when it is soft but not overly mushy. Remove it very carefully with a large spoon. Allow it to cool a bit before tasting.

## Rag Doll

Things you'll need:

- Two scraps of fabric that are the same size (at least 8" x 12")
- Stuffing for the doll: cotton, newspapers, or old rags
- Scissors
- Needle and thread
- Two buttons
- Glue
- Yarn
- Newspaper

Draw the outline of the doll onto newspaper to make a "pattern" for your doll. Make sure it is big enough to allow at least half an inch all the way around for your seam. It will help if you fold the newspaper in half long-wise so that you only have to draw half of the doll. This will make the doll symmetrical. Once you have cut out the pattern, unfold the newspaper and you will have the shape of a full doll. Place the pattern on top of one of the pieces of fabric and trace and cut. Repeat for the other piece of fabric. Put the two "public" sides of the fabric facing each other and sew the pieces together leaving a gap of about two inches between the legs for stuffing. Turn the doll right side out and put the stuffing in. Sew up the opening. Glue yarn to the doll's head for hair and sew on buttons for eyes.

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# Candles

Things you'll need:

- Candle wax (paraffin wax, beeswax, and "gel wax" all work well)
- Candle wicking. Wicking works better than ordinary string.
- A wooden spoon
- Crayon pieces or bits of old candles for coloring
- A tin can to use as a double boiler
- Milk cartons or frozen juice cartons
- Coins and pencils
- Plenty of newspaper or cloth to protect your work surface from melted wax

Draw the outline of the doll onto newspaper to make a "pattern" for your doll. Make sure it is big enough to allow at least half an inch all the way around for your seam. It will help if you fold the newspaper in half long-wise so that you only have to draw half of the doll. This will make the doll symmetrical. Once you have cut out the pattern, unfold the newspaper and you will have the shape of a full doll. Place the pattern on top of one of the pieces of fabric and trace and cut. Repeat for the other piece of fabric. Put the two "public" sides of the fabric facing each other and sew the pieces together leaving a gap of about two inches between the legs for stuffing. Turn the doll right side out and put the stuffing in. Sew up the opening. Glue yarn to the doll's head for hair and sew on buttons for eyes.

**Method #1:** Heat the wax in a tin can in a pot of boiling water until the wax melts. Do not melt wax in a pan directly over a heat source, as it could get too hot and start a fire. Add bits of crayon or old candle to the melted wax until you get the color you want. Cut off the top of a milk carton. Tie one end of the wick to a penny and set it in the bottom of the milk container.

Tie the other end of the wick to a pencil and set it across the top of the milk container. Pour the melted wax into the container. When it cools, peel off the container to reveal your candle.

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**Method #2:** Melt and color the wax as described above. Dip a 10-12 inch piece of wicking into the wax and pull it out. When it cools, dip it back in. Repeat the process until the candle measures about an inch in width.

## Quill Pen

Things you'll need:

- One feather (turkey feathers work well)
- A sharp knife (make sure a parent is nearby to supervise)
- A bottle of ink

Using the knife, cut off the tip of the turkey quill to square it off. Cut a slit about half an inch up into the quill tip. Cut off the other side of the tip so that the quill forms a point. Dip the quill in ink and start writing! You don't have to press down very hard at all. Sharpen the quill with a knife as it dulls.