

# Crafts for Christmas

## Gift Boxes

### What you need:

- Star gift box template
- Thick paper or thin card
- Decorations, eg stick-on gems, sequins
- Glue
- Gold and silver marker pens

### What to do:

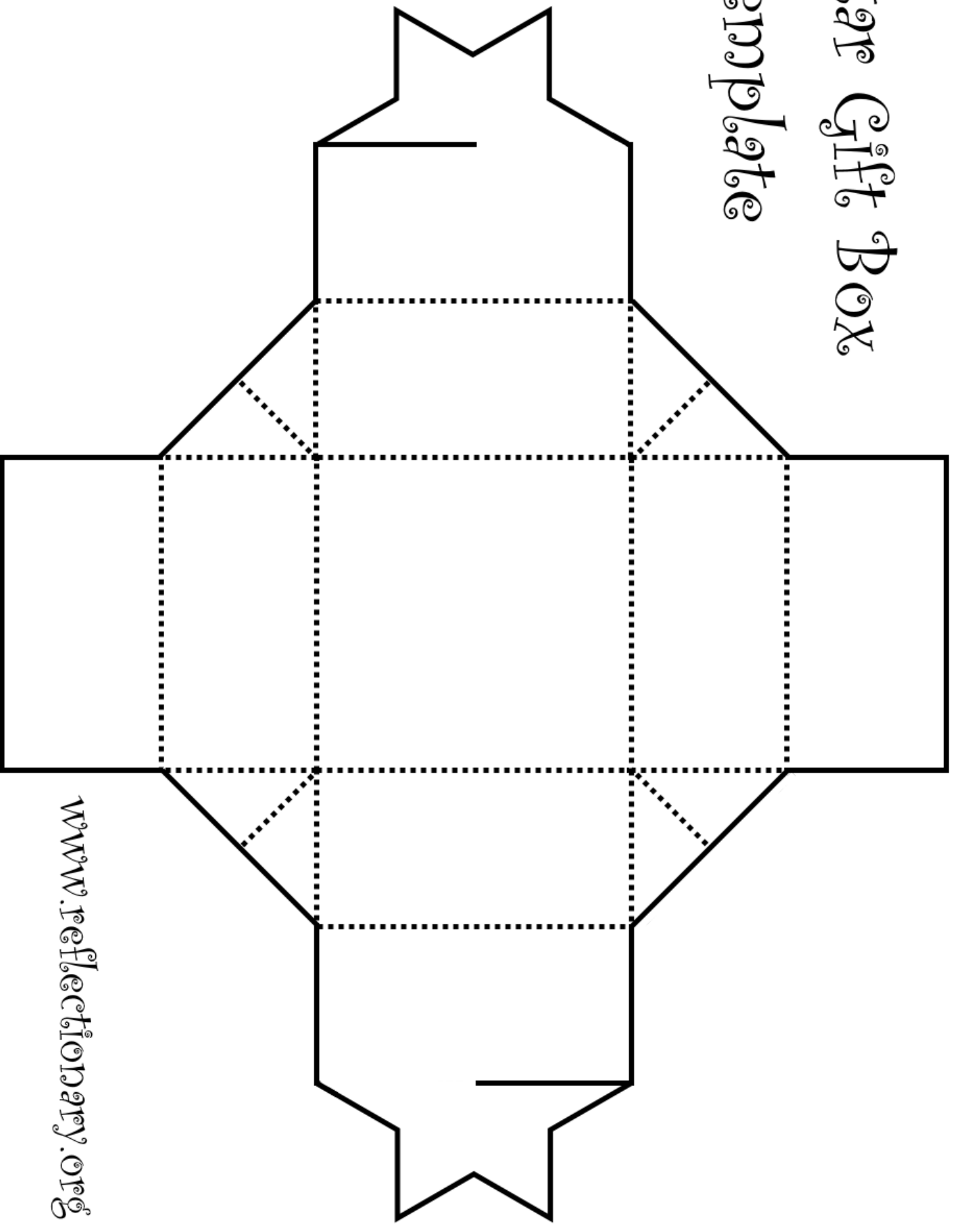
1. Print or trace the template on to card or thick paper. Cut around the solid lines, fold on the dotted lines.
2. Decorate one side of your card shape to make it look like a precious gift that the wise men might have brought. The central square will be the bottom of your box, the surrounding rectangles will be the sides and the star (in two halves) will be on the top.
3. Use gold or silver pens to write your name in the centre square on the blank side.
4. Then on each of the four arms fill something that you could give as a gift. Here are some suggestions:
  - I can ... (things you can do)
  - I am ... (things about you)
  - I have ... (things you have)
  - I will ... (things you want to do)
5. It does not matter how small or useless you think your gifts are – remember that the ‘wise’ men brought completely impractical gifts!
6. Push the triangles inwards and fold up your box, slotting the two halves of the star together.

### To talk about:

What will you do with your box of gifts?



# Star Gift Box Template



# Crafts for Christmas

## No-Glitter Reindeer Food

### What you need:

- Porridge oats, bird seed and chilli powder mix (RSPCA recommend this to stop rats eating the food)
- Cake sprinkles
- Brown paper or plastic bag
- Brown pipe cleaner
- Googly eyes
- Red pom-poms
- Glue dots

### What to do:

1. Put some sprinkles in the corner of your bag.
2. Add a few spoonsful of the mixture.
3. Twist the top to make a cone and wrap a brown pipe cleaner around the twist.
4. Bend the pipe cleaner into the shape of antlers.
5. Add eyes and a pom-pom nose with glue dots.
6. On Christmas Eve, sprinkle the food outside your front door so that Rudolph and his friends can have a yummy snack.

### To talk about:

The birdseed helps the reindeer fly. The oats keep them warm in the snow and the sprinkles make the magic. The chilli power makes Rudolph's nose glow.

What do you think is the most magical thing about Christmas?



Image credits amomsimpression.com recipe from RSPCA



# Crafts for Christmas

## Pleated Angels

### What you need:

- Thick wrapping paper
- Scissors
- Large wooden beads
- Rough twine or parcel ribbon
- Glue dots

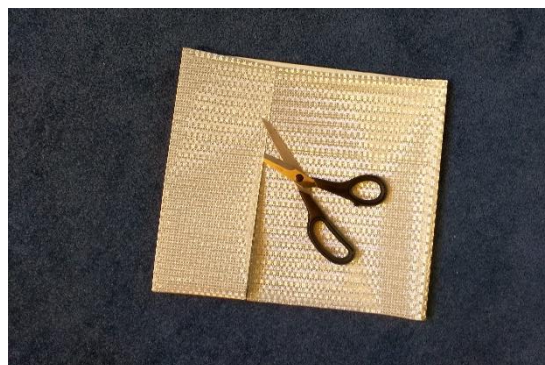
### What to do:

1. Cut a 30cm length of wrapping paper, the full width (about 70cm)
2. Fold the two short edges in so that they meet about 1/3 of the way along. It will look like a wardrobe with one big door and one small door.
3. Cut between the 'doors'. You now have two rectangles, about 12 x 30cm, and about 22 x 30cm.
4. Fold over about 1cm on a short edge and keep pleating, to and fro, all the way to the end. Do this on both rectangles.
5. Stack the two pleats in top of each other and tie them in the middle with string or ribbon.
6. Thread on a large bead for the angle's head, and tie the ends to make a hanging loop.
7. Use glue dots to hold the two sides of the body together, if needed.

### To talk about:

The angels brought 'Good News for all people.'

What would be Good News for you?





# Crafts for Christmas

## Winter Trees

### What you need:

- Pale blue paper
- White paper
- Chalks
- Brushes
- Watery black paint
- Straws
- Scissors
- Glue

### What to do:

1. Use the chalks to create a sky on your blue paper.
2. Paint a tree trunk to about half-way up and dabble some extra paint at the top of the trunk.
3. Blow the paint around to make the branches of the tree. You can add extra paint if you need more branches.
4. Cut the white paper in a wavy shape to make the snowy ground, and stick it at the lower edge of your picture, over the bottom bit of the tree trunk.
5. Use some white chalk to add snowy details to the branches (when the paint is dry).
6. You can add snowflakes and a moon as well if you like.

### To talk about:

Even cold, dark winter days can be very beautiful.

Can you think of something else that has hidden beauty?



Image credits weheartart66.blogspot.com

# Crafts for Christmas

## Star of David Suncatcher

### What you need:

- 6 lolly sticks
- Glue dots
- PVA glue + water mix
- Brushes
- Metallic thread
- Tissue paper
- Beads (optional)

### What to do:

1. Make two triangles with lolly sticks and glue dots.
2. Stick your triangles together to make a star.
3. Add a hanging loop of thread to one corner.
4. Tear strips of tissue paper and glue them all over the star.
5. Keep adding layers of tissue paper until the star is covered.
6. If you like, you can add beads to the hanging thread.
7. Hang your star in the window and see it glow in the sunlight (if you can find some!)

### To talk about:

Light shines through this suncatcher and makes it glow.

Jesus is called 'The Light of the World'. How can you let Jesus' light shine through you?

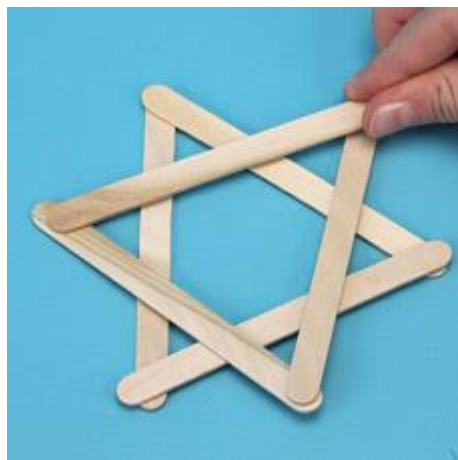


Image credits [craftprojectideas.com](http://craftprojectideas.com)

# Crafts for Christmas

## Sock Snowman

### What you need:

- A white sock
- A coloured or patterned sock
- Rice
- Scissors
- Rubber bands
- Fabric scraps (optional)
- Marker pens

### What to do:

1. Fill the white sock with rice to half-way up the foot part.
2. Tie a knot above the rice and cut off the excess sock.
3. Use a rubber band to make the neck.
4. Cut the coloured sock in half through the heel.
5. Wind a rubber band around the leg part, about half-way along, then snip the cut end to make a tassel on the hat.
6. Make a scarf from a fabric scrap or cut a strip from the foot section of your coloured sock. Snip fringes in the ends.
7. Use the marker pens to add eyes and buttons to your snowman.

### To talk about:

'Do you wanna build a snowman?'

Who would you like to build a snowman with?





# Crafts for Christmas

## Baby Jesus Tree Decoration

### What you need:

- Lolly sticks cut in half
- Felt tips
- Fabric squares, about 10cm
- Straw or hay
- Glue dots

### What to do:

1. Draw a face on the curved end of the lolly stick.
2. Put the head at one point of the fabric and wrap the baby up.
3. Secure the fabric with glue dots.
4. Stick a hanging loop of thread on the back with a glue dot.
5. Add more glue dots to the back and stick on some straw or hay.
6. You can hang your baby Jesus ornament on the tree or place him by your bed.

### To talk about:

Imagine that Mary and Joseph came knocking on your door on Christmas Eve.

Where could they stay?





# Crafts for Christmas

## Snowman bowling

### What you need:

- 6 large pop bottles
- White acrylic paint (or poster paint and PVA mix)
- Permanent markers
- Fabric scraps
- White balloons
- Rice or sand
- White sheet (optional)



### What to do:

1. Swirl white paint around each bottle and pour out the excess.
2. Add snowman details on the outside: eyes, buttons etc. Add a strip of fabric for a scarf.
3. Pour rice or sand in the bottom to keep the bottles upright.
4. Pour a little rice into a white balloon, then half inflate it and tape the knot down.
5. Stand your snowmen on the white sheet, then go bowling with your tricky snowballs!

### To talk about:

The song says, 'I get knocked down, but I get up again. You're never gonna keep me down.'

What helps you get up again?



Image credits [todaysparent.com](http://todaysparent.com) [examiner.com](http://examiner.com)

# Crafts for Christmas

## Yarn Fluff Stained Glass

### What you need:

- An outline picture
- Yarn of various colours, cut up finely
- PVA glue
- Spreaders

### What to do:

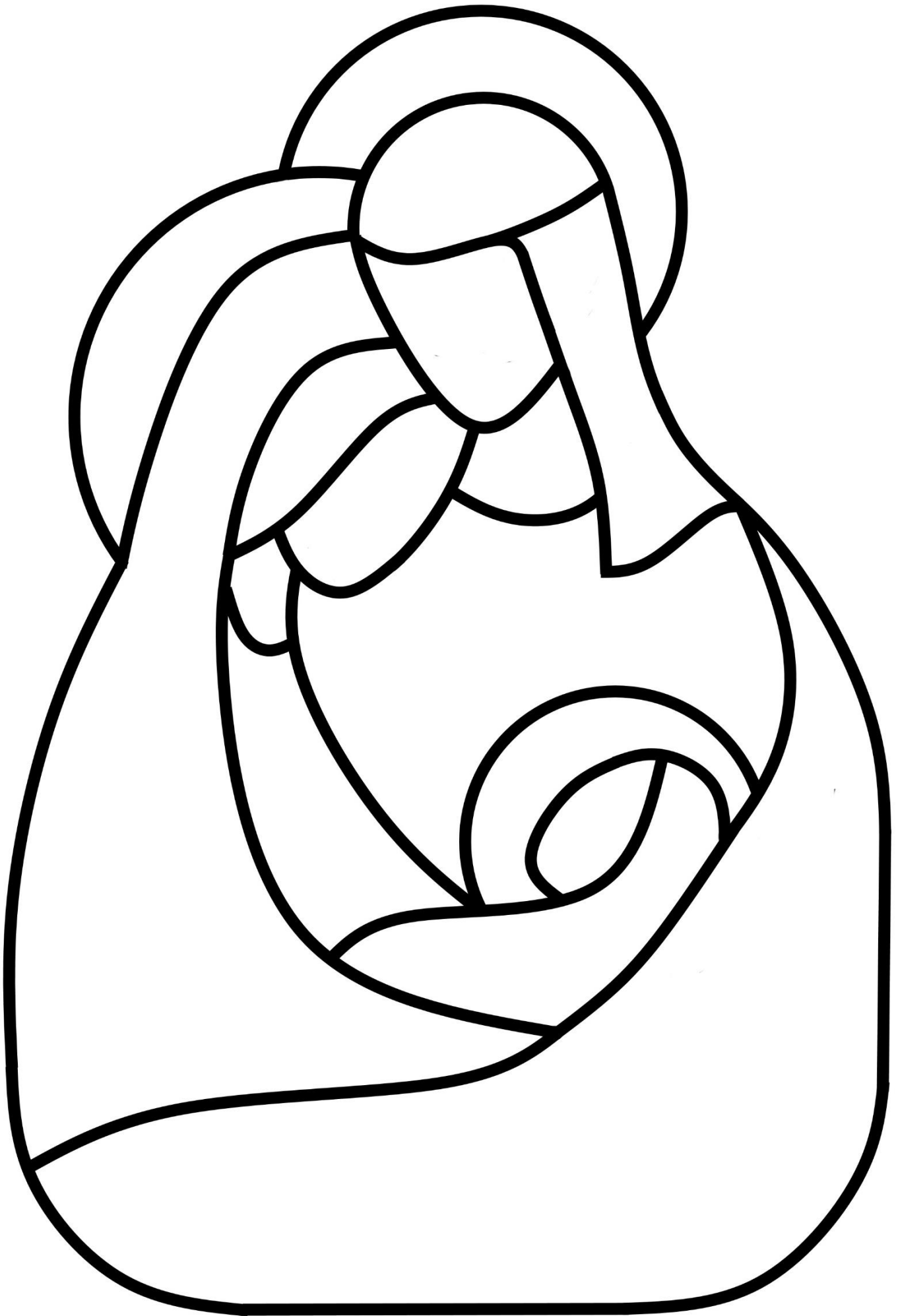
1. Spread glue over an area of the picture and fill with yarn fluff.
2. Keep doing that.

### To talk about:

Imagine adding yourself to this picture. Where would you be? What would you be doing?







# Crafts for Christmas

## Christmas Tree Bookmarks

### What you need:

- Green paper or thin card
- Brown paper or thin card
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Gold or silver star stickers
- Coloured dot stickers

### What to do:

1. If you are using paper, fold it in half lengthways and glue the two sides together.
2. If you are using card, fold it in half lengthways and cut down the fold.
3. You will have a long strip of green
4. Fold one corner down to meet the long edge.
5. Fold the rest of the strip over so that it overlaps, and glue it in place.
6. Cut the spare paper off with a wavy line to make the bottom of your tree.
7. Cut snips down the sides for branches.
8. Add a brown rectangle for the trunk and decorate with a star and coloured dots.
9. Now you have a beautiful bookmark!

### To talk about:

What's the best present you have ever given?





# Crafts for Christmas

## Snowball Bookmark

### What you need:

- White yarn
- Fork
- Scissors
- Two pencils

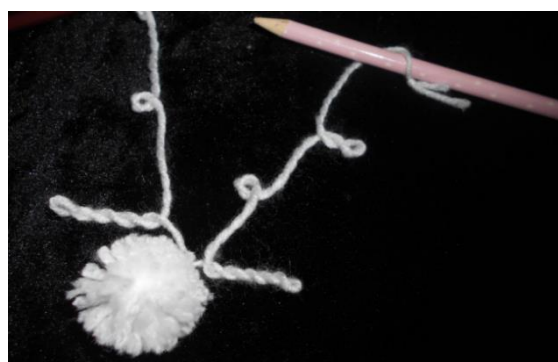
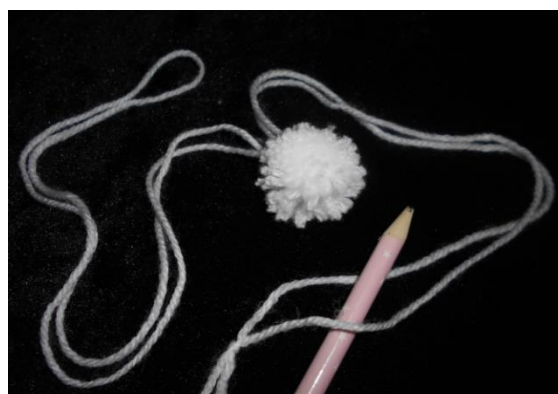
### What to do:

1. Wind the white yarn around the prongs of the fork about 50 times, then cut off the yarn.
2. Cut a 2m length of yarn and fold it in half.
3. Thread this double yarn between the middle prongs of the fork and tie it tightly around the bunched yarn, leaving four long ends.
4. Snip the bunched yarn down the edges of the fork and a tiny pom-pom will emerge!
5. Trim the pom-pom to neaten it up, but be careful to leave the long ends.
6. Tie the two loose ends together, so that you have two long loops, and put each loop over a pencil.
7. Pull the pencils apart and twist the long ends until they are very tightly wound. The yarn should try to curl back on itself when you relax the tension.
8. Keeping the yarn taut, hold on to the pom-pom while you bring the pencils together. Then slowly allow the pom-pom to spin, and watch as the twisted yarns combine to make a double-strand rope. Magic!
9. Take out the pencils and tie a knot in the end of the rope, then fray the ends to make a tassel.

### To talk about:

A bookmark keeps our place in a story.

Where are you in the story of your life?



# Crafts for Christmas

## Shaving Foam Treasure Hunt

### What you need:

- Washing up bowls or large tub
- Decorations telling the Christmas story, eg angels, stars, presents
- Shaving foam
- Laminated sheet showing the items hidden (optional)
- Bowls of warm water for clean-up

### What to do:

1. Fill the bowls or tub with shaving foam.
2. Hide the Christmas decorations in the foam.
3. Children have to find the different decorations, matching the ones on the sheet (if used).

### To talk about:

Which part of the Christmas story do you think is the most important?

I know this is pool noodles, it's the nearest I could find. OK?



Image credits [simpleeverydaymom.com](http://simpleeverydaymom.com)



# Crafts for Christmas

## Rudolph Cupcakes

### What you need:

- Plain or chocolate cupcakes
- Chocolate buttercream icing
- Spoons for spreading
- Milk chocolate buttons
- White chocolate buttons
- Pretzels
- Red Smarties or Skittles

### What to do:

1. Cover to top of your cupcake with brown icing.
2. Stick on two white chocolate buttons for eyes and add dots of icing.
3. Stick on a milk chocolate button and add a red nose with a dot of icing
4. Add pretzel antlers and your Rudolph cupcake is finished.

### To talk about:

Rudolph's bright red nose is his superpower. What is your superpower?



Image credits flora.com

# Crafts for Christmas

## Christmas Tree Lamps

### What you need:

- Squares of thick wrapping paper or thick green paper (about 20cm)
- Scissors
- Tea light

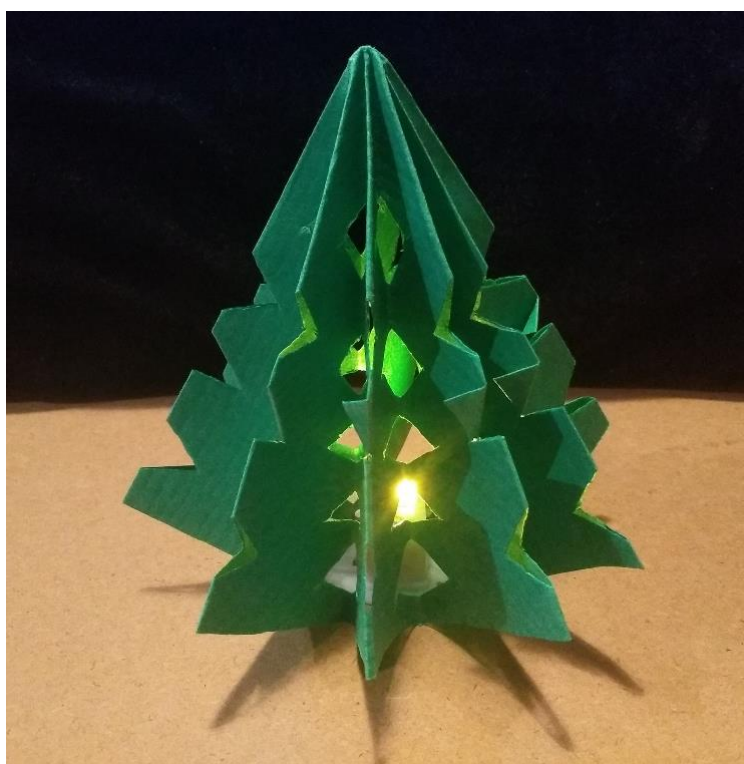
### What to do:

1. Fold your square in half and in half again to make a small square. Note which corner has both the folds. This will be the top of your tree.
2. Fold in half to make a triangle, and in half again. Make sure that all the folds point to the corner at the top of the tree.
3. There will be a section at the edge that is not as thick as the rest. Cut this section off.
4. Cut a 1cm snip half-way down one of the folded edges. This will make the tree shape later.
5. Now get busy with snipping shapes from the folded edges.
6. Unfold your paper. Some of the folds go up and some go down. We need them to go alternately up, down, up, down.
7. Find one of your small snips. Make this fold go up, and make a little triangle fold at the snip to make it stay in place.
8. Make the next fold go down, then the next will have a snip and go up.
9. Keep going all the way around, making little triangle folds at the snips to hold everything in place.
10. Stand your tree over the tea light and enjoy the magic! Why not make a whole forest of trees?

### To talk about:

This tree has a light in it, and Jesus is sometimes called 'The Light of the World'.

How is Jesus the light of the world?



# Crafts for Christmas

## Paper Icicles

### What you need:

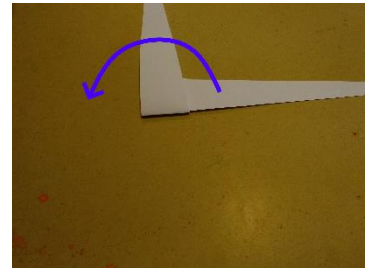
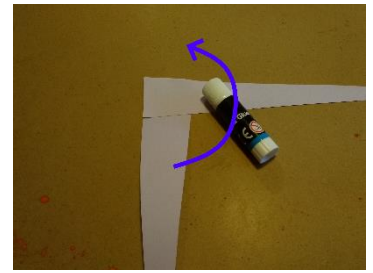
- Pale blue or white paper
- Glitter / sand / sequins
- Silver cord
- Sticky tape
- Glue stick

### What to do:

1. Cut two long thin triangles from your paper, about 4cm wide at the base and 30cm long.
2. Stick the bases of the triangles together at right angles.
3. Fold the bottom triangle over where it meets the other triangle.
4. Now fold the other triangle over on top.
5. Keep on folding, folding, just keep folding, until you get to the tips.
6. You will now have a springy square. Cover it with glue on the folded side and sprinkle on glitter, sand or sequins.
7. On the other side is a big square, fold it diagonally and attach a loop of silver thread for hanging.
8. Stretch out your icicle and admire it.

### To talk about:

What makes you sparkle?





# Crafts for Christmas

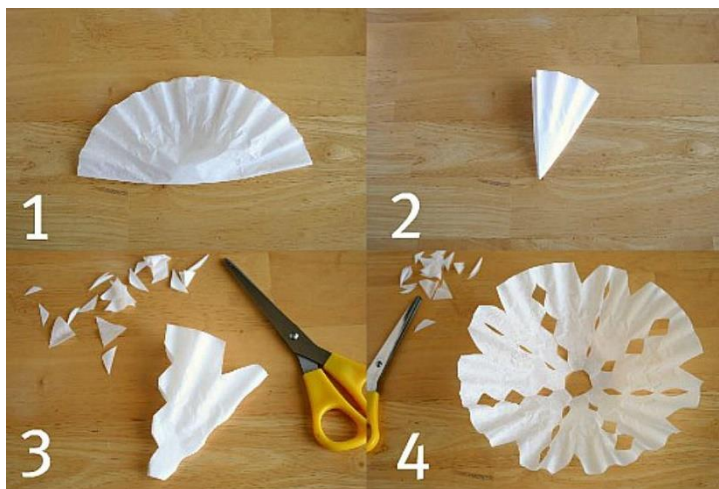
## Ink Spot Snowflakes

### What you need:

- Kitchen towel or white coffee filters
- Scissors
- Washable felt tips
- Water
- Droppers or teaspoons

### What to do:

1. Iron coffee filters beforehand so that they lie flat.
2. Fold the paper in half and half and half again to make a triangle.
3. Cut shapes from all the edges and unfold to see your snowflake.
4. Hold a washable felt tip pen on the paper for a few seconds so that lots of ink soaks in. Make several big spots of ink in different colours.
5. Drip water onto the ink spots and watch the colours run and merge.



### To talk about:

Every snowflake is different from all others. Every person is special in God's eyes. What make you special?



Image credits [www.thesprucecrafts.com](http://www.thesprucecrafts.com) [onelittleproject.com](http://onelittleproject.com)

# Crafts for Christmas

## Human Snowman

### What you need:

- ~~Victim~~ Volunteer
- Loo rolls
- Carrots
- Sunglasses
- Bobble hats
- Scarves

### What to do:

1. Choose who is going to be the snowman. (This could be the adult helper.)
2. Give the snowman a carrot to hold between their teeth.
3. Wrap your snowman in loo roll until they are completely covered.
4. Add sunglasses, scarf and bobble hat.
5. Take a photo with your snowman.
6. Stand back and watch your snowman break free!

### To talk about:

A snowman lives for only a few days. Trees can live for hundreds or thousands of years. What must those both be like?



Image credits [lindaburklin.wordpress.com/](http://lindaburklin.wordpress.com/)

# Crafts for Christmas

## Christingle

### What you need:

- Large orange
- Small candle
- Square of foil (10cm)
- Cocktail sticks (+ nail clippers, optional)
- Soft sweets or dried fruits
- Red sticky tape
- Sharp knife
- Apple corer

### What to do:

1. Cut a slice from the bottom of the orange so that it stands flat.
2. Use the apple corer to make a hole in the top of the orange.
3. If the Christingles are being assembled by young children, you may like to snip the sharp ends off the cocktail sticks with nail clippers.
4. Wrap the bottom of the candle in foil and wedge it in the hole.
5. Cut a length of red tape and stick it around the widest part of the orange.
6. Load four cocktail sticks with small sweets or fruits.
7. Stick the cocktail sticks in the orange, pointing in different directions.
8. Light the candle.



### To talk about:

Which part of the Christingle do you think is the most important?



Image credits [lucyathome.co.uk](http://lucyathome.co.uk) [www.canterbury-cathedral.org](http://www.canterbury-cathedral.org)



# Crafts for Christmas

## Fingerprint Christmas Tree Card

### What you need:

- Black card
- Pencil
- Green, red and gold paint on sponge pads (or ink pads)
- Gold and silver markers
- Glue stick

### What to do:

1. Use a pencil to draw a large triangle Christmas tree on the card.
2. Make green fingerprints to fill the triangle.
3. Add red and gold fingerprint decorations.
4. Go over the outlines in gold pen, and add a trunk and border if you like.

### To talk about:

Your fingerprints are different from everyone else's, yet God knows what they look like!  
What else does God know about you?



Image credits easypeasyandfun.com teachpreschool.org

# Crafts for Christmas

## 3D Baby Jesus Card

### What you need:

- Yellow card A4 cut into folded star shape
- Brown paper rectangles 8 x 5cm
- Orange paper strips 8 x 1cm
- White paper rectangles 8 x 8cm
- Glue stick
- Black pen
- Gold pen

### What to do:

1. Glue the brown paper to the lower part of the card for a manger.
2. Curl the orange strips and glue the middle of the strips to the manger. This makes the hay.
3. Draw a circle on one side of the white square and add two sleepy eyes.
4. Make criss-cross lines below the circle to make the wrapped cloth.
5. Roll the white paper into a tube to make baby Jesus.
6. Glue baby Jesus in the middle of the hay and decorate the star with gold pens.

### To talk about:

What do you think Jesus was like when he was a baby?



Design from [kidscraftroom.com](http://kidscraftroom.com)

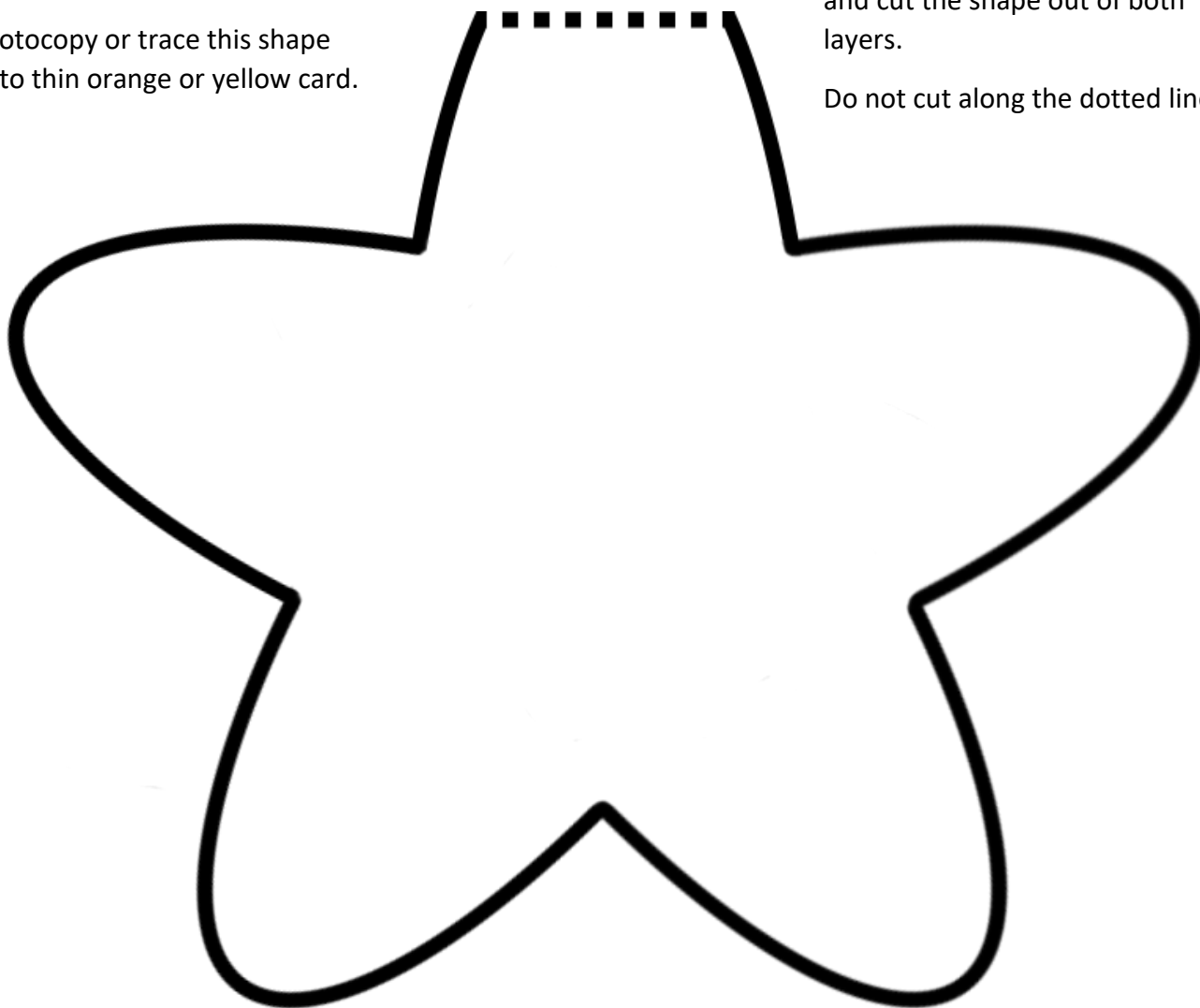
# Crafts for Christmas

## Star Card Template

Photocopy or trace this shape onto thin orange or yellow card.

Fold the sheet at the dotted line and cut the shape out of both layers.

Do not cut along the dotted line.





# Crafts for Christmas

## Watercolour Greetings Card

### What you need:

- Card blanks and envelopes
- Watercolour paper to fit the cards
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Watercolour paints, water and brushes
- Hairdryer
- Black fine liner pens / calligraphy pens
- White acrylic paint or Tippex pen
- Sticky foam pads

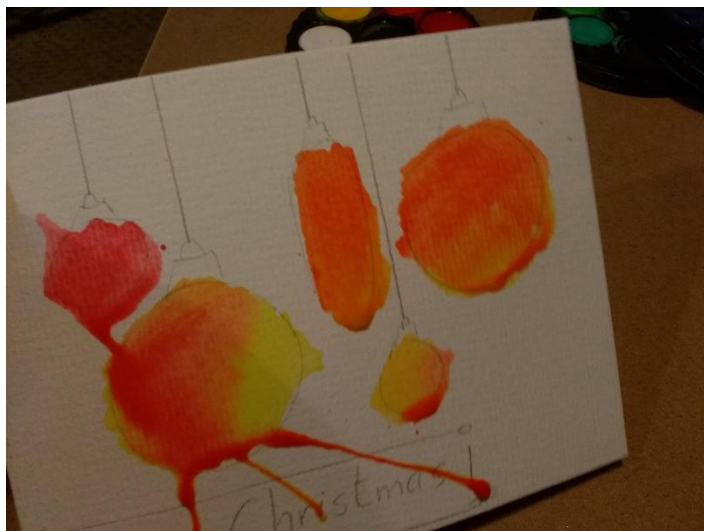
### What to do:

1. Lightly draw 3 or 5 bauble shapes on your card. Don't worry about being perfect, wobbles are fine!
2. Lightly write 'Happy Christmas' (or whatever) and sketch a rectangle around it.
3. Use a ruler to draw strings from the top of each half circle, going behind the rectangle.
4. Choose a background colour and roughly fill the rectangle. Let the paint go over the lines a little.
5. Get plenty of paint and roughly fill the baubles. Add bits of other colours and let them mix. Make sure there is plenty of paint on each bauble.
6. Tip your paper and let the paint run in groovy splodges. You can blow the paint to help it spread.
7. Tap a loaded brush over your picture to add some artistic spatters if you like.
8. Use a hair dryer to dry the paint *completely*, then use black pens to go over the pencil lines and add details and lettering.
9. Add white highlights on the curves of the baubles.
10. Mount your painting on a blank card with sticky foam pads.

### To talk about:

This painting started out as quite a mess, but we made that mess into something special!

God is great at working with a mess. What mess would you like to give to God?



# Crafts for Christmas

## Pipe-Cleaner Decorations

### What you need:

- Glittery pipe-cleaners
- Pony beads (metallic colours look good)
- Star beads with large holes

### What to do:

1. Bend over any sharp ends on the pipe-cleaners for young children.
2. Thread a few beads onto a pipe cleaner.
3. Twist the pipe cleaner into a lollipop shape, with a large loop and a short stem.
4. Bend the loop into a star, an angel or a Christmas tree shape, or any shape you like.
5. Bend the stem to make a hook to hang your decoration on the tree.
6. Alternatively, twist the stem around a clip, button or hair band to wear it yourself!

### To talk about:

Why do we have stars and angels on Christmas trees?

