

Chapter 1 : Crafts - Pioneer Thinking

Christmas is a fantastic time of the year to get creative, inventive and crafty! DIY Christmas Decorations is an excellent excuse to have some fun and create some beautiful ornaments your friends and family can.

Now you have a blank slate to create a terrifically cute turkey! Shaving Cream Instead of painting on feathers with regular temperas, make your own puffy paint. Add water colors to shaving cream, mix and spread the paint across the hand-print turkey. You can also add Thumb Print Pumpkins Pour small pools of orange paint onto a paper plate. Repeat as many times as they want. Glitter Pumpkins Did you run out of time to carve your pumpkin? Paint it with clear-drying Thanksgiving Family Fall Leaf Craft Gather around the holiday dinner table and telling everyone what or who you are thankful for is a Thanksgiving tradition in many families. Start by gathering colorful fall leaves. With a few simple prep steps your kiddo can help the whole family to start a brand-new tradition that you can add to each year! Your child can add to the already colorful leaves by How much leftover Halloween candy do you have? After trick or treat night is over, your kiddos count their stash. So what can you do with the mountain of Halloween candy? Well you could throw it out. But that might not go over well with the kids. Or you can try one of these creative candy-eating alternatives. If candy corn is a holiday staple in your home, and you have plenty of leftovers, use the hardened excess sweets in a totally new way. Repurpose the candy corn, using it as an imaginative art material. Leave some as is and group the rest into several different piles. Place a piece of wax November 14th marks World Diabetes Day. And that means your family has the chance to learn about this chronic condition and help to raise awareness. Educating yourself and your family and raising overall awareness helps to build support for the growing number of people affected by this disease. How can you raise diabetes awareness? Support a Campaign Diabetes organizations across the country and around the world have various campaigns to raise both This October 16th day points out hunger-related issues, giving global life to the cause. While teens and adults can easily understand the issues surrounding hunger, younger children may need help to get the message. Why is it important for young children to understand hunger-related issues? Starting early helps the child grow into an adult who is compassionate and cares about global causes. How can you help your child to learn about science? Go outside and look for birds, bugs or different kinds of plants. The kids need costumes, you have to stock up on candy and there might be a holiday party to plan. Along with the festive fun, you also want your Halloween to be a safe one. With that in mind, check out these must-try safety activities for kids. Look Both Ways Trick-or-treat night is a time-honored tradition. Discuss looking both ways before crossing the street, practicing on a non-Halloween day. Get crafty with your family and create your own spooky version instead! Not only will you get a creepy cool holiday decoration from this activity, but the kids can flex their artistic muscles and enjoy the craft-making experience. Start with a cardboard base. Cut the board into a doughnut shape and paint it black and orange Halloween colors.

Chapter 2 : Pioneer Woman Recipes | 25 Of The Best Christmas Recipes

easy covered wagon model little bit harder covered wagon model rag doll stick or hobby horse weaving berry ink quill pens tin can lanterns dip candles beginning whittling homemade bread and butter woven paper baskets homemade taffy braided rag rug.

E-mail Imagine what Christmas was like back with the early Saints. For pioneers, Christmas in the depths of harsh winters was unfortunately not often a time of plenty. Yet memories of those early Christmas holidays, some as simple as a dance, a word of gratitude, or a small gift of sweets, have been passed down through families to this day. Here are just a few records written down of holidays held in pioneer times: The Order had no luxuries and the necessities were strictly rationed. About the only sweets the people had was molasses, so, the sisters decided to make molasses candy and cookies for the youngsters. He says our allowance for the month is already used. On the lid of the barrel he had placed a section of heavy logging chain and a large boulder. Only a thin wooden partition at the head of the bed separated him from the barrel outside, and he was a light sleeper. Shivering from the cold the women crunched through the snow toward the barrel. It was beginning to snow again and the night was very dark. With infinite caution they removed the heavy chain without so much as one betraying clank. It took the combined efforts of all the women to lower the boulder noiselessly to the ground. There was a breathless pause as Sister Spencer raised the lid and dipped into the barrel with a saucepan. She emptied its contents into a bucket and dipped again, and again. But, there was a dismayed gasp when they looked into the pail. They returned safely and set to work. When morning came, every child in Orderville had two molasses cookies and one big slightly sticky lump of candy in his stocking. Santa Claus had not forgotten them. Grandfather insisted all his life that he could not remember ever having given the women permission to get the molasses. Our Pioneer Heritage, 18 Their eight-year-old daughter, Mamie, took a special interest in her younger sister, Clara, and the two played together endlessly. Mamie was heartbroken this Christmas to think that little Clara would not get a doll. The little family was snowbound and their Christmas celebration would consist of homemade candy, apples, a cheerful fire and music. Clara Smith DeMott always cherished the memory of her first doll and of the happiness it brought and the never-to-be-forgotten loving sister who made her first doll from a clothespin. At Christmas, it is a thrilling new world to participate in, or the sounds at night as you relax in a warm home listening to tinkling bells placed on the harness of the horses drawing merry groups. Then there was Christmas skating, in the perfectly flat, smooth lake bottoms west of Centerville, with a big bonfire of cast-off railway ties. And the ice, frozen to a thickness of 18 inches, was soon stored in the co-op store ice house and covered with a thick layer of sawdust and kept for summer use. Adams, Our Pioneer Heritage, 18 Our girls and boys will never forget the first Christmas tree there where there was a present for every child of several large families, and all numbered and arranged in perfect order of name and age. President Youngâ€™s Brother Brighamâ€™ was foremost in making the affair a grand success. Young, then only a boy, handed the presents down from the tree, and I recollect Brother Brigham standing and pointing with his cane, and telling John just which to take down, and so on; the children were wild with delight and some of the mothers quite as much elated, though not as demonstrative. My brothers were the musicians. Each time I turned it back thirty minutes. It must have been past midnight when the party broke up. Clark, photoprops by Tammy Coleman, and photography by John Luke.

Chapter 3 : Pioneer Woman at Heart: Handmade Christmas Ornaments

Pioneer Day Crafts Pioneer day activities Christmas program Ward Christmas Party Christmas Crafts Christmas Activities Summer christmas Christmas ornaments Tin Can Lanterns Forward Clean cans, use masking tape to mark for pattern, fill with water, freeze, hammer.

My favorite time of the year to make them, prior to homesteading, was during the summer months. Now that I garden in the summer, I have to adjust my time. These are just a few of my handmade Christmas ornaments, but wanted to share a few. Each one brings back memories of when and where we lived when I made them. Made from a tiny basket that I bought at a dollar store, filled with mini-balls of yarn made from embroidery threads, and the "knitting needles" are toothpicks and beads. You can find directions on how to make this ornament at: This one, however, was the only one I made. He is made from a wooden clothespin, paint, felt and small pom poms. His arms are chenille stems, or what we call "pipe cleaners. I made several with red and green glitter to look like sugar cookies also. Simply made with felt, thread, and buttons. Remember when grocery stores still bagged groceries in paper bags? This is made from a paper grocery bag, rick rack, buttons, ribbon and stuffed with pillow stuffing. Made by tracing 3 heart cookie cutters in different sizes, cutting them with pinking shears, and the top dots are made with textured paint. Made from a recycled Capri Sun drink pouch. Made from a plastic lid, threads of beads, and crocheted around the edges. This was one of my favorites. I made a bunch of these for gift giving one year. One year I made a bunch of these in different sizes. I purchased clearanced blue ornaments, and the head are styrofoam with glued beads. I made many of them to also look like policemen. Some had police hats, and had belts, guns etc. Those went to my brother for his tree and for the tree at the police station. These were fun to make also. A simple plastic apple from a dollar store, dipped in glue, and then in bird seed, and glued into a silver candy paper. The stick is a cut piece from a wooden skewer and pressed down into the plastic apple. These recycled wine corks were cut with a small hand saw, and glued together. Made with recycled denim, buttons and a small amount of ribbon. They were filled with pillow stuffing. These were made from a paper toilet paper roll, cut and then glued. This was another of my favorites. The drum is made from a toilet paper roll, covered with felt and ribbon. The top is white craft foam, and the sticks are toothpicks and very tiny black pom poms. This was made with twigs and twine.

Chapter 4 : How to Make Old Pioneer Day Toys | How To Adult

Every year I do my best to infuse arts and crafts into our family holiday experience. Back before I had kids, I did my best to make all my Christmas gifts.

Most children living during the s, or in pioneer days, did not have much time to play with toys; they spent a lot of their time helping around the house and farm. Many of the toys pioneer children did have were often made from the leftovers or scraps saved from other tasks. Using their imaginations, children made their own toys. Girls sewed dolls from scraps of cloth or made them out of dried corn husks and string. Boys made cup-and-ball toys from sticks or scraps of wood. Pioneer children used what they had, and they still had fun in their free time. **Make a Corn Husk Doll** Lay two corn husks on top of each other. Use string to tie them together about an inch from the top. Fold the part above the tie forward and tie with another short piece of string about 1 inch from the folded crease. This becomes the head and neck. Roll one corn husk into a tube to make the arms. Slip the rolled husk through the neck space horizontally. This will become the wrists. To hold the arms in place, tie a piece of string just underneath the arms. Trim away any excess string from where you made the ties. Use a marker or crayon to make eyes, a nose and a mouth on your doll. Glue corn silk or yarn onto the head with regular white glue to give your doll hair. **Cup and Ball Toy** Poke a hole into the bottom of a plastic film canister. It should be slightly smaller than the diameter of a pencil. Push a pencil through the hole about 1 inch. Insert the pencil from the outside or bottom of the canister. Tie a inch length of string to the pencil on the inside of the canister. Tape over the string to make it more secure. Place a small piece of foil onto the table. Lay the end of the string coming out from the canister onto the foil. Shape the foil into a ball around the end of the string. Tape around the outside of the hole in the canister where the pencil is inserted. This will help to hold the pencil in place. **Things You Will Need.**

Chapter 5 : Pioneer Crafts for Kids - The Crafty Classroom

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Christmas, By the mid s the American Christmas tradition included much of the same customs and festivities as is does today, including tree decorating, gift-giving, Santa Claus, greeting cards, stockings by the fire, church activities and family-oriented days of feasting and fun. But, for those in the Old West , far away from the more civilized life of the east, pioneers, cowboys, explorers, and mountain men, usually celebrated Christmas with homemade gifts and humble fare. Christmas for many in the Old West was a difficult time. For those on the prairies, they were often barraged with terrible blizzards and savage December winds. For mountain men, forced away from their mining activities long before Christmas, in fear of the blinding winter storms and freezing cold, the holidays were often meager. But, to these strong pioneers, Christmas would not be forgotten, be it ever so humble. Where Santa lives, Determined to bring the spirit of Christmas alive on the American frontier, soldiers could be heard caroling at their remote outposts, the smell of venison roasting over an open hearth wafted upon the winds of the open prairie, and these hardy pioneers looked forward to the chance to forget their hard everyday lives to focus on the holiday. She baked vinegar pies and dried-apple pies, and filled a big jar with cookies, and she let Laura and Mary lick the cake spoon. For in those days, these four small gifts in her stocking were a wealth of gifts to the young girl. Though perhaps modest, these hardy pioneers made every attempt to decorate their homes for the holidays with whatever natural materials looked attractive at the bleakest time of year, such as evergreens, pinecones, holly, nuts, and berries. For some, there might even be a Christmas tree, gaily decorated with bits of ribbon, yarn, berries, popcorn or paper strings, and homemade decorations. Some of these home made decorations were often figures or dolls made of straw or yarn. Cookie dough ornaments and gingerbread men were also popular. Other pioneer homes were simply too small to make room for a tree. At the very least, almost every home would make the holiday a time of feasting â€” bringing out preserved fruits and vegetables, fresh game if possible, and for those that could afford it, maybe even beef or a ham. Many women began to bake for the holiday weeks ahead of time, leaving the plum pudding to age in the pot until Christmas dinner. Under the mistletoe, Many of the homemade gifts, including corn husk dolls, sachets, carved wooden toys, pillows, footstools and embroidered hankies, might have had the family members working on for months ahead of Christmas. Others knitted scarves, hats, mitts and socks. If the family had had a good year, the children might find candies, small gifts, cookies and fruit in their stockings. Christmas Eve would generally find most families singing carols around the Christmas tree or fireplace. On Christmas Day, most would attend church, return home for the traditional Christmas meal, and spend the day visiting with friends and neighbors. Then, as it is today, Christmas would also find many a mountain man, explorer, or lone cowboy, spending a solitary evening without the benefit of festivities. The more things change; some things inevitably remain the same.

Chapter 6 : Pioneer Christmas Decorations - Iowa Fremont County Historical Society

The 1st annual Pioneer Christmas Gift Show is a unique shopping experience for the entire family awaits you at the show. You'll find new gift ideas, original arts and crafts, sculpture, ceramics, specialty foods, home decor, clothing, furniture, floral designs, jewelry, skin care products, antiq.

What fun it would be to do the same in our home, read stories of their holidays from the Wilder books and decide what to make as a family. Bess Streeter Aldrich is another of my favorite authors who wrote wonderful books about pioneer days. In it she describes their pioneer Christmas with the decorations they made from what they had at hand. They used nuts and pinecones, for example. Like many a pioneer family they had lots of feathers available from their homegrown chickens. They were used in a variety of ways. Many a family simply brought in an evergreen branch and decorated it. And so I start thikng of these wonderful stories that have preserved the description of the early decorations. Now I am hearing of people who use these ideas for their own family to craft handmade decorations for their own trees. Cut into strips these pieces are then looped together and glued. Many pioneer children used flour moistened with water as their glue. Not the best but often the only paste available. Women in early days saved the long hairs from their brushing sessions and made lovely woven items including wreaths if they had enough. Flowers and leaves were picked in the summer when in full bloom, pressed and dried to make into holiday arrangements later. Dolls were made out of yarn, straw, corn husks, and corn cobs. Small ones were made as tree ornaments, Cookie dough ornaments and gingerbread men were also hung on the tree. Think of rag dolls as well, made with leftover fabric from cothes, quilt, rugs and pajama making. Many a cranberry was strung in the olden days--and even today--to decorate the tree. Clay made brown, a special beetle made purple, berry juice made colors from red to dark purple depending on the berry. Our craft stores make this part of decorations easier. My but times have changed.

Chapter 7 : Pioneer Christmas Crafts

Paper making, scrap booking, kids crafts, natural dyes, soaps, candles and more.

See my disclosure policy for more information! Create a Christmas party inspired by the pioneers! Use these ideas to get your creative juices flowing. We were given free license to do what we like, with the exception of the time of day. It had to be a morning activity with a breakfast. I tried all I could to switch it to a dinner but our ward has insisted on a breakfast for the past several years. Their holidays were simple, focused on being with family, homemade gifts, and gratitude. We wanted to bring that same feel to our party which is why we included a service auction. I had planned one in the past that was a great success! The service auction included a silent auction with items and services donated by ward members. We also did a live auction with bigger items to add more fun to the activity! Rather than have all of the activities in the gym, we set up the auction at one end with the food and dining areas at the other end. On the stage, we made a nice Christmas grouping to be our focus. This included having some store bought cookies they could pile on a plate for delivery. We also set up a room for Santa Claus. For some reason, many did not want to bring back Santa but we knew the kids looked forward to it. Some of the older members thought Santa took too much time away from the activity and we solved it by allowing the kids to visit him throughout the activity in his own space. We still had him arrive to jingle bells and then let everyone know where he would be. They decorated it and set it all up! We had crafts for them to do and a special treat bag Santa would give them. It worked out perfectly! The backdrop was perfect too, especially for pictures. We found the backdrop and the ornament craft kits at Oriental Trading. Another room had a Christmas craft. We made tile ornaments using small tile pieces with vinyl people could adhere to the tile. It was easy and inexpensive. For the decorations, we kept it simple and focused on supplies that the pioneers would have used. That included burlap, pinecones, ribbon, and holly berries. This was the centerpiece. The gal over decorations did an amazing job! She also added in sliced dried orange slices and cinnamon sticks. We made some of our own wagon wheels to put on the tables for the food and used gingham tablecloths. As a side note, we did a pioneer type breakfast with eggs, bacon, sausage, and pancakes. We also added some fruit, hot chocolate, and milk. It would have been fun to do biscuits and gravy too! Rather than baking a ton of gingerbread, I thought it would be fun to have the primary kids draw and color their own gingerbread men that we would use along the sides of the gym. I cut out the gingerbread men from brown cardstock and included googly eyes, pom poms, and other cardstock colors. I gave our primary president the supplies and they did it as a part of sharing time a couple of weeks before the party. It was cute to see all of the individuality! The kids loved showing off their creations to their families. Most parties have a program of some sort. We wanted to keep it simple and included a short program about halfway through the activity, after most had eaten and before we did the auction. We had a couple of musical numbers and asked a couple of people to share Christmas stories either from their own family history or from records found from other pioneers. We also gave a brief history of what Christmas was like in that time. Now for the fun part! The service auction was definitely the highlight. As I mentioned, we set up tables for the auction at the other end of the gym. We had tables for the silent auction and then included a table for the live auction so people would know what items would be auctioned off at that time. A few weeks before the activity, we made announcements and set around a sign up sheet asking for donations to the auction. People could donate services, food, homemade gifts, and other nice items nothing that was falling apart! I had a committee in charge of the auction and they organized the items, choosing the bigger things for the live auction. We had a card placed in front of each item and a sheet for listing the bids. We held the live auction the last half of the activity and asked a fun, exuberant elder to be our MC. It was so much fun!! Our ward really stepped up and I loved seeing all of their talents displayed. This was a party, not a fundraiser, so we had to figure out what to do for that. Our plan was to use fake pioneer money. In order to get their money, we handed out a service survey to all of the attendees. This was a list of service oriented projects. If they checked certain items off on the list, we added it up and handed them money according to what they checked off, with different items representing a different amount of money. We had a list for adults and one for kids. For example, a child could

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check off that they were nice to their brother, helped their mom with dishes, and did their homework without putting up a fight. Adults may have things like doing home teaching, reading scriptures, helping a neighbor, etc. We printed and cut out our own. Really, the goal was to be sure that everyone could at least get a decent amount to spend in the auction. The kids especially loved that they had their own money to spend! And there were some fun items for kids too! We also had invitations that we handed out a couple of weeks before the activity. I always think it shows a little more thought when you have a nice invitation! We also set up posters in the foyer and printed them off to have in the binders that get passed around Relief Society. Just add your own info and have them printed! Walgreens is a great place to have them printed because they often have discounts. I am also including the info sheets I handed out to each of the committees. Let me know what ideas you have! I always love hearing them. The download is a zip file. You will need to unzip it to access everything.

Chapter 8 : Christmas with the Pioneers - new-era

Pioneer Crafts for Kids On this page you'll find lots of free Pioneer Crafts and Activities for kids! Great for learning about The Oregon Trail, Westward Expansion, Lewis and Clark, and Early America.

Carlson 15 Comments Looking for some homemade Christmas ornaments? Get crafty this holiday season and give your home a warm spirit of homemade with these cheery Christmas ornaments. I love this wonderful time of year—the smell of hot chocolate, excitements in the windows, and the whole family tucked around a fireplace. Take a minute this year to make some memories and make some homemade Christmas ornaments for your tree! Add to their beloved scraps of paper and fabrics your own rustic ornaments this year with these ideas for awesome DIY Christmas ornaments to make your Christmas tree a little merrier! Also brag about your crafting adventures with the FREE shirt! Pine cones come in many shapes and sizes, so you can definitely customize it into a Christmas decor of your desire. Hot Cocoa Mix Ornaments image via sprinklesomefun Looking for a fun and festive homemade ornament? This hot cocoa mix ornament is a sure hit! If you use it as a homemade gift, it will keep your recipient all warm and happy! Cinnamon Ornaments image via katyelliott Imagine what this cinnamon applesauce heart ornament will bring into your house? Glitter Book Ball Ornaments image via kinassauerstyle Recycle your vintage papers by turning them into these beautiful glitter book ball ornaments! Roll some scrapbook paper, cover it with mod podge or colorful washi tape to make these stunning rolled paper Christmas tree ornament. It super cute that leaves such statement! Worry not, I know you can pull it off. Grab some twigs, shape it into snowflakes and add the embellishments, twine, button stickers, berries, pine needles, and felt. Then, put it in your wall for a festive holiday wall art. Christmas Ornament Time Capsule image via thefarmersnest A beautiful reflection ornament to keep memories fresh and special. Make one for every member of the family for them to have their own keepsakes year after year. Embroidery Hoop Christmas Ornaments image via remodelandolacasa Embroidery hoop Christmas ornaments , kinda intimidating! All you need are embroidery hoop and a fabric that has some designs, glue, and scissors. Etched Snowflake Ornaments image via designmom You know, rustic is in! Give your Christmas tree that rustic appeal on these etched snowflake ornaments. Draw a snowflake in a wood slice and burn it. Drill a hole for your ribbon and hang them. Cranberry Love On A Wire image via notesfromrochester For an added cheerful twist on your traditional cranberry garland, create a happy hearts with fresh or dried cranberries and a bit of thin wire. Hang it on your Christmas tree or make it as a perfect treat for your feathery friends. Bottle Cap Snowman Ornament image via oneartsymama This bottle cap snowman is easy to make with just a little paint, glue, and scraps of ribbon. A fun project I can do with my grandkids, the smallest will do the painting and older one will do the detailed work.

Chapter 9 : Homemade Christmas Ornaments | Homesteading

Looking for some homemade Christmas ornaments? If you want to skip store-bought decor, I've made a list to help you with your Christmas www.nxgvision.com crafty this holiday season and give your home a warm spirit of homemade with these cheery Christmas ornaments.

By Alison Log Ornaments - Collect twigs to bring to class. The students break the twigs into inch pieces. Bundle into a pile and tie in the middle with raffia or twine. Tie the extra string into a loop to hang the ornament.

Dipped Candles - On top of a hot plate, melt beeswax into medium size coffee can which is sitting inside a larger coffee can partly filled with water to create a double-boiler style pot. The students suspend a 12 inch length of wick over a narrow strip of cardboard. The cardboard length is wider than the mouth of the coffee can. Create a "drying rack" by laying 2 yardsticks across two tables. Hang the cardboard with candles over the two yardsticks between dippings. It will take several dippings to create 2 small candles. When finished, they may cut the wick to create 2 candles, or leave the wicks together to hang on a peg shelf at home.

Tin Punch Ornaments - Have the students save the metal lids from frozen juice cans. Create a punch template the same circumference as the lid. Designs are made of dots which become guides for the nails. I choose pioneer quilt designs. The student will need a hammer, and a long thin nail with a broad head, and a block of wood to hammer upon. Tape the template to the lid. Next, hammer a nail through the lid into the wooden block to stabilize the lid. Using a hammer and long nail, the student will pierce each dot, thereby reproducing the design onto the lid. When finished, remove the paper, and add ribbon to hang the ornament. I had several stations and parent volunteers to make this more manageable! Visit our [For individual use only](#). Do not copy, reproduce or transmit.