

look like four legs. Wrap a rubber band around the folded cloth about one third down from the top. Tie a piece of yarn in a bow to hide the rubber band. Fold the top slightly forward and wrap another rubber band about an inch from the edge to form the nose. Glue on googly eyes, a button nose, and stuff a small piece of red felt into the fold below the nose for a tongue. Cut out the shape of a magnifying glass from poster board and glue plastic wrap across the opening. Break off the handle from a black plastic soup spoon. Glue pieces of yarn across it to form an X, leaving enough length to tie a bow. Place a small black pompom on top. Glue the “hat” to the top of the dog’s head using Tacky glue.

Fingerprint art - Use ink pads with washable ink to create original art. Have hand wipes or damp sponges nearby for getting ink off fingers. If your library still owns the Thumbprint art books by Ed Emberley, use them for inspiration. Fingerprint stamp pads are available at lakeshorelearning.com.

Cipher wheel - Adapt the pattern in a book such as *Spy’s Guide to Secret Codes and Ciphers* to create your own. Place the inner letter A under the outer letter X to solve the following puzzle. zdwzk wkh uhdglqj exj

Pocket denim notebook carrier - Cut out a pocket shape from two pieces of denim. Sew around the edges by hand or machine, or staple the edges shut, leaving the top edge open. Sew on a piece of ribbon approximately 2 feet in length to use as a handle. Decorate with puff paint (fluorescent/glow in the dark is fun). This may be used to carry notebooks, small flashlights, pencils, and more. (Inspired by Family Fun magazine, 10/06)

Map carrier - Tape three toilet paper rolls together. Wrap with butcher paper. Cut a length of ribbon about three feet long. Secure the ends of the ribbon with tape about six inches from the end of the tube. Place maps inside. The rolled paper will conform to the shape of the tube but the ends may be pinched and taped shut if desired. (Inspired by Family Fun magazine, 10/06)

Rex & Boots shadow puppets and stage - Directions and patterns are available from Swazzle Puppets. Print on card stock for durability.

Look book - Cut pictures from a discarded or gift magazine. Glue onto construction paper. Place blank pieces of paper in front of each. Cut out a shape from the blank page which will reveal part of the picture on the next page. Have a friend guess what the pictures are. Inspired by Tana Hoban’s *Look* books.

Mystery message bracelet - Thread letter beads onto a length of stretchy string a little longer than wrist length. Separate words by small pony beads. Tie the ends securely before wearing. Foam or wooden beads are available from Oriental Trading Company.

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