



## Activity ideas to support Learning at Home 2-5 year olds

### Early Years Service, Children's Services

### Buckinghamshire Council

#### Making decorations

To make salt dough:

2 cups of flour

1 cup of salt

½ cup water

- Mix the flour and water together
- Slowly add the water until the dough sticks together and is ready to knead.

It is ready when it does not stick to your hands and not too dry it is crumbly.

- Knead for 10 minutes until it feels warm. Help your children to mix, roll out and cut using cutters, chatting about how it feels or what the shape is.

Remember to add a hole to hang it.

Bake in the oven on a low setting until hard.

Decorate with pens or paint and hang up.



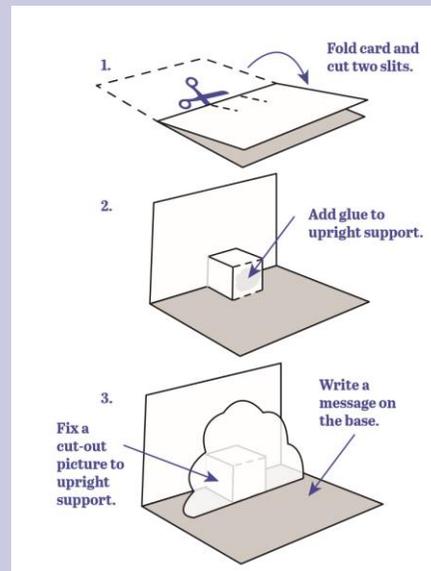
#### Festival Fun



#### Wrapping paper



#### Making a pop-up card



Making, mark making and writing cards gives your child a real reason to write.



#### Story Time

Find a cosy place and share festival stories and rhymes together. For example, [Little Fir Tree](#) read by Nadia Hussain

#### Snowman game



#### You will need:

A dice or six cards numbered 1 to 6  
a sheet of paper and a pencil each.

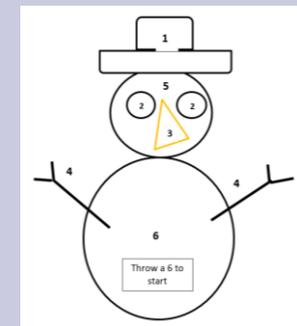
#### To play:

Throw the dice in turn and draw the body parts of the snowman to match the number thrown.

You must **draw** the body before anything else, so you can't start until you throw a six. You must throw a five to draw a head before you can draw the eyes and nose.

- Throw a 6 to draw the body,
- Throw a 5 to draw the head,
- Throw a 4 to draw the arms,
- Throw a 3 to draw a nose,
- Throw a 2 to draw his eyes,
- Throw a 1 to draw a hat.

The first player to draw a complete snowman shouts 'SNOWMAN!'



A fun game to help your child recognise numbers. Use a dotted dice or one with numbers.

## Information for Parents/ Carers

### Top Tips

Joining your child in making something is a time to try things out and have fun together.

Let your child play with the resources, be it dough, card, paint before trying to make anything specific.

Remember to give one instruction at a time.

### Chatting Matters

Make suggestions and ask a few questions to extend children's ideas of what is possible e.g. I wonder what would happen if ...

Use words to help children talk about what they are feeling, seeing or doing e.g. **warm, sticky, lumpy, messy, join, bake, cook, bauble, decorations.**



### Find out More

[Book Trust, stories and games](#)

[BBC Tiny Happy People](#)

[Small Talk - ideas for Parents](#)

[Hungry Little Minds Campaign](#)



### Communication and Language

**30-50 months**

**You might notice that your child can:**

Follow simple instructions if they are given one at a time.

Join in with favourite rhymes and stories and guess what happens next.

They can tell you what they are doing and what they might do next.

### Expressive Arts and Design

**30-50 months**

**You might notice that your child can:**

Can mix their own paint.

Choose things like paper, material, wool or ribbon to make a picture or decorate a craft.

Cut, fold and stick things to make a picture or card.

Use scissors, masking tape, or string to join and fix things together.

### Find out more about your Child's development

[What to expect when – Developmental Guide for Parents](#)

If you have any concerns about your child's development the first thing you can do is chat to your Child's Key Person at their Nursery, Pre-school or Childminder

### Maths

**30-50 months**

**You might notice that your child can:**

Recognise numbers 1 to 5.

Count a number of things on a page in a book or on a birthday card.

Use marks and counting to help to solve problems.