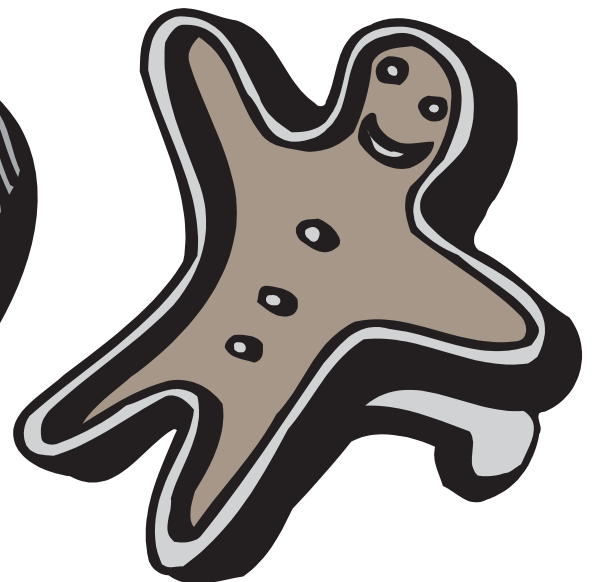
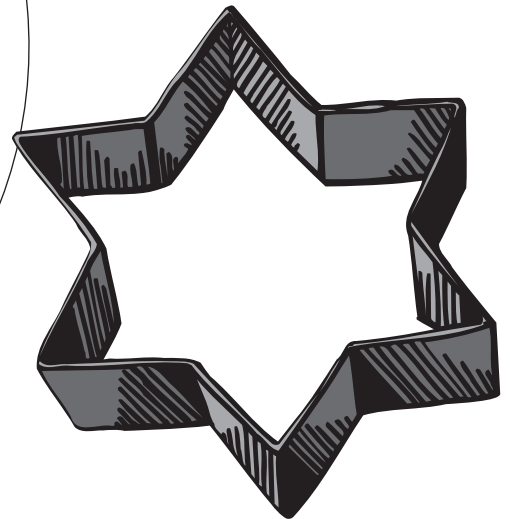




Cutter Fun

Cookie cutters can be used for some fun activities. Children can practice fine motor skill by tracing with a pencil around the edge of a cookie cutter. They can make designs and pictures on a piece of drawing paper. Give them colored pencils to use for a colorful picture.

Prints can be made by dipping a cookie cutters in tempera paint, then slowly and firmly pressing it on a sheet of paper. Various designs and colors can be used. (You can use cookie cutters that match a seasonal theme if you wish.)



Twirly Birds

These are fun to make and use to decorate a room any time of the year.

What you need:

Colored paper — several colors
Safety scissors
Stapler
Pencil
Thread, yarn, or string
Tape

What to do:

- Cut one inch strips of the colored paper
- Take five strips to make each bird, using a mixture of colors or whatever the children like, and place them in a pile on top of each other.
- Staple them together about an inch from one end.
- Cut that end to form a “V” for the beak.
- Keeping the top strip straight, gently pull down the other strips to form a rounded body for the bird with the bottom strip being the largest half circle and the middle strips partly separated.
- Staple these strips about three inches from the end.
- Cut each strip in half as far as the staple.
- Use the safety scissors to curl the strips of the bird’s tail.
- Tape a piece of thread or yarn in the center of the bird’s head.
- Hang the birds in windows and other places around the room for colorful decorations.

Two Little Blackbirds

Say this poem with the children and teach them the motions. This is a good activity for younger children. Older preschoolers will enjoy acting out the poem.

Two little blackbirds sitting on a hill,
(Hold up a finger from each hand to make a hill.)

One named Jack and one named Jill.
(Wiggle one finger as Jack, then the other to be Jill.)

Fly away, Jack.
(Wiggle your finger in a flying motion and put it behind your back.)

Fly away, Jill.
(Do the same motion as above.)

Come back, Jack.
(Bring finger around front again.)

Come back, Jill.
(Same as above.)

Snowman Game

You can make this game. Your children can use thinking and problem-solving skills to play the game.

What you need:

Large sheets of white paper
Markers
Safety scissors
Tape

What to do:

- Cut three circles of different sizes out of the white paper.
- Draw a hat, scarf, eyes, arms, mouth, nose, boots, mittens, etc. for your game.
- Cut out the pieces.

To play the game: Put a circle of tape on each piece and have the children dress the snowman by placing that piece on the snowman figure. Talk about why the snow-

man needs these things. Talk about what we need to wear to go outside to play.



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