

Christmas Ornaments



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Wreath Ornament

Materials:

- Green and red construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- School photo
- Hole punch & yarn if you want this to be an ornament.

Ideas for Decorating the wreath

- Heart stickers
- Red Paint
- Red Buttons or sequins
- Red Glitter Glue
- Tiny red pom poms
- Q-Tips to use instead of a brush

Directions:

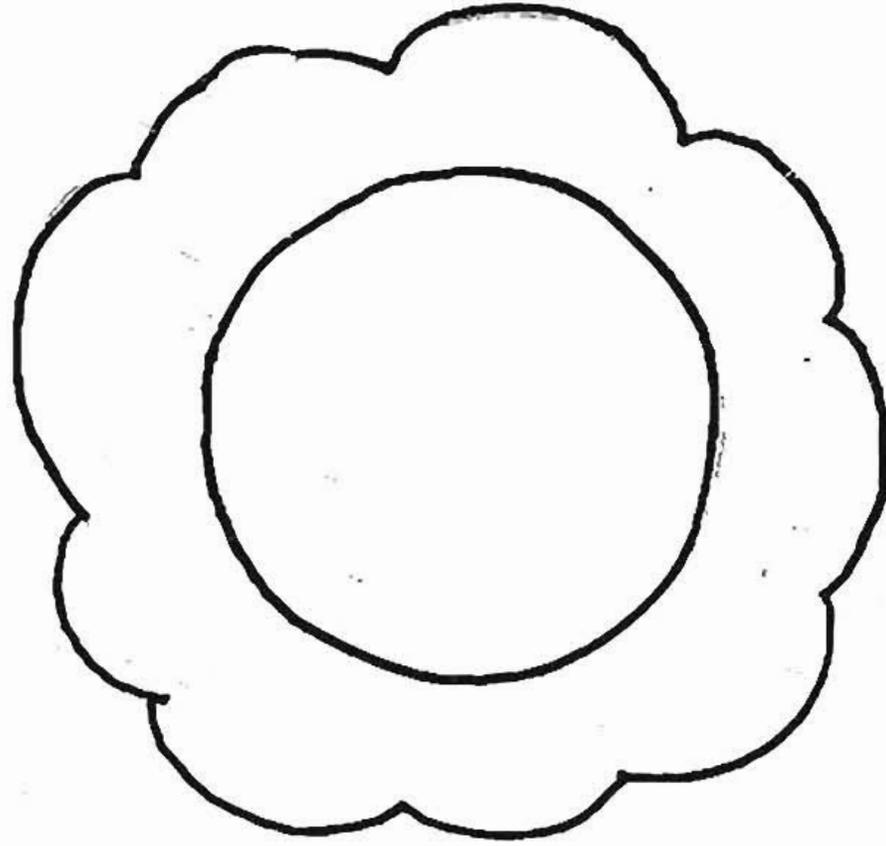
Prep:

- Cut photos into ovals
- Pre-cut hearts. Each student will need two.
- Run off green wreaths. Pre-cut center circle for younger children.

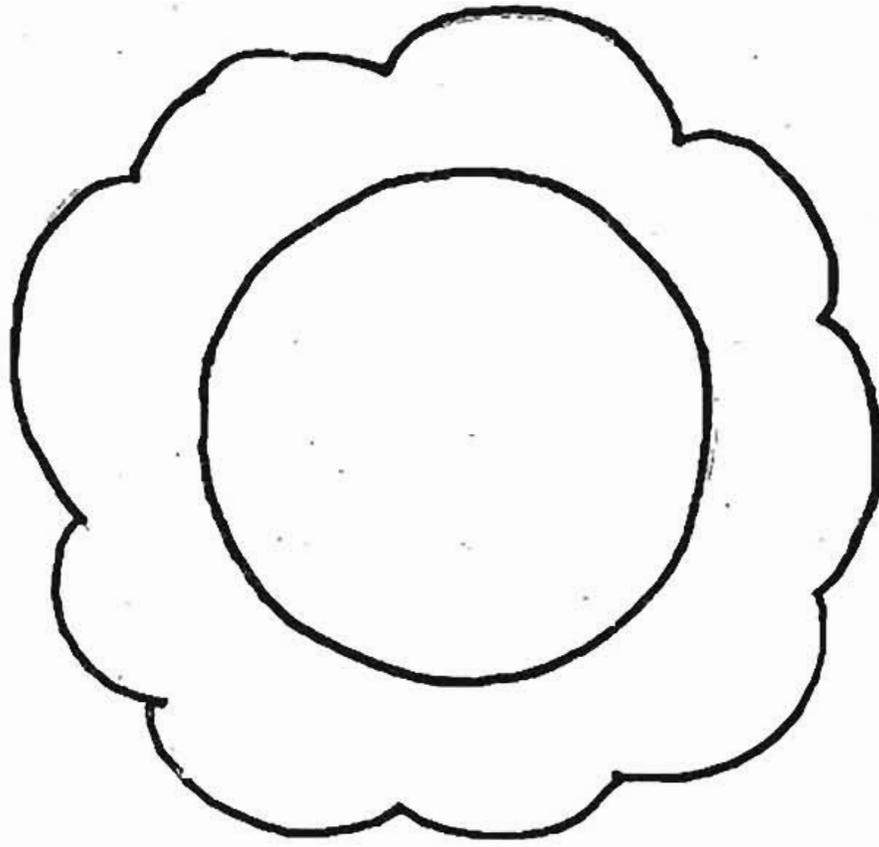
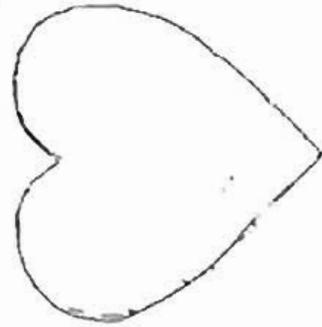
The next day...

1. Children CUT out their wreath.
2. Children GLUE their two hearts together so that the points are touching and they look like a bow.
3. Children GLUE their photo to the center of the hearts to complete their bow.
4. I give mine the option to put their bow on the **top** or **bottom** of the wreath. We discuss these spatial directions.
5. Children DECORATE their wreath.
6. Children can dip their finger in red paint or you can have them press their pointer finger onto a red stamp pad and add berries. I do this one-on-one with my students. You could also give them a Q-tip to add the berries.
7. Add dots of Tacky Glue and have children add Red glitter, buttons, sequins, or tiny pom poms.
8. Children could also be given 5 red heart stickers.
9. Puffy paint also looks nice.
10. If you want this to be an ornament punch a hole in one of the hearts and tie a loop of yarn.

Green Construction
Paper



2 red paper V's
For Bow





Tri-Bead Candy Cane Ornament

Materials:

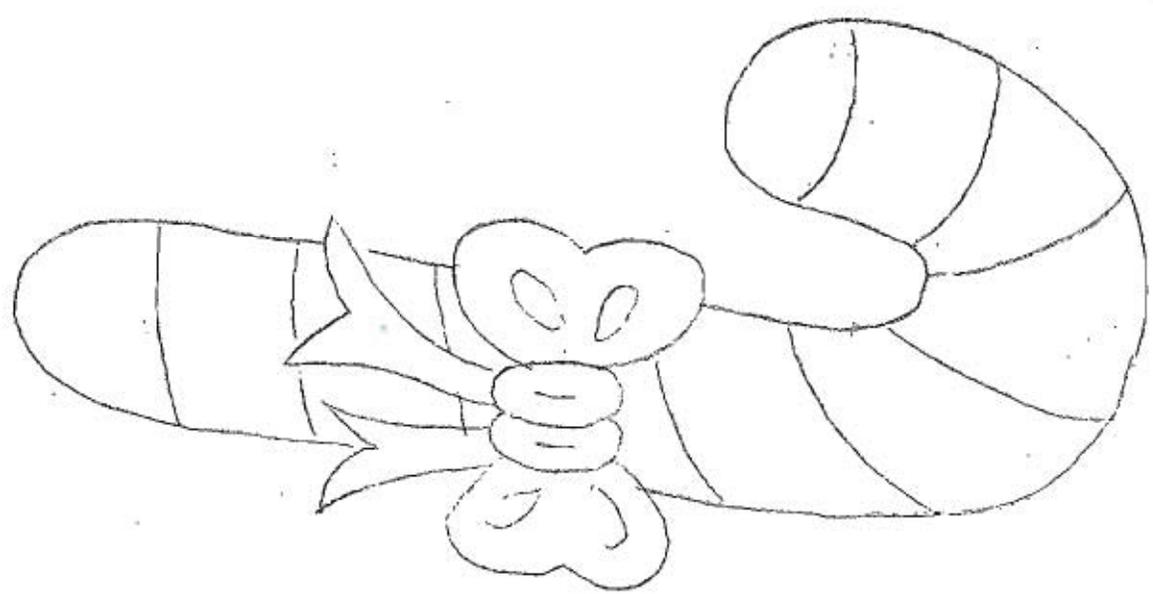
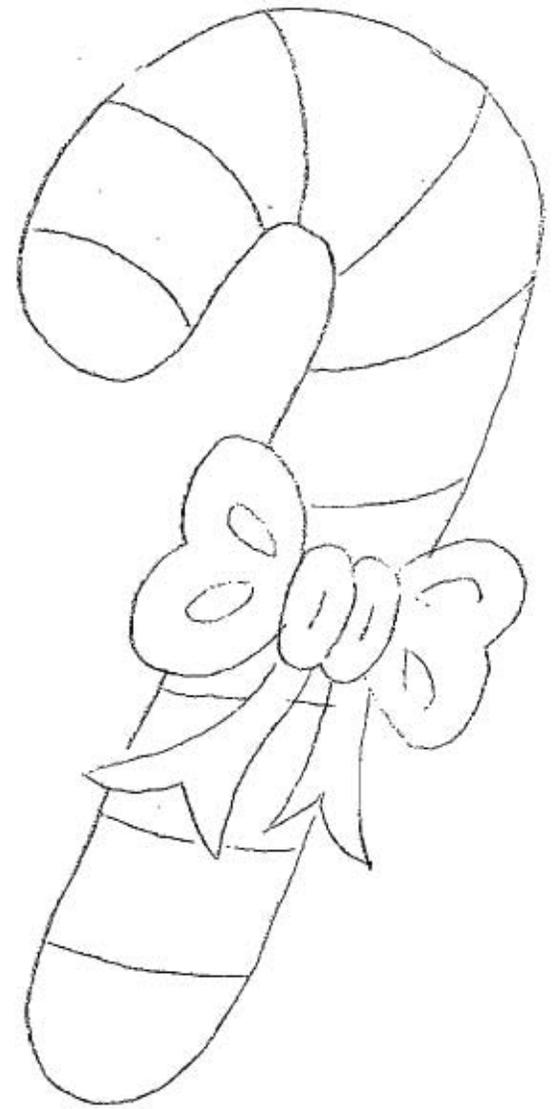
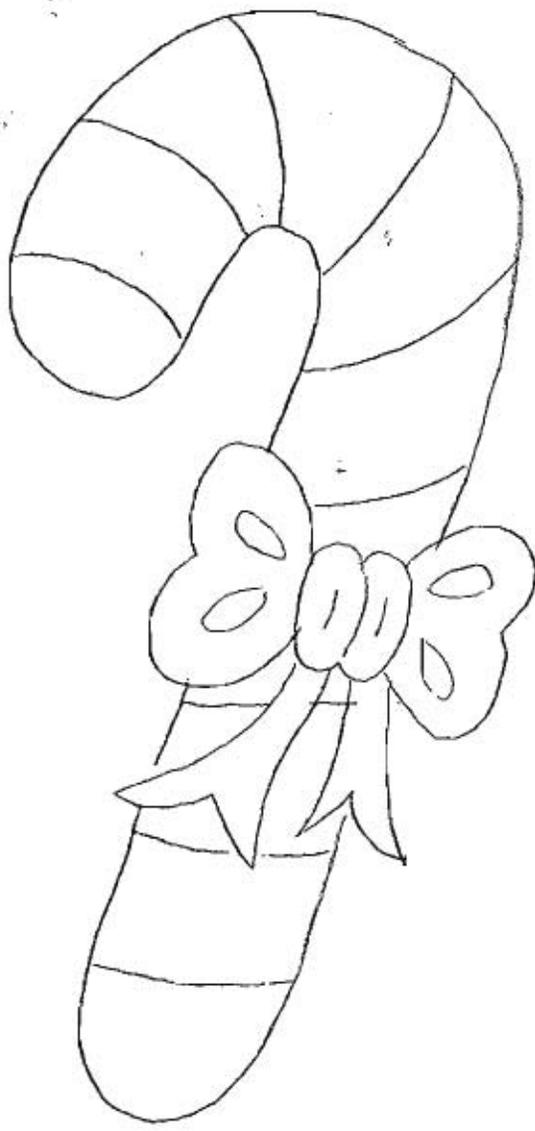
- Red and white tri-beads or pony beads(I ask for donations in November) Each child needs 18 of each color.
- White pipe cleaners.
- Green 1/8th ribbon or yarn
- Scissors

Directions:

1. Cut white pipe cleaners 5 ½ inches long.
2. Fold one end into a loop and squeeze so that the beads do not come off.
3. Put red beads in a bowl and white beads in another bowl.
4. Children come up and get a Dixie cup of each color or can sit on the floor next to the bowls and do this center.
5. Children put their beads on in an ABAB (red/white) pattern so that the beads are locking.
6. You can also use pony beads, but I like the look of the tri-beads better.
7. When they are almost to the top have them bring it to you so that you can fold down the tip; Older students can do this, but I find that my little ones don't go far enough up, or go too far.
8. Tie a piece of 9 inch long, 1/8th inch wide, green ribbon or yarn on the bottom of the cane.
9. Make a J out of the top.
10. I have the children put the ornament in their ornament bag to take home later.



Diane



Peppermint Candy Cane Painting

This makes a great boarder for your bulletin board.

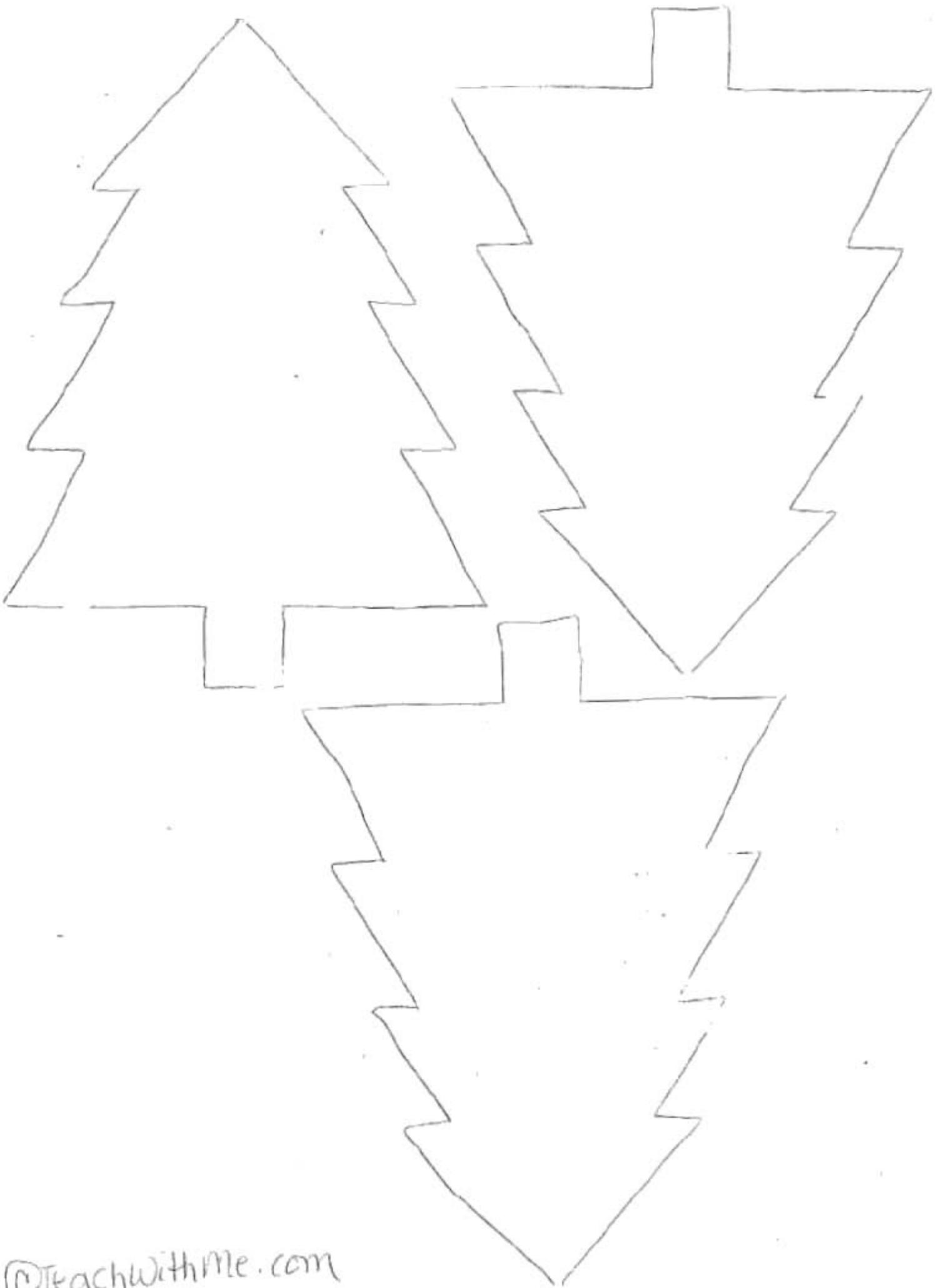
Materials:

- White card stock or tag board
- Green construction paper
- Red paint
- Brush
- Paper plate or something to hold the paint
- $\frac{1}{4}$ red ribbon
- ***Optional:*** Peppermint oil (I buy a tiny bottle at the grocery store and dump the entire thing in a large bottle of paint. Our whole room smells like a candy cane!)

Directions:

1. Make a candy cane template out of tag board and trace it. You could also have students do this at a center.
2. Pre-cut green hearts.
3. Students cut out their candy cane.
4. I like to do this as a painting, rather than a cutting activity, especially since it's on cardstock, so I have the canes pre-cut.
5. I call the students over and work with them one-on-one. I write their name on the back of the cane.
6. While I hold the cane down, I point to a spot where I want them to paint, and they paint alternating red stripes on their cane.
7. We set aside to dry.
8. I've also done this as a whole-group activity and covered the tables and had the children wear paint shirts.
9. If you do this, I recommend that you pencil in stripes, as some children will have difficulty knowing where to paint the next stripe. Heads up too, because you will have at least one child paint the entire cane red.
10. When dry, glue the 2 green hearts onto the middle of the candy cane so they look like a bow.
11. Staple a $\frac{1}{4}$ width red ribbon bow in the middle of the green-heart bow.







3-D Die Cut Paper Ornament Sequined Tree

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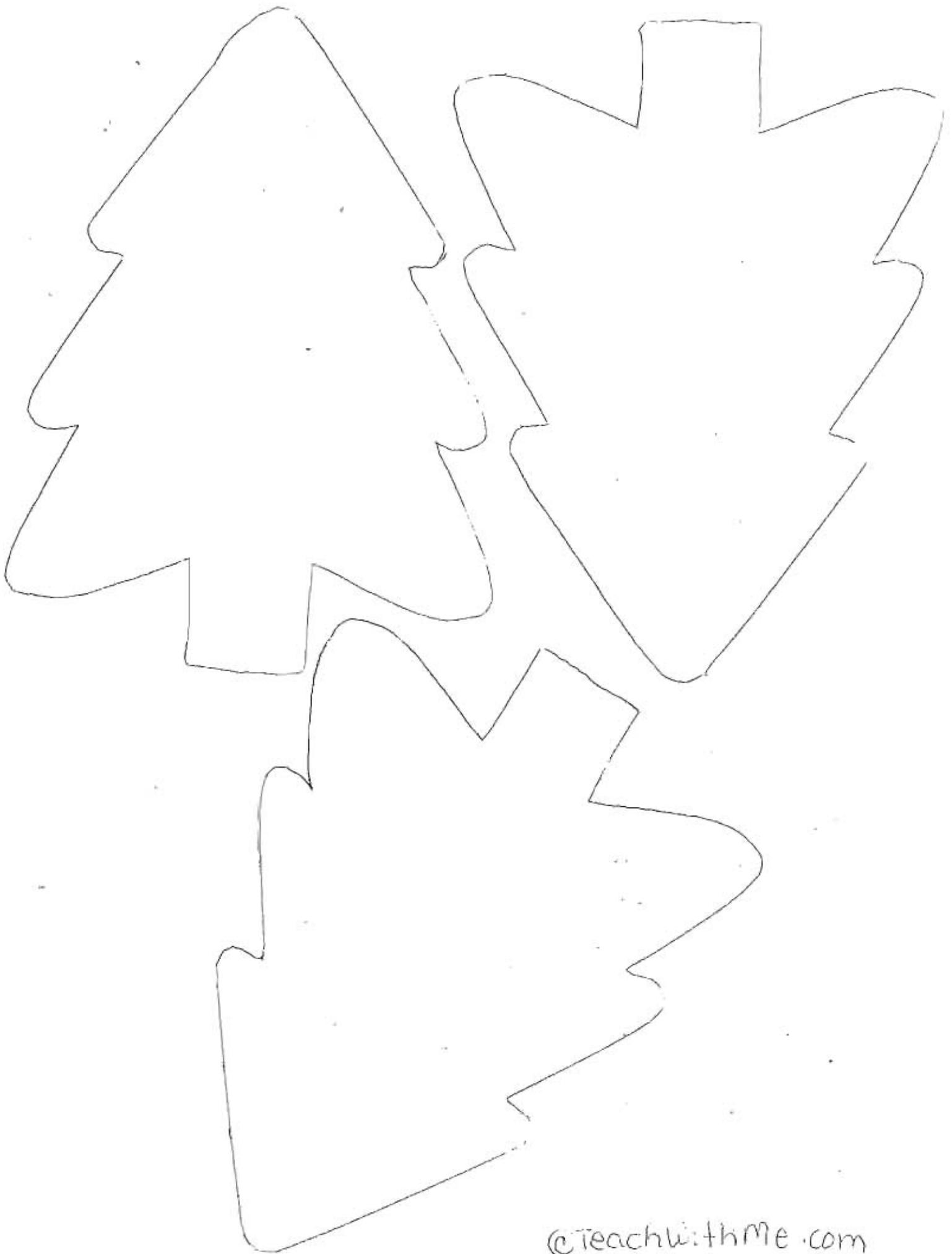
Materials:

- Die cut Christmas tree (2 per child) If you don't have access to an Ellison die-cut then use my pattern.
- Green construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Aileen's tacky glue
- Q-tips or toothpicks
- Sequins or stickers or flat-backed rhinestones
- Hole punch
- Yarn

Directions:

1. Put glue on one side of one of the trees and glue it to the 2nd tree.
(Older students can do this, but my Y5's have a hard time matching the trees so I do this for them.)
2. Fold the tree back so now you have 3 sides of the tree.
3. Put dots of glue on the tree with a toothpick or Q-tip and fasten on a sequin or rhinestone or put on stickers.
4. Punch a hole in the top and make a yarn loop to hang.





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Quickie Craft Button Ornaments

Materials:

- Green & yellow construction paper
- Star Punch
- (Worth the \$9 investment. Watch for the weekly coupon for one item 50% off in the paper for Michaels & the member flyer for JoAnn's or go online for the 40% off one for Hobby Lobby. Or wait til they are 50% off at any of those stores weekly specials.)
- E6000 glue (It may be a bit stinky but it works great for things like wiggle eyes, plastic and metal buttons etc. And it dries fast!) Use a toothpick to help get just a dab.
- Toothpicks
- White or colored small buttons. Most Dollar Stores have a box of 75 little ones!

Directions:

You can do these several different ways.

1. Die cut a tree and put white buttons all over the tree.
2. 6 small buttons look great.

Or...

3. Die cut a tree and put a colored button on each point.
4. You need 6 buttons.
5. Punch a hole in the top and tie a loop of yarn.
6. I like to add a metal-punched, yellow star, and punch my hole in that.

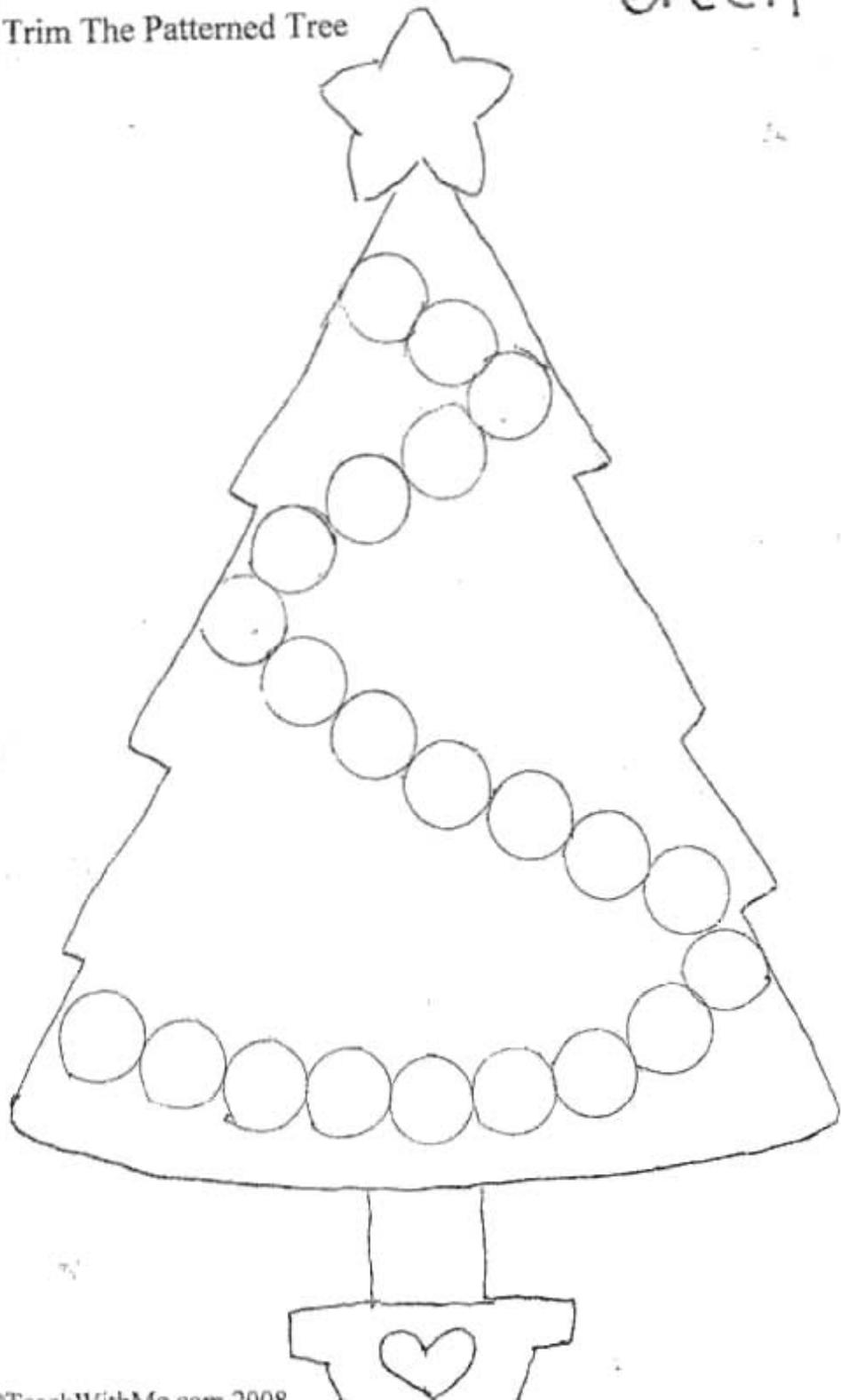
Or...

7. Use the outside template.
8. Take a picture of your students.
9. I put a Santa hat on my students + a red scarf.
They look soooo cute.
10. Glue the template on top.
11. Have them put a button on each one of the outer edges of the tree.
12. Punch a hole in the top.
13. Tie on a loop of yarn.
Adorable!



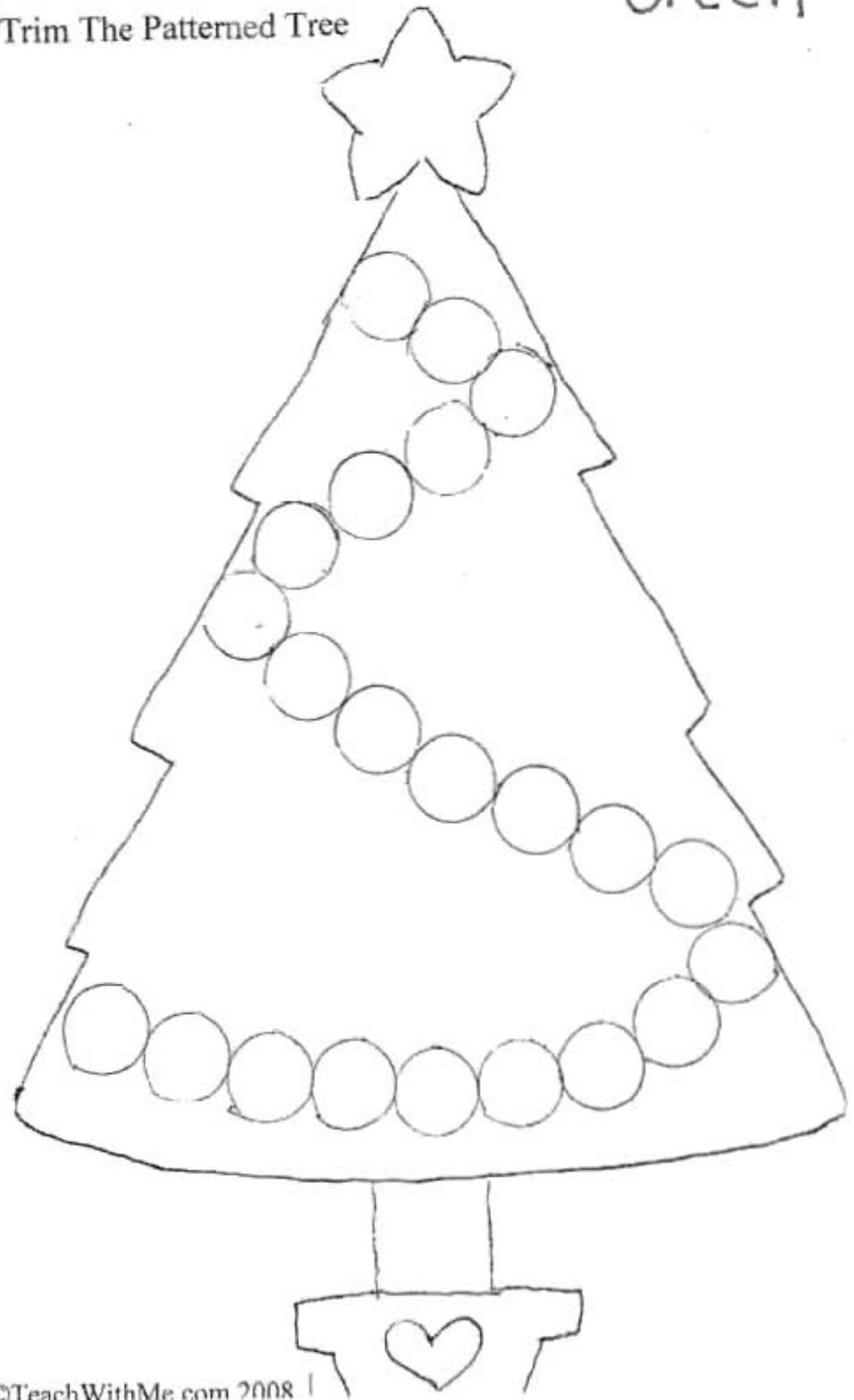
Trim The Patterned Tree

Green!

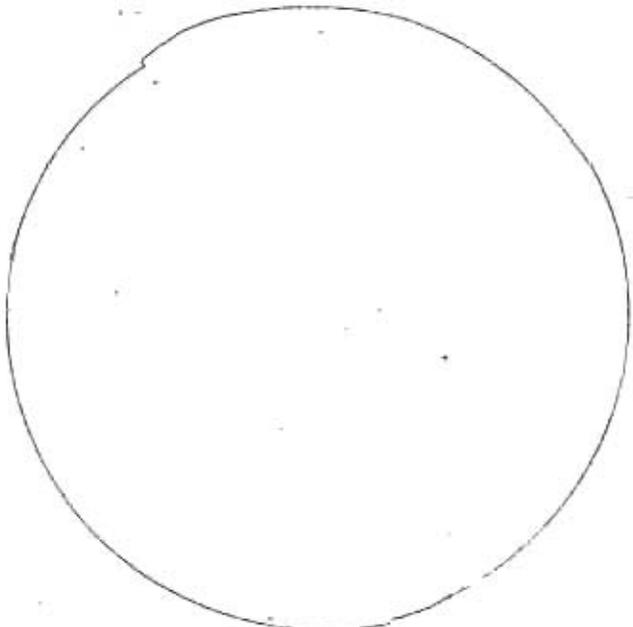
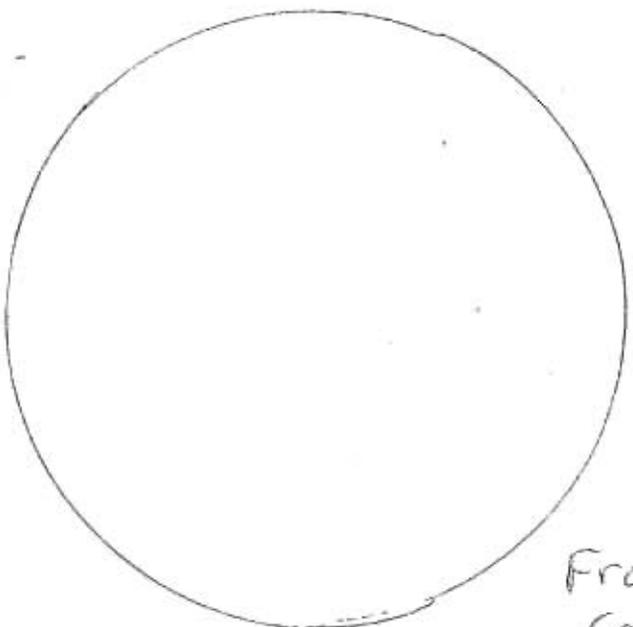
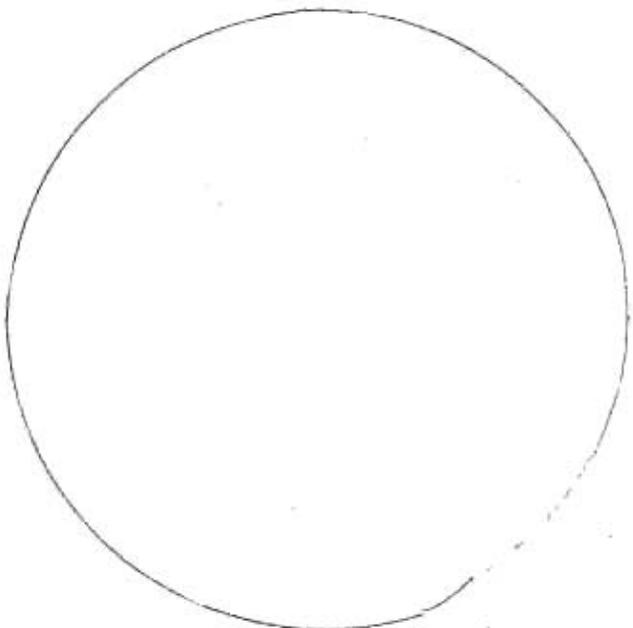
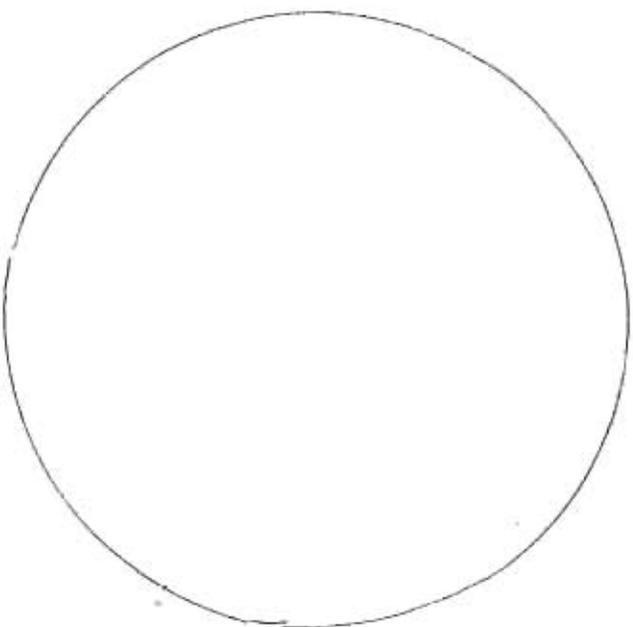
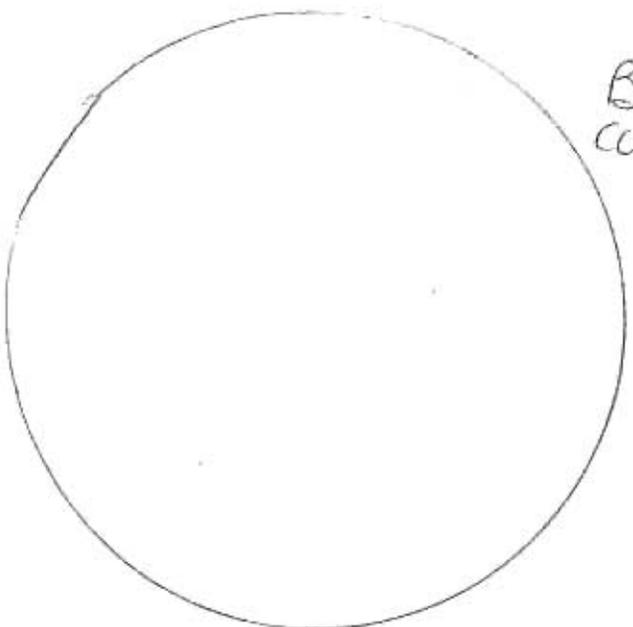
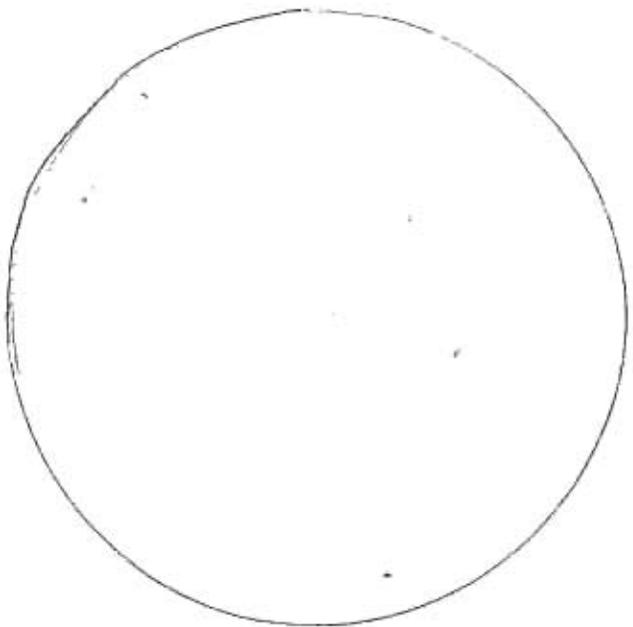


Trim The Patterned Tree

Green



Brown
Const
Pap



Frosted
COOKIES





VICENTE

KAREN

CARTER

JOE

MIKAYLA

CARTER



A celebration ornament.

You can recognize and write your name!

A snowman ornament made for you by me...
It was made with lots of tender loving care,
that's known as TLC.
It's for you to hang on your lovely Christmas tree
as a special remembrance,
Of school and me.
I embroidered your name on it,
especially for you,
because you're learning to write your name
and do other things too.

Always remember...

That you are as beautiful and unique as a snowflake

I'm "snow" very proud of you!

May your life continue to sparkle with:

Joy, Peace, & Love.

Merry Christmas Hugs from



December _____

Background:

- To celebrate the fact that my students can write their name I embroider (my sewing machine does it, their name on a felt snowman hat.)
- I've made them for my student's every year for Christmas.
- They are fun, inexpensive and easy to do and only take a few hours from start to finish.

Materials:

1. Some sort of white ball ornament. I've used the ones with the white "spun" thread on it, white plastic as well as foam. They all work. I wait til they go 50% off even before Christmas sales and then I stock up so I always have a bunch on hand.
 2. I do the same for the felt squares which are usually 5 for a dollar. I wait 'til they are 10 for a dollar then I get hot pink or purple for the girls and give them a choice and red or blue for the boys and give them a choice. I don't buy green because it blends in with the tree too much.
- Felt Squares
 - Hot glue and a glue gun.
 - 1 inch ribbon. Preferably plaid.
 - Dixie cups
 - Black, white, orange, burgundy puffy paint
 - Yarn to match felt.
 - Scissors
 - White thread
 - Sewing machine that can embroider names

Directions:

1. I make college and high school color schemes for family and friends too and combine two colors.
2. I cut my felt 7 inches long, but measure your ball to make sure that's not too much, some balls are smaller and some are larger, you want your strip to go all the way around your ball so that

you can wrap it around the snowman's head and hot glue it in place with a little over lap.

3. I make my hat 5 inches high so that I can fold the brim up 1 inch and still have enough to tie off the top with a piece of yarn.
4. Sooo...cut your strip 5 high by 7 wide or whatever fits your ball.
5. Fold the brim up.
6. Use white thread and choose a fancy stitch to sew across the brim. I choose one that looks like a snowflake. (see photo).
7. I've tried sewing their names right on the hat, but I'm just not that good at guess-timating the middle and if I oops I've shot the hat, so I sew them all on a big piece of felt and then cut them out in little rectangles and hot glue them on the front centers of each hat.
8. The bottom of the ornament will become the top of the snowman's head. The hanger will become his neck.
9. Put a rim of hot glue around the now "top" of his head and attach the hat. The top will be open.
10. Hot glue the name in the center of the brim.
11. I hot glue all the hats, then all the names, and then I paint all the faces. I like the "assembly line" way of doing crafts.
12. Using puffy paint, make eyes, a nose and a mouth. I find that I like burgundy better than red, and a carrot nose better than a round nose. It's totally up to you.
13. When you do the mouth, start with the middle dot first and then do the sides.
14. I get a box of Dixie cups and lay each one on top of the cup so they don't roll around and smear while they are drying.
15. When they are dry, tie the tops shut with a matching piece of yarn, making a loop so they can hang it.
16. Tie a ribbon bow on the hanger piece at the neck so they have a "scarf".
17. You'll enjoy making these and they sell like hot cakes at a craft show.
18. Enjoy. ☺





Holly Christmas Ornament

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Materials:

- Green and red construction paper
- ***Optional:*** red and green foil wrapping paper,
- Green or red curling ribbon
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Water bottle cap
- School photo
- Hole punch
- Stapler

Directions:

Prep:

- Run off holly leaves on a Duplo. Each child needs two.
- Pre cut berries. Each child needs three.
- I think it gives the ornament quite a bit of pizzazz if you add the foil to it, in which case pre-cut the foil, and then children will glue the leaves and berries to the construction paper and trim around the construction paper leaving an edge and you won't have to run any leaves off. This will also make your ornament thicker and the stiffness will make it hang better.
- Run off your class composite picture on the copy machine on the photo setting.
- Cut your students' photo into a circle so that it fits inside the water bottle cap.
- Cut 18 inch pieces of curling ribbon.

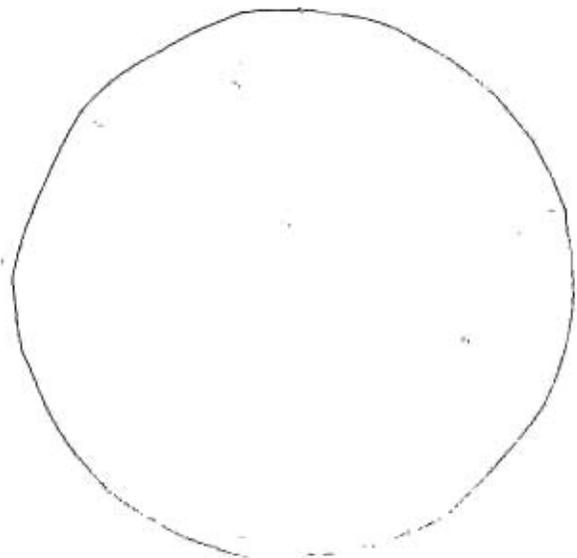
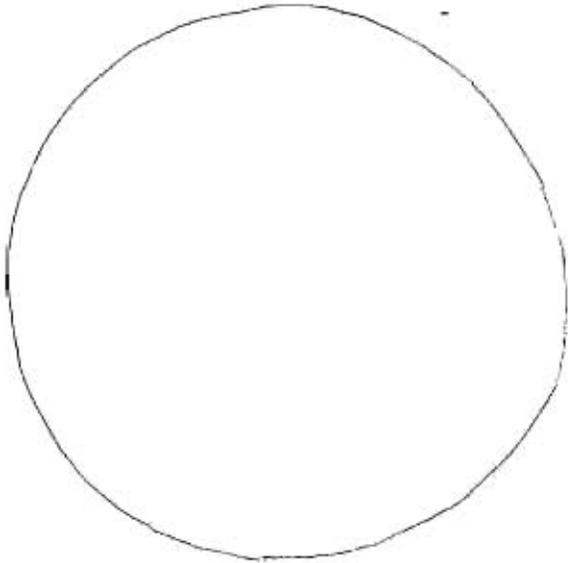
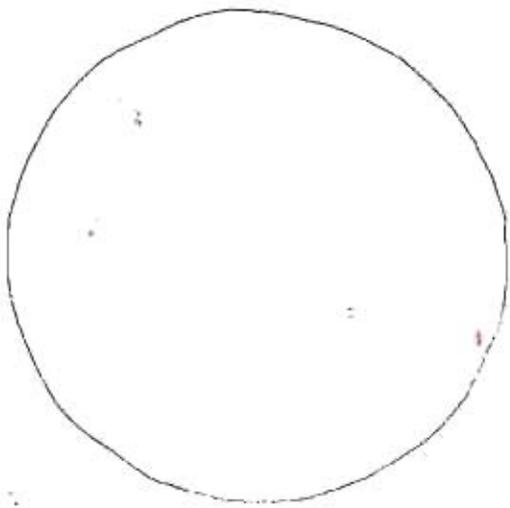
The next day...

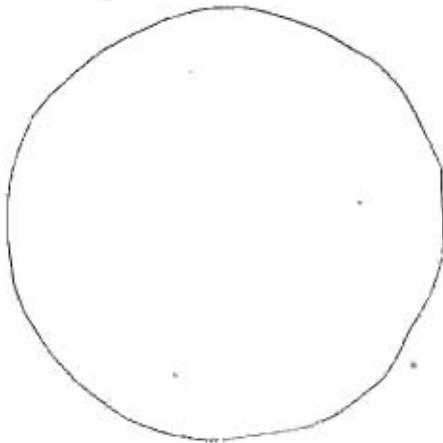
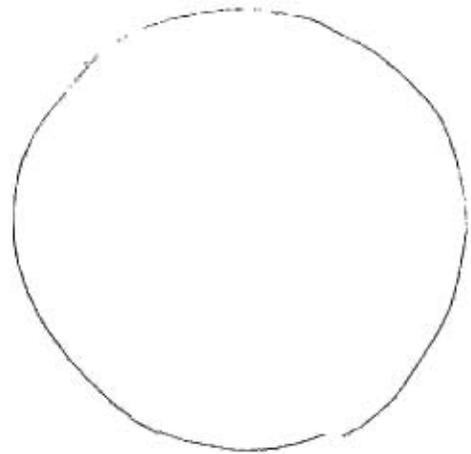
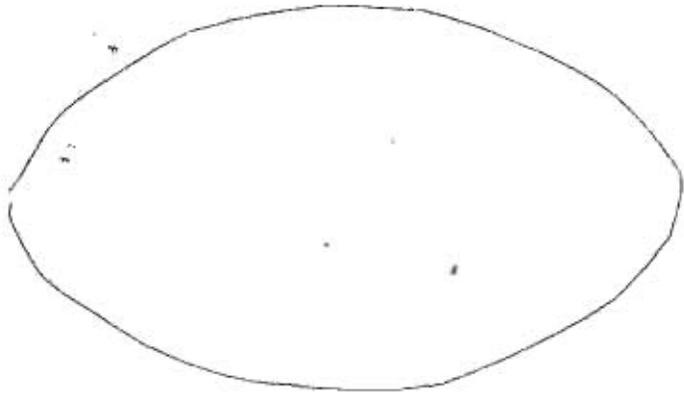
- Students glue the foil leaves to a green sheet of construction paper. Have them trace a line around the leaves leaving an outside edge so that they can follow it to cut on. I find that this works better than having them trim without a line, otherwise they tend to not leave any edge.
- Children do the same thing with their berries.
- Tip the two leaves in a V shape and staple their ends together.
- Children glue the berries together so that they form a triangle.
- Children glue the berries to the center of the leaves so that it covers the staple.
- Students put glue on the back of their photo and stick it inside of their water bottle cap.
- Children put glue on the back of the cap and stick it to the top berry.
- Punch a hole in the 1st point on the top of each leaf.
- Make a hanger by tying a knot of curling ribbon in each hole and then curling the ends.

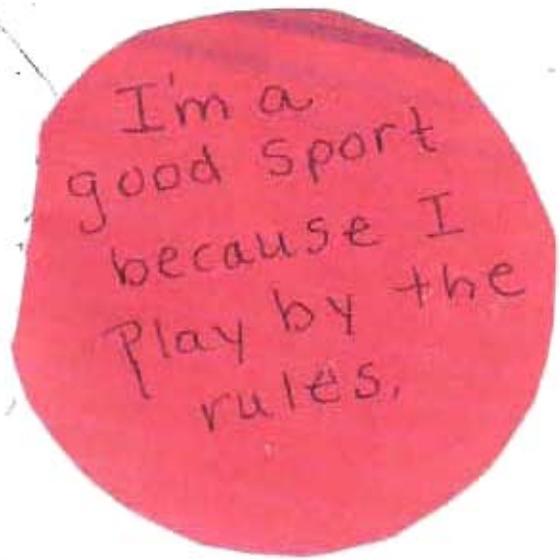












Let's Make Some Christmas Ornaments



As soon as December hits my students get to make an ornament almost every day as one of their center activities. So that they have a place to keep all of their ornaments I hang up a decorated white lunch bag with their name on it. These are hung in a long line across our bookshelf. On party day we take the bags down, and send them home so they can hang their ornaments on their tree. Parents have always commented on how nice it is to get the ornaments all at once in a nice keepsake bag.

If you don't have the luxury of doing centers each day with your students, you might want to do what our first and second grade team of teachers do. They set apart an hour and 15 minute block of time on the last day of school. We have our parties the day before in case there's a snow day, so the last day is sort of a "extra fun" day.

Each team of 4 teachers plans a 15 minute Christmas craft and gathers all of the supplies for all four classes. Ornaments make the perfect "quick, easy and inexpensive craft! Students rotate to each of the rooms and make that craft, then after the 15 minutes are over, transition to the next room to do the next craft, taking their "masterpieces" with them. Everyone has a great time, and each teacher only has to be responsible for one thing. It's a great way to spend part of the day on the last day of school and the kids LOVE it!



Beaded Candy Cane Christmas Ornament: I'm sure you've seen these, but just in case you haven't I'm posting it, because they are one of my students' favorites and a great ABAB math pattern. I wait for these beads to go on sale 50% off at **Hobby Lobby** and then I stock up. You could also put this on your "Wish List" for your class room. The only other things you need are some white pipe cleaners and a bit of curling ribbon. If you want to figure out how many bags of beads you'll need, I use 18 red and 18 white for each candy cane. Simply crimp the ends to keep the beads on and you're set.



Painted Candy Cane Christmas Ornament: Run off my pattern, put a small bottle of peppermint oil in your red paint and you'll have created ornaments that actually smell like real candy canes!



Candy Cane Pipe Cleaner Christmas Ornament: Twist a red, green and white pipe cleaner around itself and you've created a triple-colored candy cane; add a bit of curling ribbon and you're done!



Tissue Paper Bell Christmas Ornament: Make these quick and easy ornaments using plain white plastic Dixie cups. Poke a hole in the bottom of the cup, thread the end of a jingle bell that's hung on a piece of pipe cleaner through the hole and make a loop. Children decorate with pieces of red and green tissue paper, or any other colors. Simply rub Elmer's glue all over the cup with your finger and apply tissue paper squares one-by one. You can give the entire bell a glossy finish by brushing on some modge podge or watered down white glue. Make it extra special by collaging their school picture in the middle.



Button Christmas Tree Ornament: I purchase a few packages of white buttons at The Dollar Store to make these adorable Button Trees. They're

stuck on with Aileen's Tacky Glue. If you don't want to use buttons, try Fruit Loops or a less expensive cereal like Tootie Frooties by Malto Meal. They're only \$1.99 at my store for a big bag!



Photo Christmas Tree Ornament: Save the outside template from the Christmas tree die cut, take a photo of each of your students wearing a Santa hat with a red scarf thrown around them, glue it to the back and you have a darling keepsake ornament. Add buttons to the points of the tree and a yellow foam star at the top + a loop of yarn and you're done.



3-D Sequin Christmas Tree Ornament: Each student needs 2 die cut Christmas trees. I use an Ellison die cut machine. If you don't have one, use my pattern and make a template of your own. Fold one of the trees in half and glue one of the folded halves to a non folded half so you have a 3-D tree. Decorate with sequins. Using tacky glue and a toothpick; glue several sequins to each side. I like this to be an "instant" project so I use glue dots.



Christmas Tree with Stickers: I designed these trees so that my students could develop their pattern recognition and fine motor skills peeling and placing stickers in an ABAB pattern.



Good Sport Ornament: Teaching my students how to be "good sports" is a life skill that's a year-long process. They are also learning what types of sports interest them as they attend gym and get to play with all sorts of equipment. I thought it would be fun for them to choose their favorite and make a

"ball" ornament + have a bit of a writing extension as they tell me in one sentence why they like that sport or why they are a good sport.



Perler Bead Heart Ornament: Do you remember doing this craft as a child? Well it's still around and a perfect fine motor skill for young children! It also works on helping to increase patience, concentration, and persistence. All wonderful life skills! I chose the heart template because it goes together in about 5-7 minutes. I set this up at a table with 8 templates and 8 bowls of Perler beads. The children each have their ornament on a sheet of scratch paper with their name on it. When they are done an adult carries it to me and I iron it on the lowest setting. When they have cooled, they insert a piece of wire and make a loop. They are thrilled to see the cool design they have made when it is finished and are very proud of their work!



Pipe cleaner Wreath: Children bend their pipe cleaner into a circular shape and twist the ends shut. I cut lengths of red and green curling ribbon and they tie a knot over their twisted "bump" that fastens their circle together. I help them make a bow and then they curl the ends with a Popsicle stick



Popsicle Stick Snowflake Ornament: I pre-glue these so it doesn't take so long. I use Aileen's tacky glue, but a hot glue gun will ensure that none of the sticks slide out of place and you'll get them done quicker. Write your students' names on the back. I give students the option to paint their Popsicle snowflake metallic powder blue or opalescent white. After they paint it, they bring it to me. (They are carrying it on their sheet of waxed paper.) They sprinkle it with silver glitter. We set them aside to dry. Tie with fish line or thin white yarn.



Snowman Ball Christmas Ornament: I make these for my students in celebration of them being able to write their names. One year when I taught 2nd grade, I put on the hats and did everything except make their face. I let my 2nd graders make their own snowman faces with puffy paint. They did a pretty good job. All the rest of the years, I completed them



Shaving Cream Frosted Cookies Ornament: Shaving cream makes wonderful frosting and is also a great medium for "snow". Add a few sprinkles and these honestly look good enough to eat! I have my students cut their cookie out of light brown paper, frost it, and then add their photo to the middle. If you have an Ellison Die Cutter at your disposal these cookies would be cute cut into your student's initials. To make the frosting, mix equal parts of Elmer's glue to non-menthol shaving cream; mix together and frost your cookies.



Holly Berries Christmas Ornament: Add a water bottle cap to the top berry with a school photo and you've got a keepsake ornament. I added some pizzazz to these holly berries & leaves by using Christmas foil wrapping paper. You could also add some red rhinestones to the berries for a bit more sparkle and bling.

For More Ornaments...Check out the ["December Bulletin Boards"](#) blog article for a cute **Gingerbread man**, and a **Ball Ornament** as well as the [December Arts & Crafts](#) section for a cute **Fingerprint Wreath Ornament**.