

Heart Centerpiece

Age Level: ★★

We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. ROMANS 15:12

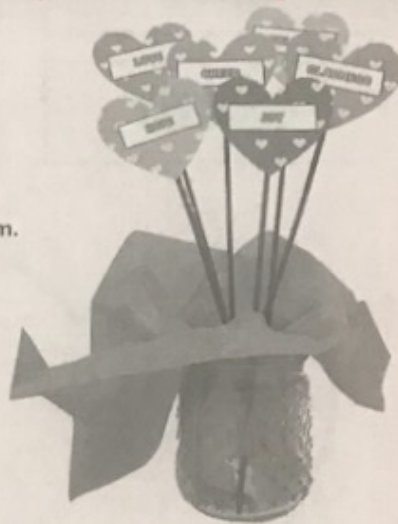
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What It's All About

Our verse tells us to build people up. Another way to say that would be to encourage others. God told Moses to encourage Joshua who would take over for him as leader of God's people (Deuteronomy 3:28). Even leaders need encouragement! Let's make a Heart Centerpiece. Giving it to a leader you know (even your parents) can encourage and cheer them.

What You Need

- ★ Heart Centerpiece Patterns (p. 72)
- ★ Paper Cutting Tools (see p. 8)
- ★ Coloring & Writing Instruments (see p. 8)
- ★ Styrofoam
- ★ Hot knife, cookie cutter, or dental floss
- ★ Cups, jars, or vases; one for each child
- ★ Patterned paper
- ★ Transparent tape
- ★ Green plant sticks, six for each child
- ★ Glue
- ★ Filler material (tissue paper, nylon netting, or other lightweight and colorful paper or fabric)



Preparation

Photocopy Heart Centerpiece Patterns, making one for each child.

Use hot knife, cookie cutter, or dental floss to cut Styrofoam into pieces to fit snugly in bottom of the cups, jars, or vases. Prepare one container for each child.

Note: To cut with dental floss, cut off a length of dental floss, hold an end in each hand and pull taut. Pull dental floss down through a Styrofoam brick to slice.

What Children Do

1. Cut out the heart pattern. Trace pattern on patterned paper and cut out. Repeat to make twelve paper hearts.
2. On the front of six of the hearts, add notes or references for verses of encouragement. Refer to Encouragement Verses (p. 72), choose your own verses, or write your own words.
3. Tape one end of a plant stick to the back of the hearts with notes.
4. Glue the second six hearts to the back of the first six, sandwiching the plant stick in the middle.
5. Cut out word boxes and glue to blank side of each heart.
6. Place the finished heart into a cup, jar, or vase, making sure the end of the plant stick is securely in the Styrofoam shape at the bottom.
7. Cut and place pieces of filler inside cup to add color and sparkle.

Alternate Ideas

- ★ Instead of using patterned paper, use white paper. Children draw their own designs.
- ★ Instead of plant sticks, you can use food coloring to dye wood skewers green, or use green pipe cleaners.