



Mother's Day Gift Ideas

Mother's Day will soon be here and it's time to start planning what our student will be making for Mother's Day Gifts. The ideas that follow came from the wonderful women on my yahoo email lists [childcareland2](#) and [shelleylovetsecprintables](#). Thank you to all of you that contributed!!

One of the things we do is make a handprint flower pot and put tulips in them. I buy clay pots at menards or wal-mart and spray them with acrylic sealer. Older children can paint the pots (using a light color works best) ... smaller children will need help. Children should also wear a smock to cover their clothes as acrylic paint is recommended. Let the clay pots dry and then paint child's hand with a darker color paint like blue or purple and press the hands down around the pot. Let dry and spray again with acrylic sealer. I have use both tulip bulbs and tulips that have already sprouted to put in the pots. You can also plant flower seed but you will need to do this well in advance of mother's day.

Another thing we make are handprint wreaths. Cut the center out of a paper plate ... trace around child's hand on various colors of construction paper ... cut handprints out and glue around paper plate. Apply gold glitter glue drops for an extra sparkle... let dry. Punch hole at top and attach yarn or ribbon.

A coupon book is also an excellent gift. I love using children's handprints ... how fun is it looking back on a child's handprint and remembering when they were so small. For this idea I just trace around the child's hand on various colors of construction paper... I cut the handprints out and write down various things such as "This coupon can be redeemed for one book that we read together" "This coupon can be redeem for help setting the table" etc... I then laminate the handprints and punch a hole and attach the handprints together with a book ring.

Shelley Lovett
childcareland.com

MOTHER'S DAY LILIES

Materials needed:

construction paper (different spring colors)

pencil (for tracing child's hand)

scissors

pencils (one for each lily ~ preferably new)

tape (to tape lilies to pencils)

Instructions:

Trace child's hand on different colors of the construction paper (approx. 5 Lilies ~ can do more).

Cut them out and roll them (one at a time) around the eraser end of a pencil.

Tape, palm side onto the pencil end allowing the fingers to extend above the pencil end.

Shape the fingers by either curling them around your finger or another pencil to represent the lily's petals.

Repeat this until you have all lilies made.

Adaptation:

Placing the pencils in a small terracotta pot with some green floral sponge

in the bottom to hold the pencils is a nice way to present the Mother's Day Lilies.

You can have the children decorate the terracotta pots as well.

I LOVE YOU THIS MUCH (card)

(can be used for a Father's Day card as well)

Materials:

Red or Pink construction paper (for the hands of the card)

White or an alternate color (for the arms of the card ~ pastels work nicely)

Scissors

Tape or Glue

Marker or crayons (to decorate)

Instructions:

Trace child's hands onto Red or Pink construction paper, set aside.

Cut an arms length of construction paper in a strip 2" in height for the arms of the card.

This should be one piece ~ Tape together if needed.

Measure from wrist to wrist for each child for length.

Tape or glue the hands to each end of the 2" strip of paper.

With the thumbs up lay the card flat and write on the strip "I Love You This Much!".

Put the hands together by interlocking the fingers together (Thumbs should still be up and the writing now inside).

Fold the Strip behind the interlocked hands with only about an 1" of arm (strip of 2" paper) extending from each side of the hands in the front of the card.

Adaptation:

Have the children decorate hands with glitter or sequins for a more "sparkly" look.

JELLYBEAN TOPIARY

(This is generally used best for older preschool children because of the pins ~ Supervise well)

Materials needed:

Jellybeans (enough to cover a 3" Styrofoam ball ~ can use bigger or smaller)

3" Styrofoam ball

1/4" dowel

small terracotta pot

floral foam

moss

glue (tacky)
straight pins (one for each jellybean)
foam board (or a cardboard box/ shoe box ~ for displaying the pinned
jellybeans)

Instructions:

Ahead of time prepare the jellybeans by pinning them individually with the
straight pins.

Poke into foam board (or cardboard box) and set aside.

Glue floral foam into terracotta pot and the dowel into the floral foam.
Have children poke the pinned jellybeans into the Styrofoam ball being
sure to cover all empty spaces.

Save one space for the dowel to be glued into the Styrofoam ball.

Finish by gluing the moss onto the exposed floral foam in the terracotta
pot.

Adaptations:

Have the children decorate the terracotta pot a day ahead by painting
them.

DeAyn G.

from.the.hart.school.house@gmail.com

One thing we have tried before is to take garden gloves and fill them with
batting and make the I LOVE YOU sign out of the fingers. We then hot
glue it together and then mount it on a wooden base and write I LOVE YOU
MOMMY on the front.

Becki Smith

I do a mothers day spoon and poem:

plastic spoon
hershey kisses two per child
bridal netting comes in circles
ribbon

poem:

a spoonful of love and a couple of wishes hope you enjoy your mothers day
kisses

wrap kisses in spoon and attach poem

Becky

Two gifts that we have done in our head start classroom are:

1: we took dictation on a favorite recipe from the children and but it into a book.

2; we used crumbled paper(all different types) to paint with and make flowers on a large sheet of paper and laminate it. We used their handprints as the leaves.

Cathy

I was thinking of making the child's handprint in clay. I have a recipe for hardening clay (which is much easier to use than plaster of paris). I would have it made and rolled out into circles for the children to place their hand in the middle. The children will make the impression of their hand, and then make 2 small holes at the top of the circle to put a piece of fabric to hang it with. I will then let them dry for a day or two. When they are dry, the children can take paint, and paint around their hand, to make it colorful. On the bottom, it will have their name and the date on it, so mom can always see her little one's handprint. I did this in Kinder, and my mom still has it hanging up!

Cindy Hodgins

One project that I do for Spring but could work for Mom's Day as well is a flower vase. During the year I save the plastic bottles that yogurt drinks come in (the adult size, not the Danimals for kids)...most of them have a cute hourglass shape to them. Then at the beginning of Spring the kids tear and stick colored masking tape to the bottles (I usually do the mouth of the bottle to ensure it's covered). The result is a mosaic type vase that I then fill with two or three tulips for them to present to mom when they get picked up...the moms are always thrilled. Older children can tear the tape themselves after a quick demo of how to do so (harder than tearing

paper). For younger ones I have pretorn tape shapes stuck to the edge of the table or tray so that they just have to peel and stick. You can write the child's name and year on the bottom with permanent marker.

Kelly

We plant flowers and decorate flower vases.

Crystal Bowman

We are asking the parents to bring an old shoe that no longer fits there child so we can make shoe planters. I take the shoes out side and paint them we are using gold but you can us any color. You can add beads or plastic flowers to the outside for decorations if you want to. Then you can have the children grow flowers or you can buy flowers and have the children replant them in a small round or square pot. We put fabric around the pot for more color tie it with a ribbon. When you are done you put the pot inside the shoe and make a card to put on it. The MOM"S love it.

Cindy NY

One thing my moms always love is a cookbook. I work with the kids on compiling some of their favorite "recipes". I take the dictation just as they say it. I type them up and have the kids each illustrate their own cover showing them cooking with their mom. I staple or bind them together. Then we have "Muffinswith Mom" and present them their gifts. The moms love it!

Amy/VA

We use baby food jars, we use thin paper, then the kids put stickers on the paper, we print out " I Love You" and the kids cut out the I love you. We take ribbon and wrap around the jar, and attach a saying " whenever you are feeling lonely or blue, just take out a I love you, and the child signs

their names.

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Last year I did handprint mugs for Father's Day (could be used for Mother's Day). I used plain white mugs bought for \$1.00 at the local Dollar Store. You would need to buy paint appropriate for whatever the mug type is, I used a ceramic paint because the mugs were glossy, but was able to purchase several colors in small containers for not very much. I painted the child's hand, pressed it on the mug, and then added a short verse on the other side in permanent marker. Oh, and you need to put a sealer over the top to seal the paint. I had the kids put their handprints on, let them dry and sprayed with sealer at night.

We have also done- T-Shirts, I ask the other parent to purchase a plain white shirt in the appropriate size. You can do handprints, footprints, or child's artwork.

- twig vases for older children -- use an empty frozen juice can, cut twigs that are fairly straight to fit the length and secure around the can with elastics. Use colored yarn and wrap around the elastics to hide them. I had some little stick on bugs and dragon flies and butterflies that we used to decorate the can with. You can add flowers you pick or make.

- picture frames with "I Love (only love is the heart that holds the picture) Mom" I think there is a pattern at DLTK kids crafts.

Debbie Estabrooks

We have made vases. Depending on the kind of vase I can get for a reasonable price they may paint them or glue tissue paper squares on them. I then put fresh flowers in them.

I also have made pots. We paint them and plant flower seeds in them.

T-shirts are also nice. Handprints - footprints. Last year for father's day we made footprints and wrote "My son/daughter walks all over me."

You can get canvas tote bags at oriental trading for a reasonable price. Again paint them with handprints/footprints.

A cookbook with recipes collected from all the daycare parents and some of the cooking projects you have done in class or favorite recipes the children enjoy.

IF you plan ahead a scrapbook with their child's pictures would be nice (I make these but give them out when I'm done with one not for any special occasion).

Tina C.

What I usually do is paint the children's hands and feet and they lay them on paper. I then find an appropriate poem to attach to the paper and then laminate. I make sure that I date the project, also being a mom, I enjoy seeing such projects to see how my child has grown.

Michelle Pre-K Ohio

The cookbook suggestion we have done a couple of times over the years, but in addition to a "real" recipe I always added the child's rendition of how his mom makes his favorite dish...they turn out hilarious most of the time..always a big hit..

We also one year did a planter out of one of the child's old shoes..just dipped in polyurethane and let drip dry hung over a fence outside and had the child plant a daisy or some such in it afterwards..mom's loved it..

I also did a photo book one year out of the story "if you give a mom a muffin" (I think that was it..something similar)..took pics of the kids doing each activity on a different page, and tucked it into a basket with muffins the kids had made..BIG hit..

Terri ... Diva Mom

Paint Angel Art Impressions

- 1.Right Hand, Left Hand and 1 Foot
- 2.Heel and thumbs face top of page
- 3.Palms face in on both sides of foot
- 4.Heel is head
- 5.Hands are wings
- 6.Lite color paints work best
- 7.Print or have the child place a message of love, hope or prayer on the back and laminate it when dry.

Laure Heisler

We make bath salts. I get epsom salt and a scented oil - usually vanilla. I let the oil soak in the salt overnight. The kids and I add red food coloring only 1-2 drops to make it pink. It will tend the bathwater but not to much. :) The kids place a scoop full in a square of fabric and then tie it together. They give it with a handmade card. The kid-tied bathsalts look really bad but mom knows the kid wrapped them and not me and this means more to them.

Tracy Harper Shelton ~ SureStart
Mannheim Elementary School

This year I had the children help me start marigold seeds in an egg carton. When they are mature we will transfer them to a clear plastic cup. I'm hoping I can get the children to make yellow thumbprints on the cups and have them decorate them to look like bees. I thought it would neat for the children to watch the plants grow and be able to see the roots too.

We've also done the tea cup with a bag of tea.

One year I had the children decorate a female cookie cutout with food colored egg whites and then baked them to add to the tea cup so the mom could have tea and cookies on mother's day. The mom's seem to really enjoy those.

Cheryl

Last year we made soap for mother's day gift. I just bought a soap kit at hobby lobby and followed the directions. Some of my kids poured the liquid mixture into mold cups and other pours the soap over bath scrubbies. The kids loved making the craft.

Another year we too made flower pots. I bought clay pots and small square pieces of different colored tiles at hobby lobby. Then we just simply glued the tile pieces onto the flower pot. finally we planted some flowers in the pot. Very easy and fun.

Heather

We make Mother's Day Cards.. on the front we paint each child's handprint with closed fingers and make a tulip from it....

You'll Need:

Coffee Filters-2 for each flower

Green pipe cleaners

Markers

Construction paper

Start by decorating the filters with markers.

Dots, Squiggles, stripes....

Place one filter on top of the another. Pinch the filters together at the middle, wrap a pipe cleaner around and twist, leaving enough for a stem.

Do this for each flower.

Fold a sheet of construction paper in thirds.

Cut out the vase with the sides of the vase remaining

on the folds. Tape the flower stems to center vase shape. Fold in the vase on the left to cover the stems and make a pouch by gluing the edges.

Write your message on the remaining vase shape and close your card.

You can write a note, poem or message on

the front as well, but write before you attach the flowers.

Give it to mom and watch her smile!

This is pasted on the inside:

I miss you when we're not together

I'm growing up so fast
See how big I've gotten
Since you saw me last?
As I grow, I'll change a lot,
The years will fly right by.
You'll wonder how I grew so quick
When and where and why?
So save this card in a safe place,
And take it out each year.
The memories will come back of me,
When I was small and dear.

On my door I take each child's picture with their moms. Gluing the picture on construction paper with "My Mom's The Greatest" on the bottom of the paper.

Sherry C. :)

I found some 10 cent can huggies. I am going to let the children decorate them.

Patty, Illinois

For Mother's Day we:

~ Take a black/white picture of our children dressed as grown-ups, i.e., girls in big hats, pearls and a boa, and the boys in a old style men's hat and oversize dress shirt, tie and jacket. We then print a wallet size copy on our printer, cut out the outline and let the children glue them onto a large round tag with metal edging (office supply store). We then fill in the blank space with extra fine irridescent glitter. Punch a hole and thread very thin satin ribbon to hang around mom's neck.

~ We paint a 5" flower pot with fingerprints and make bugs and flowers for a wonderful spring scene. Seal with acrylic sealer. Write Happy Mother's Day and allow the child to sign with pain pens. Fill pot with plaster of paris and quickly, before plaster sets, add the pen tops for ink pens. Then wrap the pens themselves with florist's tape and hot glue a silk flower to the top. Children add the pens to the tops. Looks like a pretty silk flower

arrangement, but is very functional. We buy the big package of Office Max pens, but have had businesses donate them, as well.

~ We make a placemat with the child's hand painted as a beautiful flower and have the children draw the stem, leaves and grass at the bottom. We then type, mat and add a poem about handprints. There are several versions out there. Choose your favorite. We have the child write Happy Mother's Day and sign his/her name.

~ We make a paper doll of mom with doll hair and wallpaper book clothes. We add faux pearl necklaces and jewel rings and earrings. We attach these to a questionnaire about each child's mom with questions about age, height, weight, favorite/least favorite thing we do with mom/ mom makes us do, etc.

~ And of course, we sing for our moms. Our favorite is "Little Red Box." We use the Ellison die cut of a chinese takeout box (in red of course) and put our mom's necklace inside with some tissue. After they sing, they present the box to mom.

~ We have a great brunch, purchased and served by our teachers in appreciation of all our mom's do in our classrooms.

Thanks for reading! Hope these ideas help someone!

Renee in GA

Here are some gift ideas that we have used in the past that can be easily adapted for Mother's Day gifts...

for Valentine's day, I photographed each child with their arms outstretched. We painted puzzle pieces and glued them to a wood frame with a note on the frame that said, "I love you this much!"

for Christmas, we made a plaster of Paris hand print for each child, painted them gold, attached a tartan ribbon bow to the top and placed the painted finished product on a small easel (purchased from the dollar store). I used a rectangular container for the mould so it fit perfectly on the easel... you could also add a hand print poem (lots to choose from on the Internet...)

for Father's Day last year, we made mini-books with photos of the children with their dads and quotes from the kids when they finished the sentence, "My Daddy is special because....."

have the children design a t-shirt, apron, dish towel, etc. with their artwork or hand prints painted on with fabric paint

Karen
Healthy Learning Home Childcare

I am doing the stepping stones this year out of cement and colored stone w/hand prints.

Mary

Make homemade placemats for the dinner table with pictures of your child on it. You can even put their handprints on it or pictures of their favorite things. Whatever you like.

Idea from Kelli H. of Mesa, Az

One year we saved baby food jars, we then painted them with glue and rolled them in pearlized glitter. We put a narrow ribbon and tied a bow around the neck when dry. Inside we placed bath salts. We wrapped them in white tissue paper and tied a bow around the paper. Presentation means alot!

Miss Janice

One year I made stepping stones (concrete) with the kids handprints and alphabet magnets to show Initials and Age. Another year I put their hands in fabric paint, put it on fabric, and wrote..."following you in life"
Ott

Mother's day necklaces key tags that can be found at any office supply store such as Office Max ..Staples, Office Depot, even Walmart has them.

Cut the child's picture to fit the tag. Glue the picture to the tag and spread a little of glitter on the picture so it looks shiny and glossy. Add string , yarn or leather cord for necklaces and you have a necklace.

Martha M. Briseno
PPCD Teacher
Kirk Elementary

A Priceless Gift

There is always a lot of talk about how we can save money over the holidays. And how can we get the kids involved more?

This particular gift idea is so easy and says "I love you" so well, that you won't want to miss out on it! Make several of these wonderful keepsakes and give them to grandparents, aunts, uncles, and anyone who needs a smile.

The best inexpensive Christmas gift I ever received was from my son when he was in Kindergarten.

The class took empty boxes (hair color, toothpaste, etc.), wrapped them in wrapping paper, then tied them up with a ribbon.

Attached to the box was this note:

I took an ordinary box
As empty as can be
I filled it with a special gift
And wrapped it carefully.

But please don't ever open it
Just leave the ribbon tied
And hold it tightly near your heart
Because my love for you's inside!

If you prefer to use bows over ribbon, simply adjust the poem to read:

I took an ordinary box
As empty as can be
I filled it with a special gift

And wrapped it carefully.

But please don't ever open it
Just leave the bow applied
And hold it tightly near your heart
Because my love for you's inside!

Using bows, of course, is easier than the ribbon for little ones. To dress up the poem, use pinking shears to cut out the poem you have written or printed out, then glue that to another piece of posterboard or construction paper of another color (for a border effect).

I loved this gift and will keep it FOREVER.

I'm going to do this with my very little ones this yr. I'm going to have them make a picture with paint of handprints. I will attach it to the box and wrap it, with this little saying on a pretty index card.
This gift is my favorite it was from my daughter she is 13yrs old and I still have it.

The Tissue Paper Ornament

Your will need these supplies 1 styrofoam ball (big ones)
pretty tissue paper cut in pieces or torn
ribbon (abt 11inches this is for hanging)
glue (for each child or share)
straight pins (for teachers)

You give each child a styrofoam ball and have them put the tissue paper dipped in glue and press on to the styrofoam ball. The child covers the styrofoam ball with the glue tissue paper. This is a hint for the straight pins you dont have to use them but you put the straight pins around the styrofoam ball half way in to help secure the wet tissue paper on the styrofoam it will look like a porcupine. You can also get straight pins with balls at the end of the pins and just push thm in for added decorations. Last step is to dip the styrofoam ball w/ tissue paper in glitter (clear colorful glitter) The best way to do this without the kids making a huge mess is take the glitter and put it in a storage bag, now put the styrofoam ball in the bag with the glitter and shake it. Teacher take it out of the bag and let it dry for a few dys. After it dries take the straight pins out of the ball or leave in for additional decorations. Now poke at the top of the styrofoam ball with a little glue attach the ribbon to the ball. This is a beautiful gift for the moms, and the moms will adore it....

Tanya
Creative Kids at Play Preschool/Daycare

I don't teach a class of preschoolers only my own son so what we are going to do or would like to do is paint some sun catchers. I found the ones that are in the Oriental Trading catalogs and they are so neat. These are vases, tealight holders, picture frames, etc. They also have them for fathers day.

My DS does not like to sit still and do a lot with construction paper or fun foam, he says those things are boring. He does like to sit still for painting and putting together model cars though.

I have also thought about letting DS make a crown out of fun foam. I don't care much for any kinds of gifts, he is my gift along with my two older children and my 2 beautiful granddaughters. We will probably do more for father's day and grandparents day.

Robin Howell

I teach preschool (4 year olds) and this is what we do:

I have the children draw a picture for their mom on white construction paper with new markers. I take them home and scan them in my computer and print them out on iron on transfer paper (you have to choose the reverse print on your print program). I then iron them onto a bag that I have ordered from Oriental Trading (cost around \$15 for 12) or in the past I have ordered some off of ebay. I use the cool peel paper. I iron them on at work and let the kids peel off the paper after it cools. It only takes 2-3 minutes to cool.

On the other side of the bag with a fabric marker they write "Mom". Most of my kids have done this very well. They like to write their own name on the bottom of the bag.

It adds their own personal touch

As an added bonus we make "kiss" coupons. On my print shop program I choose the business card paper and write good for one kiss. I print out about 5 for each kid. I have them put on lipstick and "kiss" the card. They

turn out so cute. I make a cover that says kiss coupon book. Most of the kids get a kick out of kissing the cards. In the event I have some boy that refuses I have lip stickers on stand by. In four years I only had one kid refuse to kiss the coupons.

Laura Perron

Mothers Day Craft Ideas

- * Make a coupon Book for mom
- * Flower pot from air drying clay (Pitch Pot) and have the children paint it.
- * Hand Cut out Flowers (Use child's hand)

Laurie Heisler

Make a "plant" for mother. Make a pot from construction paper with a tall green stem. Use two hand prints for the flower and two foot prints for the leaves.

Linda Inzer

Homemade bath salts. The kids could decorate a jar with modge podge and tissue paper to place them in.

Add the salts to a large bowl in these proportions:

3 parts Epsom salts
2 parts baking soda
1 part table salt (or borax)
Essential (scented, herbal/floral) Oils

Mix thoroughly using your hands to stir the ingredients. Some people will tell you to use a spoon or other utensil, although if you are like me, you will find the salts work better if you use your hands. This is now the base from which you can create a wide variety of bath salts. It's wise to add colors to bath salts. Use plain food coloring for this purpose, letting it fall drop by drop onto the salt base.

Jen

This year we are making tulip t-shirts. The child's handprint is the flower, their forearm print is the stem and their footprints are the leaves. I use fabric paint. The kids love making these and the moms really enjoy them. I usually do the Mother survey to put in the card. Some of the answers are hysterical!

Mother's Day Poems

A Mom Is Like A Flower

A mom is like a flower
On a sunny summer day.
You´d pick her in a minute
If you could have your way.

A mom is like the sunshine;
She warms your heart each day
And makes you feel like smiling.
It´s just her special way
Of saying that she loves you
The way that mothers do.

A mom is very special.
That´s why you love her, too.

I have used this poem for years- it can be signed too.
I googled to find the exact wording and found this site with other
Mother's
Day poems

http://www.tooter4kids.com/classroom/mothers_day.htm

This isn't just an empty pot.
There's something you should know.
Inside the pot there is a seed
That, just like me, will grow.

The plant that grows will someday bloom
And remind you of the seed so small.
But without your love and tender care,
The seed wouldn't grow at all.

Thanks for helping me grow!
Happy Mother's Day!

Mommy, Mommy, I love you
And the many things you do.
You take care of me each day,
Read me books and even play.

Mommy, Mommy, I love you,
Happy Mother's Day to you!

I am your little flower, Mom
Please help me grow and bloom;
Take the weeds, but leave the roots
And give me lots of room.

Mom, you are my gardener;
My sunshine and my rain.
Too much will make me wither
With enough, I'll bloom again.

I am your little flower, Mom
I'm different from the rest;
Don't pick me Mom, just help me grow
To be my very best.

Written by: Rebecca Armstrong
May, 1998

Mother's Day ideas

We take each child's individual picture holding a bouquet of flowers.
We
then attach the poem that goes:

I will love you forever

and forever you will be
the most wonderful mother
you mean everything to me.

Instead of giving you a gift
in the usual way
I thought you would prefer
A forever bouquet!

Love, _____

Sticky Fingers and Big Wet Kisses
Sticky fingers and big wet kisses
Dirty toes and stars with wishes
Splashing through puddles and hugs too tight
Afternoon naps and sleepless nights
I'm growing so fast, I'll soon be grown
So I've made you this handprint for your very own
So tuck it away and keep it, please
So years from now I can see
How much I changed as time went by
And you can always remember my...
Sticky fingers and big wet kisses
Dirty toes and stars with wishes.....

Little ducklings all have a mom
to tell them wise-quacks.

Little piglets all have a mom
to take them piggy back.

Little bugs all have a mom
to give them buggy rides.

Little fawns all have a mom
who is a deer besides.

Little skunks must have a mom
who's sweet (at least to them).

And little flowers have a mom
to keep them on the stem.

Little bookworms have a mom
to teach them wrong from "write".

Little glowworms have a mom
to keep their tail lights bright.

Little bunnies have a mom
to teach them when to hop.

And little fishies have a mom
to show them how to belly flop.

Now, they think that their moms are great.
And probably it's true.
But then they haven't met the BEST
'Cuz mom they don't know you!

THE READING MOTHER

I had A MOTHER who read to me

Sagas of pirates who scoured the sea,

Cutlasses clenched in their yellow teeth,

"Blackbirds" stowed in the hold beneath

I had a Mother who read me lays

Of ancient and gallant and golden days;

Stories of Marmion and Ivanhoe,

Which every boy has a right to know.

I had a Mother who read me tales

Of Gelert the hound of the hills of Wales,

True to his trust till his tragic death,
Faithfulness blent with his final breath.

I had a Mother who read me the things
That wholesome life to the boy heart brings-
Stories that stir with an upward touch,
Oh, that each mother of boys were such!

You may have tangible wealth untold;
Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold.

Richer than I you can never be-

I had a Mother who read to me.

A Candle Votive

Mom, you light up my life everyday,
and I want to remind you in a special way,
just how much you mean to me.

When the candle is lit,
and there are bright colors to see
let it remind you of all of
the love you give to me.

Every mouse
and bumblebee,
Every bird
up in a tree,
Every caterpillar
and ladybug,
Loves to feel
his mother's hug.

Every bear
so fat and funny,
Loves his mother
more than honey.
Just as woodland
creatures do...
I love my mother
That is true!

I LOVE MY MOM!!!

When we did a Mother's Day placemat last year it featured this poem and the kid's paintings of a flower garden. Then were very pretty so we laminated them.

A mother's love is special,
It cannot help but show...
Like flowers in a garden,
Her love makes children grow!

Mother's Day Gift

These little hands will never grow,
These little hands will stay, just so,
When I'm grown and far away,
These little hands with you will stay.

MORE MOTHER'S DAY IDEAS

The kids loved painting the flower pots, cutting out their recipe tulips, pushing the Styrofoam into the pot and then adding the green fork. When they weaved the tulip through the fork prongs, many of them exclaimed

"Look, it's a flower ! "

We then added the Spanish Moss with tacky glue.

Friday they will decorate white lunch bags and wrap up the present for mom. I've attached a few pictures of the craft from my afternoon preK class.

Poem

Mother's Stew

1 full quart love

1 heaping cup laughter

Cream together and add 1 lb. patience,

1 Tbsp. tolerance, dash of courage, and a sprinkling of praise.

Add Alternately with a gallon of understanding.

Stir well and simmer for several prayer filled hours

or until done to taste.

Popsicle sticks

My kiddos are making a recipe card holder thing. It involve gluing sticks

across two others to make a 'raft' and then building up stacks (5) of sticks

on three sides of the raft. We glued 4-5 across the top of the stacks to make

an open ended box. We glued two sticks in a triangle shape on the back to

create a hanger. Next week we are decorating them with artificial flowers and

maybe some foam sticker hearts. At one of my centers last week they put

finger prints on 10 index cards and we are going to add black lines ala Ed

Emberly to create critters. This is turning out WAY cute and cost me \$1.00 for 2

pkgs of index cards as I had all of the other materials on hand from other

projects. I plan to have them trace their hand and fold it into an 'I Love

You' sign language sign to glue to a paper lunch bag to hold the gift.

A teaching partner and I were chatting about Mother's day gifts and came up

with a very neat corsage project. One of our hot lunches come packed in a

plastic container like flower corsages some in so we raided the lunch room and

have a nice collection for projects. My kids enjoyed doing coffee

filter

flowers for a pumpkin project earlier in the year so I thought about having them

make something similar for Moms. Then I found the popsicle stick project and

the flower thing fell by the wayside. My teaching partner however took the

corsage idea and made it her own. Her students used water color markers to

color on a coffee filter paper and then dipped it quickly in water so the

colors all ran together. After they were dried she used green florist tape to

twist them and create a stem. They added a hat pin and put them in the clear

plastic containers with green tissue paper. They are wonderful!

Mother's Day and Mothers & Babies

Simple Activities

Tear or cut pictures of mothers and babies together from parenting magazines

Texture collage- include different things like a drawing of self, a family

picture and hand/footprints

Make egg carton bouquets with egg cartons and plastic flowers

Visit the zoo to see baby animals recently born

Visit a pet shop to see baby animals

Have children bring pictures of themselves as babies to talk about at circle

time

Make a list to display in the classroom (like a mural) asking children to

tell you how moms show love to their children

put baby toys in the home living area

French Toast Breakfast for Mom

Put one egg and one tablespoon milk in bowl. Beat with a fork. Take one slice

of bread and dip on both sides. Measure one tablespoon butter and melt in

pan. Brown bread on both sides. Sprinkle with powdered sugar, serve with butter

and syrup.

Note Holder Gift Find a rock with a flat side. Glue a clothespin to the rock, letting dry overnight. Decorate the clothespin and rock with small shells or pebbles.

Stars

At night I see the twinkling stars
And a great big smiling moon
My mommy tucks me into bed
and sings a good night tune

Spring Babies

Babies are born in the spring
Tiny Robins are learning to sing
Tadpoles and polliwogs wriggle
Spotted hyena pups giggle
Tiger cubs show off their stripes
Puppies try out their first "yipes"
The lambs and the foals test their legs
Yellow chicks peck out of their eggs
Kittens meow for warm milk
The calves' baby hair feels like silk
The young hippopotamus yawns
The does lick their newborn fawns
The ducklings are learning to quack
and little snake eggs start to crack

Hush Little Baby

Hush little baby don't say a word, mama's gonna buy you a mocking bird
If that mocking bird won't sing, mama's gonna buy you a diamond ring
If that diamond ring turns brass, mama's gonna buy you a looking glass
If that looking glass gets broke, mama's gonna buy you a billy goat
If that billy goat gets bony, mama's gonna buy you a shetland pony
If that pony runs away, Mama's going to buy you another some day
Poem for Handprints Use this poem with handprints made with paint or plaster
of paris as a gift for mom

These little hands can give a hug
Pat-a-cake or throw a ball
They put smudges on the wall
Because I'm only just so tall
They love to clap or hold your hand
Whenever you can play
But when I'm grown and far away

These little hands with you will stay
Funny Mother's Day Survey Make copies of the survey questions below.
Ask each
child these questions about his/her mother and write down the answers
they
give... mount on construction paper and give to Moms. They'll get quite
a laugh!

What is your Mother's name?

How old is she?

How tall is she?

How much does she weigh?

What color is her hair?

What does she do around the house?

What is her favorite thing to eat?

What is her favorite TV show?

What does she cook?

Where does she like to go?

What is her favorite hobby?

My mother is special to me and I love her so much because...

Mother's Day Pencil Holder Cut off an empty half gallon milk carton
about 2

inches from the bottom. Glue construction paper to the sides and
decorate it

with paper cutouts. Cut off the top rim of a plastic berry basket. Turn
the

basket upsidedown and put it into the milk carton. Place pencils and
pens in the
holder.

Everything Mother's Day:

<http://www.everythingmothersday.com/>

Junior Chefs Cook Fro Mother's Day:

<http://homecooking.about.com/library/weekly/aa050898.htm>

Mother's Day:

<http://morning-glow.com/holidays/mother/mother.html>

A Mother's Song:

<http://www.kididdles.com/mouseum/m052.html>

Gifts To Give:

<http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems57.htm>

Mother's Day

Cards<http://www.123greetings.com/events/mothersday/happymothersday/>

Mother's Day Chocolates at Virtual Chocolate:

<http://www.virtualchocolate.com/mothersday/>

Free Stuff For Mother's Day:

<http://www.myfree.com/mother.htm>

Mother's Day Cards & Graphics:

<http://www.rexanne.com/mday-cards.html>

Mother's Day Game:

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/games/cocoa/mom.html>

Recipes and Crafts For Mother's Day:

http://www.garvick.com/annual/mothers_day/

Handprint Dishcloth:

<http://www.kinderart.com/seasons/mother5.shtml>

I Love My Mom:

http://www.janbrett.com/i_love_my_mom.htm

Kindergarten Island Fever Mother's Day:

<http://teachers.net/lessons/posts/434.html>

Mother's Day Butterfly and Poem:

<http://teachers.net/lessons/posts/1061.html>

Mother's Day Crafts:

<http://www.angiesrealm.com/mothers-day/crafts/>

Mother's Day Gift:

<http://www.agirlsworld.com/amy/pajama/mothersday/mom-craft.html>

As Good As Gold:

http://www.education-world.com/a_lesson/02/lp263-04.shtml

Mom's Day Colorings:

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/mom/color.html>

Mom's Day Gifts:

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/mom/gifts.html>

<http://blackdog4kids.com/holiday/mom/gift.html>

Mom's Day Mazes:

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/mom/maze.html>

M-O-T-H-E-R Poem:

<http://www.holidays.net/mother/poem.htm>

Mother's Day Goodies:

<http://www.holidays.net/mother/goodies.htm>

Mother's Day Awards:

<http://blackdog4kids.com/holiday/mom/award/>

Mother's Day Cards:

<http://blackdog.net/postcards/cardrack19.html>

Mother's Day Coupons:

<http://blackdog4kids.com/holiday/mom/coupon/>

Mother's Day Match Game:

<http://blackdog4kids.com/holiday/mom/match/>

Mother's Day Quotations:

<http://www.jeannepasero.com/mompoems.html>

This isn't just an empty pot.
There's something you should know.
Inside the pot there is a seed
That, just like me, will grow.

The plant that grows will someday bloom
And remind you of the seed so small.
But without your love and tender care,
The seed wouldn't grow at all.

Thanks for helping me grow!
Happy Mother's Day!

volunteer idea

One of our teachers just showed us what she is doing for her volunteers. She took individual pictures of each student, probably digital since she is a computer whiz, and then made copies of each set for each of her volunteers. Next she used the elison die for the daisy flower with the center cut out. She put each child's picture in the middle part, then used floral tape to tape to a floral stick. She rizzooed a leaf pattern where the students thanked the volunteers for however they had helped the child or room. (writing activity) She added the leaf with the floral tape and then made each set into a bunch of flowers with tissue paper. The card said Thanks A Bunch for your Help. It looked really cute and the volunteers were delighted!

Mother's Day Tea

I have done a Mother's Day Tea for several years now and it is one of my favorite events! And the mothers LOVE it!

I serve a simple light luncheon such as chicken salad sandwiches on small party bread, fruit & cheese tray, chocolate covered strawberries (that we make in class...so easy and the children really do it by themselves!), and sugar cookies. I serve raspberry/lemon flavored iced tea instead of hot tea not only for the safety reasons but since we are in the south...it is much more refreshing than hot tea.

Here's how the event goes:

I ask all the mothers to wait in the hallway. Then I introduce them one by one as their child comes to the doorway, takes their hand, and leads them to their chair. After they are seated, the child gives them a hug/kiss and a flower which they can put in a vase we have decorated for them. It is on the table along with placemats we've made. Next the children stand in front of the moms and sing a couple of songs. Songs like "You are my sunshine" or "I love you a bushel and a peck". I also have the children recite the M-O-T-H-E-R poem for the moms. By the end of it, everyone is in happy tears! Next, the children go to sit with their moms and I read a poem or a short story about mothers. Then we eat. I talk to the children beforehand about the importance of this day for their mothers and we discuss manners. It is adorable to watch as the children let their moms go first in line and then offer their help. Quite a nice change

for the mom to be waited on!

I also type up a program of the event. It makes a nice keepsake or something for the moms to put in their scrapbooks. I usually include the words to the poems/songs so they'll have that.

Mother's Day Tea

I forgot to tell you about our Mother's Day cards. This takes advance prep but it well worth it. In March, we have a Dessert with Dad night where the Dad and the child make a card for the mom. The child decorates it and a poem is glued in the card. Dad writes a message to mom and the child signs the card. We keep the cards until the Mother's Day Tea. At the Tea, mom opens her card and is astounded to see that dad signed it too! Many of the dads write some incredibly touching stuff! Things they might not ordinarily say and the moms are so surprised. They always wonder how we pull it off!

Mother's Day Tea

My partner and I make Minute Maid Berry Punch from frozen concentrate. Then we add a bottle of pop to make it a bit fizzy. We made ice cubes ahead of time out of fruit punch too.

We serve carrot cake from Costco.

We turn our desks around to make tables of four. The kids sit on Mom's lap.

My teaching partner made small tablecloths out of cheap material but they look great.

Ahead of time the kids make a placemat on which they write about their mom

and draw her picture in a frame. We laminate them for keepsakes.

Every

year the kids make a different gift and wrap it, a card and a corsage with a

sucker as the center. Sometimes we make a napkin holder too. We have cheap

flower vases and that's in the center of each table.

The moms arrive and we ask them to remain outside. Once all the moms are there, the kids come to the door individually to greet mom, take her to their seat and give her a corsage (which Mom pins on). Some moms are so touched, there are tears! It is touching to watch! The Moms are "allowed" to open their gifts and admire the cards as they arrive.

When everyone has arrived, we begin the tea. The kids come to the food table and carry cake to Mom and then come back to get their punch. Kids eat too. We spend some time before the tea party to discuss expectations regarding serving the food and manners and being patient while everyone has a chance to eat etc.

While the kids and moms are eating, we take photos of Mom and child. They hold the gift in the picture too.

After the food we either sing a song or read a story we have written etc. There's usually not much time.

Then it's over. It's about 45 min. in length. It's one of my favourite days!

You could look at Linda Critchell's links about her Mother's Day Tea. We corresponded for a year or so and shared many ideas. Some of the ideas I mentioned are in photos on Linda's site:
<http://www.kinderteacher.com/MothersDayIdeas.htm>

1.. Mother's day magnet--In advance, color some rotini pasta in a variety of floral colors. Break each colored pasta piece in half. For each

child, cut a 2 inch circle from white poster board or tagboard. Use a pencil to draw a small center circle. Cover the small inner circle with tacky glue and then sprinkle on some millet birdseed. Allow to dry. Spread tacky glue over the remainder of the cutout circle and arrange the pasta "petals" around the millet center. Glue on a tagboard stem and leaves, and then add a length of self adhesive magnetic tape to the back of the flower.

2.. Kleenex box photo frame-Paint each side of an unfinished wood tissue box a different color using acrylic paints. Let dry. dab on contrasting polka dots with an unused pencil eraser dipped in paint. Let dry. Color copy four photos. Trim to fit and then glue one to center of each side. Protect with an acrylic spray sealer or decoupage glue.

3.. Hand bouquet--Make a dozen roses! Have each child make 12 red or pink paint handprints on a large sheet of white construction paper. Then each child should dip one finger into green tempera paint and paint a green stem for each "rose". When the paint is dry, glue the bouquet painting to a sheet of green floral paper. They write a note for mom on a heart shaped cutout and glue it to the bottom of the painting. the pick is really cute and resembles a vase.

Mommy Doll

Materials Needed:

Large White Sock

Poly Fiber Fill or Cotton Balls

Rubber Band

Yarn or Ribbon

Glue

Unwanted Clothing

Markers

Instructions:

Start out with a large, white sock. Fill it up to the cuff with poly-fill or cotton balls.... (EVEN TISSUE PAPER)! Tie a little rubber band around the lowest part, right above the filling. Next, cut the cuff all the way down to the rubber band and fold over the extra sock. You can sew it together with embroidery floss. Cut up and glue on yarn or ribbon as hair on top of the "doll" in all sorts of directions. Cut up unwanted clothes, cloths, towels, etc. and use as clothing (this can be sewn or glued). Use a marker to draw on the face, and you may use googly eyes for the eyes!

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Mom's Special Place Mat

I made one of these for my mom last year of pictures of my son(her only grandbaby:) It is her FAVORITE gift she has ever gotten-qoute from her!!

Family photos (ask permission first)
or your own drawings

Light weight cardboard or heavy construction paper (I used a piece of legal size paper and it worked fine)

Glue

Contact paper

You will need to find some photos of mom, the kids, family shots etc.. Or, draw pictures of why you love your mom. Glue photos or pictures onto light cardboard or construction paper in decorative fashion the size of a place mat.

Cover this collage with clear contact paper to seal the place mat. Be sure to date and sign it.

Candy Gram To Mom

A candy Gram is a letter written with candy bars in place of some of the words. Here is a cute one to use for Mom's Day.

Mom-

(Starbust) in the (Milkyway) to proclaim my love for you! We've been through (Mounds) of (Rocky Road)s, each time you have been my (Lifesaver). If I had (100 Grand) I'd take you on a shopping (Spree) to New (York) City on (5th Avenue). Some say you're a (Shock Tart) (Snickers), but I think you're a (Sweet Tart)! Have a (Carefree) day! (Dove)

(your name here)

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BIG PICTURE CARD

This program makes BIG PIC's of anything! It is a ton of fun to use and people love the results:)

www.recipes4learning.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=453

:),,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,:)

Baby Food Jar Flower Garden

****Homemade playdough is the best for this because it dries a lot faster than the kind you can buy in stores, plus it's cheaper.**

What You Will Need:

- Baby-food jar with lid
- Small dried or silk flowers
- Rolling pin
- Craft or hot glue
- Homemade (or store bought) playdough

Making the 'garden'

Roll out playdough with a rolling pin. Use the mouth of the jar as a cookie cutter (if you use the lid, you can't close the jar). Hot glue (adults only) the play dough into the lid and wait about 10 seconds. Have the kids stick flowers into the dough. Leave lids on a cookie sheet to dry over night.

When the playdough is dry, screw on the lid carefully.

You can write a name on the jar with glitter or decorate any way you want.

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Dough Handprints

Last year I made dough handprints of my son. It is real simple. They make wonderful gifts for grandparents, too! (of course I saved them for me:)

What You Will Need:

2 cups of flour
1 cup salt
1 cup water
Food coloring
Ribbon
Gold marker
Wax paper

How To Make It:

Add food coloring to the water.

Mix all ingredients well, kneading until smooth. Dough should be pretty stiff, not soft or runny or it will fill with air bubbles when baking.

Form dough into a ball, of about what you can enclose in your two hands, and form into a round smooth ball.

Using a rolling pin with the dough on wax paper, roll out into as round of a circle as you can. Dough will be about 1/2 inch thick.

Press your child's hand with fingers splayed into the dough.

Depending on child's age, you will have to help and individually press their fingers. Make sure to press deep enough without going completely to the bottom. (When it bakes it tends to raise the handprint up.)

Put on a cookie sheet.

Use a chop stick or pencil, etc. to make two holes in the top about 1/2 inch apart. This will be used to string the ribbon through.

Bake at 200 degrees for about 2-3 hours. Dough should be fairly hard but watch to see that it doesn't burn.

When they are done and cooled, use a gold marker pen and write the child's name and date (year). I put the child's name on top and the year on bottom, if there is room. If not, I put name on one side and year on one side. I tie a ribbon at the top to use as a loop to hang.

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Handprint Poem

You can add this poem to the Dough Handprint on a separate card:

Sometimes you get discouraged
Because I am so small
And always leave my fingerprints
On furniture and walls

But every day I'm growing --
I'll be grown some day
And all those tiny handprints
Will surely fade away

So here's a little handprint
Just so you can recall
Exactly how my fingers looked
When I was very small

Put a date here
Love, put child's name here

:),,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,:)

here are just a few more fun ideas for you to make for mom:) Be sure to keep them handy for Dad's Day too:)

1. Ages newborn and up: Handprint paperweights. Supplies: 2 cups of flour, 1 cup of salt, about 1 cup of water, wax paper, rolling pin, cookie/bread board, children's non-toxic paint, paint brush, sparkly art sprinkles.

To make homemade "dough," first mix the flour and salt. Then, add water to the flour mixture gradually, adding just enough water to make a stiff dough. Roll dough out on wax-paper-covered board with rolling pin, making a circular shape about 1/2-inch thick. Help children press their outstretched hands carefully into the dough, going fairly deep but not all the way through.

Place the handprints on a cookie sheet and bake at 200 degrees for about 2 1/2 hours or until dough has hardened. Remove the handprints from the oven and cool completely, preferably overnight.

Then, help kids paint their handprints with non-toxic, children's art paint, and decorate by shaking sparkly sprinkles onto the wet paint. Let handprints dry.

This is a great project for all ages, from newborns up to older kids, and, ever since they were pressed in the baby book, Moms never get tired of seeing their kids' handprints.

2. Ages 3 and up: My Favorite Story About Mom. Supplies: Paper to write on; construction paper or stiff paper for covers; markers, pencils, crayons, paints.

Have each kid write a one-page story about a special time with Mom. Kids who are younger than about 6 can narrate the story for an adult to write. Teen-agers can write short stories or poetry. Have the kids draw a picture or design other art work to go with it. Put the pages together with a cover.

3. Ages 3 and up: Pretty "vases" or votive candleholders. Supplies: Baby jars or other food jars, pretty wrapping tissue paper, white glue, water, paint brush.

First, let kids tear up pretty floral, pastel or other tissue paper into small pieces. Toddlers will especially love this activity! Then, dilute white glue with water. Let kids "paint" glue on baby food or other jars. Press pieces of tissue paper onto jar, using your fingers and paint brush to smooth all edges with glue. Larger jars can be vases; small baby food jars can hold votive candles. Let the jars dry and add a small votive candle if desired.

4. Ages newborn and up: Little piggy pictures. Supplies: Camera with film, photo frame or matte, art supplies like paints, stickers, crayons or markers.

This will require more effort on your part, but the results can be precious. Have the kids take off of their socks and lie down with their feet next to each other in a row. Take a photo of the row of feet (from the soles, with toes pointing up). Let the kids decorate a photo frame or matte with stickers or doodles or paint and frame the photo.

5. Ages 3 and up: Chunky necklace or bracelet. Supplies: String or thick thread, large wood or plastic beads, uncooked spaghetti rings or other things with holes.

Help kids string the beads or other items onto the string. Toddlers can do this if you provide items with large holes. Older kids can manipulate smaller objects. Encourage elementary kids to make patterns based on color or style ("red-blue-red-blue" or "heart-

diamond-square-heart-diamond-square.")

6. All ages: The sounds of Mommy's angels. Supplies: Casette recorder, blank cassette tape. Make a cassette recording of the kids singing. Great for moms to hear on the way to work or when they are traveling.

Handprint Flower...

Mount a piece of white paper on top of a larger piece of colored construction paper. Paint the child's palm of hand any color he wants. Have him press down onto about the center or a little above. Next paint the child's fingers using another color of choice and have him press down above the palm print.(A perfect hand print now.) When the paint is dry the child may add a cut out heart for the center of the flower. Leaves and stem using construction paper. Here is the poem to provide:

A piece of me
I give to you.
I painted this flower
To say "I love you."

The heart is you.
The hand is me.
To show we are friends-
The best there can be.

I hope you will save it
And look back someday
At the flower we shared
On your special day.
-Kathleen Lademan

Card Or Book For Mom...

Use this along with a gift you've made as part of a card or make a book.

You sew the buttons on my clothes (glue button on this page)
You gave me a hankie for my nose (kleenex on this one)
You make good things for me to eat (picture from magazine)
You buy me candy for a treat (glue piece of candy on)
You wash my clothes and mend my socks(picture from mag and a cut our sock)

Dear Mother, I love you lots and lots!!(big heart - can put child's picture in it)

Mother's Day Kisses...

You will need 2 wrapped candy kisses, 1 plastic spoon, a 4x4 piece of netting, and ribbon. Place the two kisses back to back in the bowl of the spoon. Cover with the netting and tie with small ribbon. To the ribbon's bow attach the following poem:

"Happy Mother's Day!

A spoonful of love

And a couple of wishes,

That you enjoy your

Mother's Day kisses!"

Mothers day Poems

My little hands play pat-a-cake
they peek-a-boo and wave...
they catch me when I learn to walk
and splash me when I bathe.
My little hands reach up to you
for hugs before I sleep...
and fold together when I pray
the Lord my soul to keep.
My little hands are tiny now
but yours will serve to guide me..
And when I'm grown I'll still reach out
and know your beside me!

HEARTPRINTS

Whatever our hands touch---
We leave fingerprints!
On walls, on furniture,
On doorknobs, dishes, books,
As we touch we leave our identity.

Oh please where ever I go today,
Help me leave heartprints!
Heartprints of compassion
Of understanding and love.

Heartprints of kindness
and genuine concern.

May my heart touch a lonely neighbor
Or a runaway daughter,
Or an anxious mother,
Or, perhaps, a dear friend!

I shall go out today
To leave heartprints,
And if someone should say
"I felt your touch,"
May that one sense be...YOUR LOVE
Touching through ME...

Here it is in a back issue of the Teachers.Net Gazette:
<http://teachers.net/gazette/MAY02/lessons.html> (from the Teachers.Net
Lessons Bank)

Holly Ziwicki wrote:

I must have deleted the Mother's Day idea - the butterfly made by
painting
your ;hand
and making a print and a poem came with it.

Here it is in a back issue of the Teachers.Net Gazette:
<http://teachers.net/gazette/MAY02/lessons.html> (from the Teachers.Net
Lessons Bank)

Mothers Day Flower Poem **

Need:
construction paper
red and green tempera paint
markers
glue

Cut a flower stem and leaves from colored construction paper.
Assemble
and
glue them onto another sheet of paper. Cut out a red heart and glue

on
top
of the stem and paint child's hand with tempera paint and put the
print on
top of heart. Attach the following poem.
A piece of me I give to you.
I made this flower to say "I love you."
The heart is you.
The hand is me.
To show we are friends-
The best there can be.
I hope you will save it
And look back someday
At the flower we shared
On your special day.

~~~~~  
\*\* Coupons for Mom \*\*

- Need:  
paper  
pen/pencil  
stapler  
scissors  
ideas  
markers

Take the paper and cut it into rectangles, then on as many as you  
want  
write  
things like you "Get a free hug on this day:\_\_\_\_\_", or "I will make  
my  
bed  
on this day:\_\_\_\_\_", "Good for one free Hug!", "Good for one Room  
Clean  
Up",  
"Good for Breakfast in Bed (with help from Dad)", "Good for one  
Kiss",  
etc.  
Then have the child draw a little picture on each "Coupon" and color  
with  
markers. You can also add little black dashes around the edges of  
each to  
resemble a real coupon. Make a cover for the coupon book that says

"Coupon

Book For Mom". Then when you are finished, staple it together and you have

a sweet little coupon book for Mom.

~~~~~

~** Mother's Day Kisses **~

Need:

2 wrapped candy kisses

1 plastic spoon

a 4x4 piece of netting and ribbon

Place the two kisses back to back in the bowl of the spoon. Cover with

netting and tie a small ribbon. To the ribbon bow attach the following

poem:

- Happy Mother's Day! -

A spoonful of love

And a couple of wishes

That you enjoy your

Mother's Day Kisses!

~~~~~

Mother's Day Theme

Allow children to paint the outside of an inexpensive flower pot with acrylic paints. When dry coat the inside and outside with a sealant. Provide the children with live flowers or houseplants, potting soil, and watering can.

Painted Flower Pots

We had our class of 3, 4 and 5 year olds paint the outside of a medium sized clay pot with flowers. We had them use stamps for the actual flower and then they painted the stem on and put the grass at the bottom. The pots were then filled with a baggie of potting soil, a flower packet and a poem. We wrapped the entire pot in clear wrap and tied it with ribbons. The poem we enclosed was: Here's a little pot, I painted just for you, Inside is a special project, For the two of us to do. Happy Mother's Day.

Variation on Flower Pot

Write "Bee cause I love you" and took the children's thumb prints of yellow paint and made bee's along the top of a ceramic flower pot.

Here's a new version of an old tried and true poem.....

Here's a card for Mother's Day,

I'll try to be my best each day.

When you sit to read to me,

Relax and have a cup of tea!

Attach a bag of tea and maybe a coffee mug.

**Mother's Day Pin**

color plastic champagne glass (from party store) completely with permanent markers. bake at 200 degrees until melted to look like a flower. hot glue pin back on for a pretty mother's day pin

I paint the children's hands or feet (with babies it is easier to paint their feet) and make prints and add this poem afterwards with the Year. This activity can be for any Holiday, just change the bottom :

**This Is To Remind You**

**When I Have Grown So Tall**

**That Once I Was Quite Little**

**And My (Feet or Hands) Were Very Small**

**Happy Mother's Day 2003**

Send home with each child a small cellophane package containing about 6 Hershey's Kisses, and a note to the mother stating something like, Everytime you catch your child doing something good, or putting forth an exemplary effort, "Share a Kiss." Be sure to place an even number of Kisses into the bag.

Prepare a list of questions about mom and print out. Ask each child to answer the questions during the week, and record their answers exactly as given. Glue the answer sheet onto construction paper to create a border. The children can be given stickers, glitter, or other decorative effects to enhance border. An example of some questions would be:

How old is your mother?

Where does she work?

Does she like to cook?

How tall is mommy?

What is mother's hair and eye color?

What is your favorite thing to do with your mother?

This year for Mother's Day I am making an imprint of the children's hands in Faster Plaster. Around the outside I will be adding this poem:

A mother holds her child's hand for only a little while,

But, she holds their hearts forever.

## **Candle Holders**

Recycle baby food jars. Have children tear tissue paper in small pieces and with white glue glue to jar and lid. Put an extra coat of glue on all when done. Put a votive candle inside and tie a ribbon around the top. We cut daisies out of cardstock for the card and attached this to the ribbon.

## **Mother's Day Crafts**

**Gifts for the Bath**

**Gifts for the Kitchen**

**Potpourri Gifts**

**Jewelry for Mom**

**Other Gifts for Women**

**Photo Gifts & Frames**

**Teacher's Gifts**

## **Mother's Day Activities**

**Mother's Day Poems**

**Mother's Day Songs**

**Mother's Day Books**

**Miscellaneous Easy Ideas and Activities**

**Mother's Day Free E-Cards**

## **Mother's Day Crafts & Gifts to Make**

**Flower Magnet**

**Best Cook Hands Down Aprons**

**Pasta Necklace Jewlery**

**Garden Stepping Stones**

**Craft Stick Picture Frames**

**Mom's Placemat**

**Book of Kisses**

**Mother's Day Handprint Card**

**Stained Glass Candle Jar**

**Sand Candles**

**Yummy Cups**

**Pat on the Back Shirts**

**Wooden Keepsake Plaques**

**Mother's Day Pins**

**Mom's Recipe Holder**

**Plaster Handprints**

Fun Foam Flower Pot  
Window Knick Knack  
Mommy Fact Sheet  
Wrapped Around My Finger Painting  
Share a Snack With Mom  
I Love You This Much Card  
Care Package  
Wrapped Around My Finger

### Materials

Good watercolor paper  
acrylic paint  
foam brush  
frame, glass and mats  
gold metallic marker pen  
black calligraphy pen

### Directions

Using foam brush, paint child's hand with paint and press onto center of paper. (Wear smocks, this paint does NOT wash out :)) Let dry. With gold marker, draw a fancy bow around one finger. In the upper right corner, write in fancy writing, "Mom, I have you wrapped around my finger".

After dry, insert in frame with mat. This makes a beautiful lasting gift for Moms or Dads.

### Mother's Day Theme

Allow children to paint the outside of an inexpensive flower pot with acrylic paints. When dry coat the inside and outside with a sealant. Provide the children with live flowers or houseplants, potting soil, and watering can.

### Painted Flower Pots

We had our class of 3, 4 and 5 year olds paint the outside of a medium sized clay pot with flowers. We had them use stamps for the actual flower and then they painted the stem on and put the grass at the bottom. The pots were then filled with a baggie of potting soil, a

flower packet and a poem. We wrapped the entire pot in clear wrap and tied it with ribbons. The poem we enclosed was: Here's a little pot, I

painted just for you, Inside is a special project, For the two of us to do. Happy Mother's Day.

### Variation on Flower Pot

Write "Bee cause I love you" and took the children's thumb prints of yellow paint and made bee's along the top of a ceramic flower pot.

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Attach a bag of tea and maybe a coffee mug.

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Recycle baby food jars. Have children tear tissue paper in small pieces and with white glue glue to jar and lid. Put an extra coat of glue on all when done. Put a votive candle inside and tie a ribbon around the top. We cut daisies out of cardstock for the card and attached this to the ribbon.

Mom's Memory Box

Christine Dvornik



**Age: Preschool and up**

**Time: An afternoon**

**Type of activity: Arts and Crafts**

**Make Mother's Day -- or any day -- special when you give this gift that's made of love and happy memories.**

**Parents.**

**This activity enhances your child's awareness of textures and design. It will also give her a greater meaning of "family" as she reminisces with you about the past.**

**More Fun for Kids:**

**Try another activity!**

**Materials needed:**

- Newspaper
- Shoe or hat box
- Acrylic paint
- Color copies of family photos and keepsake objects
- Mod Podge (can be purchased at any local craft store)
- Paintbrush
- Sponge
- Flat-edged dull knife
- Ribbon
- Pieces of fabric, buttons, and other decorative objects
- Magazine clippings or wrapping paper scraps
- Baby or other family photo
- One sheet of colored construction paper
- Scissors

**What to do:**

**Step One: Lay newspapers over your work area in case of spills.**

**Step Two: Paint the box and let it dry. Paint any designs on the box that you want to appear as a background (trees, clouds, sun, stars.).**

**Step Three: Tear the edges of your family and keepsake photographic images to give them a frayed, antique look.**

**Step Four: Experiment with the layout of the photographic images,**

magazine clippings, and/or wrapping paper scraps you'll glue to the box. When you've decided on a design, paste the images on the box using the Mod Podge and paintbrush.

**Step Five:** Keep layering the images. Be sure to eliminate all the air bubbles as the paste dries, using the flat edge of the dull knife.

**Step Six:** Wipe up any excess Mod Podge around the images with the sponge.

**Step Seven:** Using clear glue, attach any buttons, fabric scraps, or other decorative items you'd like to the box.

**Step Eight:** Punch two holes (with a pencil or scissors) a few centimeters apart in the box top. Pull a piece of ribbon through the holes and tie it in a bow at the top of the box.

**Step Nine:** Cut out a frame from the construction paper that fits your baby or family photo. Sandwich the photo between the frame and the underside of the box's cover. Glue the frame to the box, covering the ribbon.

**Step Ten:** Give the entire box a final coat of Mod Podge. Let it dry completely.

Now Mom, Grandma, or someone special will treasure this "keepsake keeper" for years to come!

**Thankful Bag**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your loving care  
Thank you for all the kindness that you share  
Thank you for helping me to learn and grow  
Thank you for showing me all that you know  
That's why I just want to say  
"THANK YOU" in the biggest way

This thankful bag contains:

- A rubber band-to keep our hearts tied together always
- A candy kiss-to say thank you for all your love
- A penny-to say thank you for sharing my thoughts and letting me know they are important to you
- A warm fuzzy-to make you feel good when you are sad like you always do for me.
- A band-aid - to say thank you for all the times you make my hurts feel better
- A facial tissue-to say thank you for all the times you dry my tears
- And a piece of lifesaver candy-a circle to show that my love for you will never end.
- 

Love: \_\_\_\_\_

### Hugs and Kisses Mother's Day poem

For Mother's Day gifts this year, the kids painted terra cotta flower pots which will be decorated with buttons. I have silk gerber daisies that I will put in each pot and then mound hershey hugs and kisses around the flower. Does anyone have a Mother's Day poem that talks about hugs and kisses?

Dear Mommy

I want to tell you what a good mommy you are to me.  
You fill my days with hugs and kisses  
and talks upon your knee.  
When I'm sick you make me better,  
when I'm crabby you make me smile.  
Having you for a mommy makes me a lucky child.  
So thank you for being my mommy and,  
for all the things you do, I give these beautiful flowers  
with love from me to you!!

From: <http://www.4momidad.com/mommy.htm>

Mommy I love you for all that you do,  
I'll Kiss you and hug you, cause you love me too.  
You feed me and need me to teach you to play.  
So SMILE cause I love you this MOTHER'S DAY

From:

<http://www.geocities.com/christinaponcia/themes/mothers/poems.html>

## Mother's Day

This yer we are making MOM Pins. I am using SHRINK IT.. I cut out figures and had the kids color to look like their mothers... I punched 3 holes in the head. put them in the oven. and now I am tying a piece of yarn in each hole.. fray it and it looks like hair they are cute

Sticky Fingers and Big Wet Kisses  
Sticky fingers and big wet kisses  
Dirty toes and stars with wishes  
Splashing through puddles and hugs too tight  
Afternoon naps and sleepless nights  
I'm growing so fast, I'll soon be grown  
So I've made you this handprint for your very own  
So tuck it away and keep it, please  
So years from now I can see  
How much I changed as time went by  
And you can always remember my...  
Sticky fingers and big wet kisses  
Dirty toes and stars with wishes.....

## Mother's Day Ideas

This is one of the things I do for Mother's Day.  
Trace both hands of each student on Shrink-a-dink plastic.  
Have the child color their "hands on the plastic" with a permanent

marker, any color works (I use sharpies). They don't even have to stay within the lines. After they are colored you will have to cut them out. Follow the baking directions on the plastic(usually its baked at 250 degrees for 10 min.)When they are finished cooling and "shrinking" glue pin backs to the hand. The mothers just loved these. I still see them wearing them.

I do two hands because sometimes the little fingers curl the wrong way or I don't watch them close enough to help flatten them if they need it.

Good Luck and let me know if you have any questions.

I got the Shrink-a-dink stuff through discount school supplies, but Michaels crafts store carries it too.

Take a picture of the child holding a bouquet of flowers. Take a piece of construction paper and put the poem below on it. Below the poem put the picture you took, laminate it. They will love it!

Poem:

Dear Mom,

I will love you forever

And forever you will be

The most wonderful mother

You mean everything to me

So instead of buying you flowers

In the usual way

I thought you would prefer

A FOREVER BOUQUET!

Love, \_\_\_\_\_

(The picture is the bouquet that never dies)

### Mother's Day Ideas

We illustrate the following poem each year and make a card. The poem is an original by me and has been published. I use clear solo cups and fill them with potting soil. Our local wal-mart will donate a tray of potting plants

to me (usually red begonias) and they plant their flower. I give each child two sheets of white tissue paper and they decorate with markers. All they have to do is dot the marker onto the tissue paper and it spreads and creates a shape. We put the flower-filled cup onto the center of the paper, pull the paper up and tie with a ribbon. Here's the poem and Happy Mother's Day to all you wonderful moms!

I am your little flower, Mom,  
Please help me grow and bloom;  
Take the weeds, but leave the roots  
And give me lots of room.

Mom, you are my gardener  
My sunshine and my rain.  
Too much will make me wither;  
With "just enough" I'll bloom again.

Just like the other flowers  
I'm different from the rest.  
Don't pick me, mom, just help me grow  
To be my very best.

Here's a gift I do for Mother's Day...it might be a good idea for the teacher of 70 children!

I have the children design a border for stationery - at the top I print "A Note from my Mom" and at the bottom they write their names. Then along the sides only they draw a design - vines, flowers, squiggly lines - something simple. I have the paper divided into half so they do it twice. Then I run it off on colored paper (5 copies per child) and they have 10 notecards for mom! This part costs me nothing, as we have colored paper at school and

unlimited copies.

Because I only have 20 children, they also make a note holder. I hot glue a wooden flower shape (available for a few cents at crafts stores) onto a wooden spring-type clothespin. Then they paint the clothespin green for the stem and the flower anyway they'd like. Then we clip the notecards in the clothespin and we're done!

### Mother's Day idea

Hi all,  
I went to my room today and got out the book I use for Mothers day (Well one of them). It is called Celebrating Mother's Day--Mom's Memory Box. It is a Creative Teaching Press Learn to Read book ISBN 1-57471-573-9. I just type the words to the book in poem format and small font to roll up and put in the small box with the items in the poem. The box we cut out from our materials center from an Ellison die cut in about 2 1/2 inches square with a top which forms a heart when closed. I cut them out of a pastel color(s) so when the kids water color them they look great. As I said before, a few days before Mother's Day Tea, the kids and I enjoy the book and drop the items in their boxes one at a time. (Paint the boxes a couple of days before).

Here is the poem and accompanying item to drop in:

Mom's Memory Box  
It's almost Mother's Day.  
I want to show my mom I love her a special way.  
I'll paint a little box.  
I'll put in a teddy bear.

( small fuzzy bear about 3/4 in purchased at craft store)

It shows how we love to bear hug.

I'll put in a piece of gum.

(obviously, a piece of bubble gum)

It shows how we always stick together.

I'll put in some nuts.

(Peanut in shell)

They show how silly we like to be.

I'll put in a bandage.

(band-aid)

It shows how she always comes to my rescue.

I'll put in a chocolate kiss.

(hershey's kiss)

It shows how good it feels to be loved.

And, Mom, don't forget...

I'll love you forever!

Hope this is clear. It is loved by all and fairly cheap. I would definitely

get the book (copywriting infringement is not my style) to read. The pics

are cute, kind of small to read to whole group of moms and kinders though. I

wish it came in big book.

Oh well, email me for more information if needed.

Laura in Upland

### The History of Mother's Day

The first known observance of Mother's Day in America occurred in Albion, Michigan on the second Sunday in May, 1877. It was the actions of an Albion Pioneer woman, Juliet Calhoun Blakeley that set Mother's Day in motion. Two days before her 59th birthday on May 11th, 1877, three young men, all sons of staunch temperance advocates, were found drunk on the streets of Albion's business district. They had been the victims of anti-temperance shenanigans.

One of the young men was the son of the pastor of the local Methodist Episcopal Church. On Sunday (Mrs. Blakeley's birthday) the pastor was so distraught that he had to leave the pulpit before the services were concluded. Mrs Blakeley, sitting near the front, stepped to the pulpit to take over the remainder of the service and called other mothers to join her.



Mrs. Blakeley's sons, Charles C. and Moses A. were traveling salesmen. They were so moved by her gesture that they vowed to return to Albion every year to mark their mother's birthday anniversary and to pay tribute to her. In addition, the two brothers made it a practice to urge business associates and those they met on the road to honor their mothers accordingly on the second Sunday of May. Because of the brothers urgings, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Albion set aside the second Sunday of each May to pay special recognition to mothers, and especially to Juliet Calhoun Blakeley "The Original Mother of Mother's Day", early in the 1880's.

But it is Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia who is credited with bringing about the official observance of Mother's Day. Her campaign to establish such a holiday began as a remembrance of her mother, who died in 1905 and who had, in the late 19th century, tried to establish "Mother's Friendship Days" as a way to heal the scars of the Civil War.

Today, most of us celebrate Mother's Day with little awareness of how it began. But we can identify with the respect, love and honor that Anna Jarvis displayed nearly a century ago. Women, especially mothers, face new challenges in society today, but motherhood remains a lasting influence on us as individuals and as a nation.

#### Mother's Day Activities

This year, Mother's Day falls on May 11th. To help your class get ready for this special time, here are some of the best ideas that have been submitted over the last few weeks.

#### Submitted By Jeanette

This year for Mother's Day we are buying small wreaths and having the children paste dried flowers on them as presents.

#### Submitted By Marilyn

Bath crystals!

- Container of Epsom Salts (from 99 cent store, or drugs store)
- Small zip-lock bags
- Food coloring
- Any perfume
- Dropper

Give each child a zip-lock bag.

Have them measure out 1/2 to 1 cup Epsom Salts (depending how much you have) Pour in bags. Add one drop of food coloring into the bag. NOTE. One drop to one half cup will make it a pastel color. Zip bag tightly and shake, shake, shake. When they have the color they desire, open the bag and add a drop or two to fragrance. Close again and shake. Give the children a piece of masking tape, put it on the table and let them decorate it and transfer it to the bag.

I find that the small 4 ounce plastic water bottles are very nice, but you will need a funnel. The kids can make nice labels and tie ribbon around the neck of the bottles.

Submitted By Sandy

For an inexpensive Mother's Day corsage, I placed about 9 tissue paper squares (5x5") on a table. I traced the child's hand and then cut them out. I folded the palm of the hand into points and added floral tape to make the base of the flower. I fluffed out the "petals" and voila instant corsage. The mothers loved them.

Submitted By Paige

We are fortunate to be within walking distance of a greenhouse. We walk to the greenhouse and each child purchases the flower of their choice for their mom. We "plant" them in the tops saved from Tide Free. They are a lovely spring green..add a bow and we're done. The children are so proud to present them at our Mother's Day Lunch.

Submitted By Victoria

Cut a 3x5 opening in the center a 5x7 piece of heavy cardboard. This will be your picture frame. Paint jigsaw puzzle pieces (primary colors look great) and glue them to the perimeter when dry (tacky glue works best). Add a 4x6 picture of your student to the back using a glue gun (lamine if possible for durability). Attach a small inscription "I love you to pieces" This activity is sensitive to the fact that not every child may have a mother present to share a Mother's day gift with.

Submitted By Audrey

Materials needed: potholders, fabric paint, permanent marker  
Simply dip child's hand in paint and press onto potholder. Have child write name on the bottom. On the other side, print in marker: Mommy's special helper and the year. My children gave one to my mother three years ago, and it's still hanging up! Easy, lovely!

Check out more Mother's Day ideas at

[http://www.perpetualpreschool.com/holiday\\_themes/mother.html](http://www.perpetualpreschool.com/holiday_themes/mother.html)

### Projects for tea cups:

- \* Fill with potpourri or dried flowers.
- \* Someone has already mentioned making a candle by adding wax and a wick. You could also use the cups as candle holders by filling them with water and adding a floating candle, or by filling them with colored sand, pebbles, or bath salts, and then inserting a votive candle.
- \* I have a decorating book that has a charming project for hanging candles made from teacups and saucers. Since you're right here in Bakersfield, write to me offlist if you'd like to borrow the book ... I keep meaning to come visit your classroom, and am home for several days this week as well as most of next week.

### Projects for coffee mugs:

- \* Glue mug to saucer and have children decorate, if appropriate (adding art with permanent markers or paints, decorating the saucer with fingerprint art, or gluing on shells, dried or silk flowers, etc.). Mug can be used to hold pencils, scissors, wooden spoons, etc., as long as the base is heavy enough to avoid tipping.
- \* A pretty decorated mug and saucer would also make a nice desktop vase for fresh or dried flowers. If you know how to make the roses from Hershey Kisses wrapped in red cellophane, you could place a piece of styrofoam in the bottom of each mug to hold a small bouquet of chocolate roses in place. You could also make a bouquet of diecut flowers, with a photo of a child's face in the center of one of the flowers.
- \* If the mugs are plain/solid colored, the kids could decorate them in many different ways: paint, markers, glued on string/yarn, tissue paper glued on to look like stained glass, decoupage magazine pictures, etc.

One thing I am doing with both my 2nd graders and the K's (with help!) is making 'flower pens' and memo pads. What I do is get some silk/plastic flowers and some florist tape, and one ball point pen

for each child. Cut the flower so there is just a stem and maybe a leaf up by the blossom, and wrap the florist tape around it and the pen, till the pen is covered in green, up to the point. These are cute enough but I go one step further and have the kids create memo pad paper. I just have them fold a sheet of copy paper into 4ths and design a border around each quadrant. Then copy 10 or so for each kid on pastel colored copy paper. Cut them apart and tie with a bow along with the pretty flower pen. Last year the parents loved these! They can put things on the note paper like "Just a Note" or draw a picture of a telephone along the border, or whatever. I can't remember all I did but I got ideas from real note pads and they came out really cute!

We do a Mother's Day Tea each year and have a lot of fun. Some of the ideas of mine and other buddies are on my web site at: <http://www.kinderteacher.com/Mother'sDayIdeas.htm> Hope this helps.

I have had wonderful results in both a grade 3 class and a kindergarten class with making a booklet "I Know My Mother Well". On each page I program a sentence starter and the children fill in the rest. Examples:

- a) My mom's favourite food is
- b) My mom likes to relax by
- c) My mom's favourite colour is
- d) My mom REALLY likes to
- e) You can tell when my mother is mad when
- f) I love my mom because

You get the idea. You can write any sentences that seem appropriate. The answers are often hilarious. With kinders, I used "Microsoft Publisher" template for the sentence starters and then called each child one at a time to the computer to orally give me their answers as I typed. Grade threes could write their own responses. Each page was illustrated to match the sentence. I have the children complete the booklet over a longish period of time so that the work is not too onerous, and the results are their best work.

I have had many mothers show great appreciation for this booklet. It's a "keeper".

Mother's Day Cookbooks

Each year I do a cookbook for Mom. I ask each child "What does your Mom cook that you like best?" It takes some time to get them started. I ask lots of questions "How long does she cook it", "How hot does she cook it". "What does she put in it, how much". You get the idea. It is time consuming and has to be done individually. I type each recipe on an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet and have the child draw their mother with pencil. I then assemble into a cookbook which is given to each mother. My mom did this years ago and sent the recipes to Johnny Carson who read them over T.V. It is harder now with the languages, but unless the child has no English whatsoever, they can do it. I am including a couple for you to read:+

+

Macaroni and Cheese

3 drinks of water 30 macaronis+

Mix it up, then while it cooks on the baker for 3 min at as hot as it's supposed to be, you wait. Then you eat it when it's done. Don't put cheese

on it cause I'll throw up. I like this because it's so good. Tina

(I

always ask them why they like it)+

+

Foster Farms Chicken

+

Get 4 naked chickens from the store, some bones and meat. I don't know where

their heads went. I wouldn't eat them anyhow. Put on 1 gallon of flour, 4

inches of salt and 3 inches of pepper. Shake it all over. Cook it on the

stove for 6 minutes at 1`5 hots. It tastes like a bird. (always ask them

how it tastes)+

Scott

+

Meat and Corn+

+  
Use 2 pounds of cow meat from the waist part of the cow. Put it in the oven at 1 degree for 1 minute. Come back to check it it is ready. Go to the corn man and get 12 pieces of corn. Pull off the hair and cook it 2 degrees for 1 hour. Put it on the dinner table when dad comes home. Sometimes he yells if it is not ready.+

+  
Brian+

+  
Turkey and Vegetables+

+2 cups gravy 2 big bones of turkey+  
5 carrots 12 beets 2 strings of corn+

+  
Mix it so it gets wet. Cook it on the stove. We go bowling and when we come back it is done. The big people eat the turkey and me and Richard eat peanut butter cause we don't like turkey. It takes too long to chew. We only like to chew gum. Put the turkey on the plate with the painted turkeys. Put 2 cherries on each side. Daddy sometime swears when he cuts it up.+

+  
Jimmy+

+  
You have to pull these recipies out of some kids and other open up and I can't type fast enough.

+  
Give it a try. Mom's love them!

Hi all,  
I went to my room today and got out the book I use for Mothers day (Well one of them). It is called Celebrating Mother's Day--Mom's Memory Box. It is a Creative Teaching Press Learn to Read book ISBN 1-57471-573-9. I just type

the words to the book in poem format and small font to roll up and put in the small box with the items in the poem. The box we cut out from our materials center from an Ellison die cut in about 2 1/2 inches square with a top which forms a heart when closed. I cut them out of a pastel color(s) so when the kids water color them they look great. As I said before, a few days before Mother's Day Tea, the kids and I enjoy the book and drop the items in their boxes one at a time. (Paint the boxes a couple of days before).

Here is the poem and accompanying item to drop in:

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It's almost Mother's Day.

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I'll paint a little box.

I'll put in a teddy bear.

(small fuzzy bear about 3/4 in purchased at craft store)

It shows how we love to bear hug.

I'll put in a piece of gum.

(obviously, a piece of bubble gum)

It shows how we always stick together.

I'll put in some nuts.

(Peanut in shell)

They show how silly we like to be.

I'll put in a bandage.

(band-aid)

It shows how she always comes to my rescue.

I'll put in a chocolate kiss.

(hershey's kiss)

It shows how good it feels to be loved.

And, Mom, don't forget...

I'll love you forever!

Hope this is clear. It is loved by all and fairly cheap. I would definitely

get the book (copywriting infringement is not my style) to read. The pics

are cute, kind of small to read to whole group of moms and kinders

though. I  
wish it came in big book.  
Oh well, email me for more information if needed.  
Laura in Upland  
(going back to school tomorrow after spring break)

Fro the past few years, I have done the same Mothers Day project:

On a sheet of 9X12 construction paper, I paste a teapot shape with  
the

following poem:

Here's a poem for Mothes Day  
I'll try my best in every way  
But when you get upset with me  
Relax and have a cup of tea

Under the teapot & poem, I paste a small picture of the child. I  
lamine it and tape a Lipton's tea bag to the front. If I have time,  
i have  
the child write Happy Mothers Day before I laminate...

There was a cute 'Mom's Day' version of Down By The Bay that I got off  
this  
post. We sang it for our Mom's Day Tea last year. The 'my mother will  
say...' part had responses mom-type responses.....and my mind is  
drawing a  
blank right now....but the favorite was 'change your  
underwear...because I  
care.....down by the bay!' VERY cute.

I also wanted to throw in a fun and touching activity to do for mothers  
day.  
Creative Teaching Press has a little book called "Celebrating Mothers  
Day"  
something like Mom's Memory Box. It is a cute short story about a  
child  
making a memory box and putting things in that make them think of mom.  
For  
instance, I'll put in a piece of gum cause we always stick together.  
etc. I



have my kids paint a box that we cut out of cardstock at our materials center die cuts. It is a box with a heart that forms the lid. Then after water coloring flowers on outside, I read the story to them and we place all the things in. On mothers day, at our tea, we read the book and they open the box with their mom's and take out the things in the box. I also put the poem on the front which is just the words from the book. All is at school, but if anyone is interested, I can give you more infor. The moms and kids love it. Not too expensive! Laura K in Upland CA

I love this time of year!!! The past two years we have done a book for the Moms. We have the children dictate sentences to us about their Moms and they draw pictures of their Mom. We copy the pages and put them into a book. They are absolutely hysterical...One child wrote my Mom loves to spit watermelon seeds, My mom loves to watch her soaps, My Mom looks so beautiful when she paints her toes, and on and on! We get so many positive comments. I write a note to the Moms in the beginning of the book, they are to guess the mom on each page. We do not put their names on the front. We also have the kids color a design on to that 'shrinky dink' paper and then we shrink them and make pins. So cute! I think we are going to present these things at a tea for the moms this year. Hope this helps.

Did you know that Home Depot will send someone out from their gardening department to do a planting activity with our children? Neither did I.  
A

student teacher at our school in first grade with us, called home depot to ask them a question concerning when to plant Zinnia seeds so the at they would be grown by Mother's Day. The lady said she would come out to the school and bring all of the necessary items, pots, seeds (or plants), soil, etc. The student teacher told her they had the items already (from another free Home Depot giveaway). The lady came out and brought little orange Home Depot aprons for the whole class to wear and keep and did the whole planting lesson with t he kids. Then she brought them a petunia in a three inch pot just because. She also said that if their seeds did not grow she would gladly come back with flowers to put in there. We are using these in our plants unit, but they will also double as part of a Mother's Day gift. I just thought you guys who have a Home Depot nearby would like to know about this!

## Mother's Day

I give the kids a pattern of a house to trace and cut out. I only use 2 parts..the roof and the base of the house. The kids can pick the color of construction paper they want to use. The kids glue the roof to the base. they cut out a rectangle for the dorr, but only make 3 cuts so the door can open and close. I glue their pictures behind the door. Above the door is written....Open the door and see who loves you.

## Mother's Day ideas

We take each child's individual picture holding a bouquet of flowers. We

then attach the poem that goes:

I will love you forever  
and forever you will be  
the most wonderful mother  
you mean everything to me.

Instead of giving you a gift  
in the usual way  
I thought you would prefer  
A forever bouquet!

Love, \_\_\_\_\_

I am your little flower, Mom  
Please help me grow and bloom;  
Take the weeds, but leave the roots  
And give me lots of room.

Mom, you are my gardener;  
My sunshine and my rain.  
Too much will make me wither  
With enough, I'll bloom again.

I am your little flower, Mom  
I'm different from the rest;  
Don't pick me Mom, just help me grow  
To be my very best.

Written by: Rebecca Armstrong  
May, 1998

I have a couple of books that we read about mothers such as  
Hazel's Amazing Mother  
The Mother's Day Mice

We are growing plants in our room as part of our study on seeds. Each student has one. My students are painting little clay pots to plant the flowers in and that will be a mother's day present along with a little book each student is writing called My Mommy is Special Because.... depending on the child, they draw and write two- four pages. We discuss things like things mommy cooks for us that we love, special things I always get to do

with mommy, and things that mommy is really good at to get ideas going.

They always come out nice and the moms just love the little books.

Use our pre-printed page to create a Mother's Day Cup Insert.

The insert can be colored, cut apart then fit in between 2 - 9oz Solo clear plastic cups.

Once decorated and assembled, the cup can be used for  
a pot for a small plant

to hold a sachet of potpourri

to hold candy or other treats

I think we are going to fill the cups with mints or some other wrapped candy.

We are also making bookmarks with the kids pictures on them that have the

following poem on it:

All through the year

I'll try to do

The things that show

My love for you.

And not be happy just to say,

"I love you, Mother,"

on Mother's Day.

Mother's Day idea

A lady on a daycare board that I'm on gave this neat idea for Mother's Day.

I love it...just wish my mom's would drop off in the mornings!!!!

"We are taking white lunch bags and the kids are coloring them on one side

with hand print on the other...the kids will make muffins on thur afternoon

and i buy the individual oj. I pack them that morning and the kids give them

to mom when she drops off...they love it"

"...buy inexpensive umbrellas for the moms and let the kids put their (painted) handprints in different places on the umbrella. Or I could

have  
them decorate the umbrella with different shaped sponges.”  
-----Original Message-----

This one has been a favorite of mine for quite a few years. I love it  
when  
this year's student will say---"My sister has one of those!"

I take a photo of each child and mount near the top of a sheet of light  
blue  
construction paper. In the middle of the paper, we glue an outline of  
a  
teapot that has the following poem on it:

Here's a poem for Mother's Day  
I'll try my best in every way  
But when you get upset with me  
Relax and have a cup of tea

I have used the Carson-Dellosa teapot notepads, but couldn't find them  
last  
year, so I used a teapot I printed out from PrintMaster.

The whole page is laminated and I tape a Lipton's Tea bag to it..

The poem is not original, but I do not know where it came from  
originally

Little ducklings all have a mom  
to tell them wise-quacks.

Little piglets all have a mom  
to take them piggy back.

Little bugs all have a mom  
to give them buggy rides.

Little fawns all have a mom  
who is a deer besides.

Little skunks must have a mom  
who's sweet (at least to them).

And little flowers have a mom  
to keep them on the stem.

Little bookworms have a mom  
to teach them wrong from "write".

Little glowworms have a mom  
to keep their tail lights bright.

Little bunnies have a mom  
to teach them when to hop.

And little fishies have a mom  
to show them how to belly flop.

Now, they think that their moms are great.  
And probably it's true.  
But then they haven't met the BEST  
'Cuz mom they don't know you!

## Mother's Day

Because my pockets are empty, I am having my kids make Mother's Day  
books  
this year. I just made them on my computer and think they are worth  
sharing.

If all goes as planned, they should be adorable! Here is what they say:  
My Mom By:\_\_\_\_\_ This is my Mom. (they will draw a picture of Mom.) I  
think

my Mom looks just like\_\_\_\_\_.

Do you know how old my Mom is? She is \_\_\_\_ years old. My Mom weighs  
about

\_\_\_\_\_ pounds. My Mom works hard all day. She is a \_\_\_\_\_. My Mom  
can

\_\_\_\_\_ better than anyone else I know. I would not trade my Mom for  
anything, not even\_\_\_\_\_. If I could I would buy my Mom \_\_\_\_\_  
for

Mother's Day. Happy Mother's Day! Love, \_\_\_\_\_.

I had all my kids do clay pots this year. The big ones did finger prints that I turned into lady bugs. But with the baby, I just painted her foot and I rolled her foot along the pot, it came out cute and I think her Mom is going to love it

I just printed up a little mom poem and did their foot print next to it. It turned out cute!

mothers day tea

The monkey bread recipe is the one where you take cinamon sugar and the kids cut the canned biscuits in fourths and shake them in the cinamon sugar. Layer in a Pam sprayed bundt pan and then when you are ready to bake at 350 degrees, pour 1/2 to 1 cup of melted butter in pan and add 3/4 c of sugar. When heated pour over the top. The kids love making it and it is easy. Hope this is not too confusing.  
Laura

Here is a poem/ play that a fellow teacher used for her Mother's Day tea. She had groups of 2-3 hold up a picture of each animal as they said the verse. Then everyone said the last line together. It is really cute and just right for pre k and k.

We made it into a book this year for our moms.

Little ducklings all have a mom  
to tell them wise-quacks.

Little piglets all have a mom  
to take them piggy back.

Little bugs all have a mom  
to give them buggy rides.

Little fawns all have a mom  
who is a deer besides.

Little skunks must have a mom  
who's sweet (at least to them).

And little flowers have a mom  
to keep them on the stem.

Little bookworms have a mom  
to teach them wrong from "write".

Little glowworms have a mom  
to keep their tail lights bright.

Little bunnies have a mom  
to teach them when to hop.

And little fishies have a mom  
to show them how to belly flop.

Now, they think that their moms are great.  
And probably it's true.  
But then they haven't met the BEST  
'Cuz mom they don't know you!

## THE READING MOTHER

I had A MOTHER who read to me

Sagas of pirates who scoured the sea,

Cutlasses clenched in their yellow teeth,

"Blackbirds" stowed in the hold beneath



I had a Mother who read me lays  
Of ancient and gallant and golden days;  
Stories of Marmion and Ivanhoe,  
Which every boy has a right to know.

I had a Mother who read me tales  
Of Gelert the hound of the hills of Wales,  
True to his trust till his tragic death,  
Faithfulness blent with his final breath.

I had a Mother who read me the things  
That wholesome life to the boy heart brings-  
Stories that stir with an upward touch,  
Oh, that each mother of boys were such!

You may have tangible wealth untold;  
Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold.  
Richer than I you can never be-

I had a Mother who read to me.

As you know, I'm the person who is passionate about not having a  
Mother's  
Day Tea and I've explained my reasons 2 years in a row. I'd like to  
share  
my alternative that happened yesterday! We had a Nursery Rhyme

Extravaganza

and it was absolutely delightful! I combined ideas I got from a teacher's webpage (she gave me permission) and added a few of my own. The children created their invitations inviting mom & dad or 2 special people. (each child could invite 2 people) - I had moms & dads, and then a variety, aunts, favorite people, Godmother, daycare lady. I had 8 places the child and guests could visit - 2 they had to visit: decorate a cookie like a mouse or cat & have a cup of Mother Goose Grog (fruit punch) and get your picture taken with your guests & my stuffed Mother Goose (by me with my digital camera-I will develop these and put them in a free frame for the end of the year). They also could make a twinkling star on a dowel and decorate it; make hickory dickory dock clock (from Dr. Jean); drop Baa Baa Black Sheep's wool into the jug; Jump over Jack's candle stick, measure and record the distance; knock Humpty off the wall; get their face painted. In the background I had Dr. Jean's new nursery rhyme CD playing. The guests were invited for an hour and it took exactly that much time. Of course the children wanted to do all the centers. Usually I have done something where the children perform - a rodeo, a luau, a graduation, but this was the best I've done yet, because the children were actively engaged with their guests. One grandpa said "Boy kindergarten is nothing like when I went to school!" Another guest who was visiting from Alaska said, "I can't believe how quiet this is (there were 66 people in my room and the hallway) and I stopped to listen and he was right - kids and adults were busy working and visiting. This was a great day in kindergarten!

Linda in MN

Here are some Mothers Day ideas I have saved from several sources!  
(Lots are  
from WONDERFUL teachers on this mailing!)

You Are My Mommy (Mother)  
(Sung to: You Are My Sunshine)  
Guitar/Autoharp chords "C", "F", "G7"

You are my mommy, my only mommy,  
The "one and only" Mom for me!  
You are the Best Mom, I really love you.  
I'm trying hard to be so good, you'll see!

You can substitute the word "Mother" for "Mommy" in the song.

Everyone Says  
(for Mom on Mother's Day)

Everyone says that I look like my mother,  
I have her eyes and her grin.  
And they say I have her cheekbones,  
And the shape of her nose and chin.

Everyone says I'm "the spitting image"  
Of my Mom when she was nine.  
And the color of my hair is like her hair was,  
Once upon a time.

But I don't really see how  
I can look like my Mom, you see.  
I was made this way on purpose,  
And I think I just look like me!

Mary - Songs 4 Teachers  
You sew the buttons  
on my clothes,  
You give me a hanky  
for my nose.

You make  
good things  
for me to eat,  
You buy me candy

for a treat.

You mend my clothes  
and wash my socks...

Dear Mom.

I love you  
lots and lots!!

I found this somewhere on the web. I used it last year to make a  
little  
book that the kids gave to their mother on Mother's Day. We used

magazine

pictures and real objects to illustrate the pages. We used the  
title:

"Thumb"body Loves You". The cover was illustrated with a flower made  
with  
thumbprints as petals.

M - O - T - H - E - R

"M" is for the million things she gave me,  
"O" means only that she's growing old,  
"T" is for the tears she shed to save me,  
"H" is for her heart of purest gold;  
"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,  
"R" means right, and right she'll always be,  
Put them all together, they spell  
"MOTHER,"  
A word that means the world to me.

To Lead A Girl To Womanhood

Open her eyes  
to the blessings around her;  
Show her that beauty and  
goodness surround her.  
Help her to trust in the future,  
not fear it.  
Teach her that dreams are the  
wings of the spirit.

Guide her with wisdom and  
gentle persuasion  
For she is God's pleasure  
His flower of creation.

Author Unknown

### Wonderful Mother

God made a wonderful mother,  
A mother who never grows old;  
He made her smile of the sunshine,  
And He molded her heart of pure gold;  
In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,  
In her cheeks fair roses you see;  
God made a wonderful mother,  
And He gave that dear mother to me.

For this one, we draw a portrait of mom, and mount this underneath

### My Mother

My mother 's name is \_\_\_\_\_.  
She loves to \_\_\_\_\_.  
Her hair is \_\_\_\_\_, she is \_\_\_\_ feet tall,  
and weighs \_\_\_\_ pounds.  
Her favorite thing to eat is \_\_\_\_\_.  
She likes to \_\_\_\_\_ with me.  
My Mom is the best because she always \_\_\_\_\_.

I've done this one with a decorated candle votive

### A Candle Votive

Mom, you light up my life everyday,  
and I want to remind you in a special way,  
just how much you mean to me.

When the candle is lit,  
and there are bright colors to see  
let it remind you of all of

the love you give to me.

Every mouse  
and bumblebee,  
Every bird  
up in a tree,  
Every caterpillar  
and ladybug,  
Loves to feel  
his mother's hug.

Every bear  
so fat and funny,  
Loves his mother  
more than honey.  
Just as woodland  
creatures do...  
I love my mother  
That is true!

I LOVE MY MOM!!!

Whistler's Mother  
We did portraits of our mothers one year...after looking at and  
talking  
about  
'Whistler's Mother'. It was hilarious.

You can print red roses with nylon scrubber sponges - those that you  
use  
on  
non-stick pans, or the bath and body type scrubbers. Dip in red  
tempera  
paint and print on paper.

When we did a Mother's Day placemat last year it featured this poem  
and the kid's paintings of a flower garden. Then were very pretty  
so  
we laminated them.

A mother's love is special,  
It cannot help but show...  
Like flowers in a garden,

Her love makes children grow!

Mother's Day Kisses...

You will need 2 wrapped candy kisses, 1 plastic spoon, a 4x4 piece of netting, and ribbon. Place the two kisses back to back in the bowl of the spoon. Cover with the netting and tie with small ribbon. To the ribbon's bow attach the following poem:

"Happy Mother's Day!  
A spoonful of love  
And a couple of wishes,  
That you enjoy your  
Mother's Day kisses!"

(To go with a flower)  
A mother's love  
and tender care  
makes happiness  
bloom everywhere.

A Marigold for Mom

This flower is for you, Mom  
It's a marigold, you see.  
It's growing more and more each day,  
It's really just like me!

So, I'm giving you this flower,  
With a note that's oh so true.  
And when you watch this flower grow,  
You'll remember, "I love you."

I make candle holders. I collect baby food jars (my mom works in the infant room at a daycare) and cover them with MODGE PODGE or something like it.

Then the children stick on small squares of spring fabric. Then they paint on another layer of modge podge. I let them dry until they're shiny and then add a pretty ribbon. We add a tealight inside. They come out soooo cute!  
Good luck.

**Maria/NJ**

## **Flower Pots for Mother's Day**

### **Materials:**

**1 small clay pot for each child**

**Sponges**

**Acrylic Paint**

**Potting Soil**

**Flower Seeds**

**This is really a great inexpensive activity to share with your children.**

**Give each child a clay pot and a sponge.**

**Have them to dip the sponges into the paint and apply to the pot. If they get to much paint on the pot simply take a dry sponge and wipe off the excess.**

**Allow their pots to dry.**

**Fill with potting soil and sow the seeds.**

**Water and place the plants in a sunny location.**

**They should sprout just in time for Mother's Day !**

**(Tip):**

**Use margarine containers and/or old lids for paint holders.**

**They can be rinsed and reused later or thrown away.**

**Some seeds that sprout easy and fast are:**

**Morning Glories**

**Sunflower Seeds**

**Shasta Daises**

**Black eyed Susan**

**Marigolds**

**Grow some flowers or herbs**

**Have the children draw a portrait of their moms and put them in a nice mat**

**Order the cups you color from oriental trading for \$1.95 a piece and**



have  
them color coffee cups for mom  
Take pictures of the kids and have the kids make frames for moms desk  
Make a book for each mom- ask the children a list of questions:  
My mommy is the best because?  
My mommy likes to?  
What my mommy does at work?  
I love my mommy because?  
Whatever questions one per page then write what the child said and  
have  
them  
draw a picture on each page.  
Hope some of these give you an idea.

## Mothers day Poems

My little hands play pat-a-cake  
they peek-a-boo and wave...  
they catch me when I learn to walk  
and splash me when I bathe.  
My little hands reach up to you  
for hugs before I sleep...  
and fold together when I pray  
the Lord my soul to keep.  
My little hands are tiny now  
but yours will serve to guide me..  
And when I 'm grown I 'll still reach out  
and know your beside me!

## HEARTPRINTS

Whatever our hands touch---  
We leave fingerprints!  
On walls, on furniture,  
On doorknobs, dishes, books,  
As we touch we leave our identity.

Oh please where ever I go today,  
Help me leave heartprints!  
Heartprints of compassion  
Of understanding and love.

Heartprints of kindness  
and genuine concern.

May my heart touch a lonely neighbor  
Or a runaway daughter,  
Or an anxious mother,  
Or, perhaps, a dear friend!

I shall go out today  
To leave heartprints,  
And if someone should say  
"I felt your touch,"  
May that one sense be...YOUR LOVE  
Touching through ME...

### Mother's Day Gift

These little hands will never grow,  
These little hands will stay, just so,  
When I'm grown and far away,  
These little hands with you will stay.

Print the poem and center it on an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of plain copier paper. To each side of the poem paint the child's hands and make handprints. Just below the poem place a picture of the child that was taken in the classroom. If the child can write he or she can sign their name and date the paper. If not, then do it for them. Then use the colored construction paper for a background, and place the white sheet on top in a matching color. Then laminate it, roll it up, and tie with a ribbon for each child to present to Mom.

### Mother's Day Flower Poem

Cut a flower stem and leaves from the colored construction paper. Glue them onto another sheet of paper. Cut out a heart and glue on top of the stem and paint child's hand with tempera paint and put the print on top of the heart. Attach the following poem:

A piece of me I give to you.

I painted this flower to say "I Love You".  
The heart is you.  
The hand is me.  
To show we are friends  
The best there can be.  
I hope you will save it  
And look back someday  
At the flower we shared,  
On your special day.

Place two Hershey's kisses back to back in a "bowl" part of a spoon.  
Cover with netting and tie a small ribbon on. To the ribbon bow attach  
the following poem:

Happy Mother's Day!

A spoonful of love  
And a couple of wishes  
That you enjoy you  
Mother's Day Kisses!

more mothers day ideas

Wax hand and foot prints. Make impressions of their hands and feet in  
playdough that you've placed in a container (like an empty wipe box.)  
Then  
melt candles or paraffin and pour it into the impression. Let it cool,  
trim  
the edges, etch the child's name and the year into the flat side and  
there  
you have it

Take paper and cut it into rectangles, then on as many as you want,  
write things like:

"You get a free hug on this day"

"I will make my bed on this day\_\_\_\_\_"

"Good for one free hug"

"Good for one Room Clean Up"

"Good for breakfast in bed (with help from Dad)"

"Good for one Kiss"

Have the child draw a little picture of each "coupon" and color with markers. Then when you are finished, staple together and you have a sweet little coupon book for Mom.

## Mother's Day Card

I'm sure that I got this idea from the Kindercorner website last year. Students complete the following survey on their knowledge of their own mother:

I Know My Mother Well

by \_\_\_\_\_

My mother is \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

My mother is \_\_\_\_\_ feet tall

My mother weights \_\_\_\_\_ pounds.

Her shoe size is \_\_\_\_\_.

Her job is \_\_\_\_\_.

She is happy when \_\_\_\_\_.

She is sad when \_\_\_\_\_.

Her favorite food is \_\_\_\_\_.

The color my mom likes best is \_\_\_\_\_.

Her favorite TV show is \_\_\_\_\_.

Mom likes to \_\_\_\_\_.

Her best friend is \_\_\_\_\_.

I'd like to buy my mom \_\_\_\_\_.

I love you, Mom, because

---

We filled out a rough and final draft of the answers and glued it inside a card with a drawing of the student with their mother on the left and the survey on the right. On the back of the card I provided a translation for non-english speaking mothers.

This project touched many of the mothers of my students last year. Well worth the effort and fun to see my students (mis)perceptions of their mothers.

## A Plant for My Mom

This gift is just for you, Mom.

It's a little plant, you see.  
It's growing more and more each day,  
It's really just like me!

So, I'm giving you this plant Mom,  
With a note that's oh so true.  
And when you watch this flower grow,  
You'll remember, "I love you."

for mothers day you could make a candle holder paint the cds with acrylic paint and place a tea candle in the middle.

### Mother's Day Placemats

Cut out pictures from old mother's day cards or magazines. Make sure they're pictures of thing you think your mom would like.

Glue the pictures onto heavy construction paper leaving room in between to draw your own pictures or add in little sayings for special poems for mom.

Write your name and the date at the bottom and mom will have a wonderful keepsake to remember this Mother's Day.

Cover the placemat with clear contact paper.

### Thumb-body Loves You

Take construction paper and make a card, then have child put their thumb prints on the front of the card. Make picture out of the thumb prints into flowers and bees, by using the thumb print as the center of the flower and the body of the bees. You can add clouds in the sky and a tree or use your imagination Then write on the inside thumb-body loves you.

### Mother's Day

I have done a great pin for mother's day. You get 100 weight water color paper and the kids tear a shape (in a size appropriate for a pin. They

then  
watercolor it. Let it dry, and paint with clear shellac. Once that is  
dry,  
hot glue the pin on the back. They come out really pretty and all look  
different. The paper is so thick that when it is torn it has layers, if  
that  
makes sense. I always do this one, fast, easy and somethings moms could  
really pin on a coat, blazer or sweatshirt!

Mother's Day Survery:

What is your Mother's name?

How old is she?

How tall is she?

How much does she weigh?

What color is her hair?

What does she do around the house?

What is her favorite thing to eat?

What is her favorite TV show?

What does she cook?

Where does she like to go?

What is her favorite hobby?

My mother is special to me and I love her so much because...

Judy Santos

---

### Bath Salts

To regular epsom salts, add perfume and food coloring. Put in baby food jars and cover lid with scraps of fabric cut with pinking shears. You can glue a ribbon around the edge to decorate it also.

My son (when he was in Kindergarten) also gave me a teacup paper pattern cutout with a tea bag inserted in between two copies of the teacup pattern. Here's the poem: A cup of tea to say thank you for all the things you've done, and wishes that the day will bring you happiness and fun.

Here is a spiced tea recipe that I found on-line. It could be put in a bag or baby food jar decorated for a mother's day gift. The kids could help mix up the recipe and then enough for one or two servings could be put in the container.

#### Spiced Tea

##### Ingredients:

1 1/2 cup instant tea (decaf or regular)

1 cup sugar

2 cups Tang (instant orange drink powder)

1/2 cup sweetened lemonade power (Country Time or Koolaide)

1/2 tsp ground cloves

1/2 tsp cinnamon

Combine all of the above ingredients into a container with a lid. Close lid tightly and shake to mix ingredients. Keep stored in a tightly closed container as it will clump with humidity.

Fill your mug with hot water and add about 3 heaping spoonfuls of the spiced tea mix. Stir and enjoy.

Sara K.

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We have made very inexpensive, but very cute photo frames with my students by using popsicle sticks or tongue depressors hot-glued together to form a square (end-to-end). Then I bought a jigsaw puzzle with a scenic landscape design (I found great ones at my local dollar store). They usually have something with pink, blue or yellow flowers - makes for colorful pieces. The children used regular white glue to glue these one the popsicle stick frame. We did about two-three layers to cover the sticks and create a 3-D layered look. I took a picture of my students in front of a flowered bush at our school (I did it with a digital camera, but 35 mm would be fine too). Then I had them copy this poem on a piece of cardstock for the backing -

"I know I may puzzling sometimes, but I love you to pieces! Love,  
\_\_\_\_\_"

If your children are too young to write this all out, you could type it on the computer. Then I glued the picture in the frame and the backing on the picture (both with hot glue) and put a magnetic strip on the back of that. Voila!

My parents loved it and it didn't cost me a fortune.

Mandy

---

Here is what I use with my 4 years in my class.

I mix a small batch of Plaster of paris and make it a little on the thin side. (You have to judge it as you use it.) I pour it into small paper plates that are a little deeper and look like bowls and have a coating on them. Once in the plate, I have the children place there hand in the middle and and hold it in the plaster for a few min. Then the child takes our their hand and it leaves a handprint. Let it dry for one day and then have the child paint the area outside of the hand print red. The shape will pop out of the plate very easy but leave it in for taking home easier. Then I have the students decorate a 50 cent plastic frame around the Mothers day poem (see below). This will stand next to the plate on a table or dressor. It is a lovely idea for Mom.



## MOTHER

Sometimes you get discouraged because I am so small

And always leave my fingerprints on the furniture and walls...

But everyday I am growing up; and soon I'll be so tall

That all those little hand prints will be so hard to recall..

So here is a special hand print just so that you can say..

“This is how my fingers looked when I placed them here today!”

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Cindy McManus

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This is a gift that any mother will cherish forever! I save glass salad-type dressing jars throughout the year for this project. (Since a lot of dressings are now coming in plastic bottles, I just watch for other cool-shaped glass bottles to use, too. Cut different colors of 1x1 squares of non-bleeding bright-colored tissue paper. Hot pinks, yellows, and bright turquoises looked sharp. Start at the bottom of the jar and have the kids brush on a small section at a time of thinned-down white glue. Then they add the squares and "paint" over each one with more glue to be sure all the edges are down good. Continue all the way to the neck of the bottle. Then for about 2 or 3 days in a row, have them add just a layer of glue all over the bottle to make it smooth and shiney---like the old Mod Podge. To make it waterproof, I give it a final spray with a preserver I got at Michaels.

Then of course, we make cards and on the day they take the bottles home we go buy a real carnation and greenery for the vase. Be sure to add the child's name and date to the bottom. This has been a Mother's Day gift that I repeat in 5 year cycles--in my 24 years of doing family child care and it's always a hit!

Kathy Manderfield

Kathy's Kids FCC Home - Woodridge, IL

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## SUPPLIES

Empty glass Baby food jars

Assorted colors of playdough (or make salt dough and use food coloring)  
silk flowers

A small wooden plaque from walmart (\$1.00 each)

assorted paints, glitter, buttons, stickers and foamies.

paint brushes

Digital camera, or any camera

Now if you are using a camera other than a digital, you have to do this way before mothers day, because you have to take a picture of the child for the final gift.

My kids took the playdough and put some of it in the bottom of the baby food jar, about 1/2 full. If you used salt dough, they of course make it first, then put in the baby food jar. This will get hard when it dries too :) Let them choose what flowers they want to use, and put them in the playdough, to make their arrangement.

Take a picture of each child by them selves holding their flowers that they just made. I sat them at the table, and took a close up from their tummies up, holding their flowers.

Ok now set the flowers aside and continue on to the next step.

Now my kids chose what paints they wanted to use, glitter, buttons, ribbons etc. and decorated their wooden plaque.

When the plaques dry, glue their pictures on the plaques.

They gave their mothers the plaque and the flowers for Mothers Day.

For fathers day we did kind of the same thing, but the children glued nails, screws, washers etc on the frame after they painted it. I took their pictures holding a fishing rod and fish that they made out of cardboard gift wrapping tubes, yarn and a paper fish they decorated.

## HANDPRINT DISHCLOTH

What You Need:

- A solid color dishcloth --- yellow, green blue ... your choice. (you can buy

sets of them at larger department stores for very little money).

- Fabric paint (this is important because you want a paint that will last through washing machine trips).
- Trays for holding paint.
- Paintbrushes or sponges.
- A covered work area.
- Hands (or even feet?!)

What You Do:

1. Here's the easy part, children paint their hands using a sponge or a paintbrush and make a handprint on the washcloth.
2. Think contrasting colors ... in other words, if you have a dark colored dishcloth, then use a light colored paint and visa versa.
3. Use a paintbrush to write the date on the corner of the dishcloth. (The child's name can go there too).
4. You can get really creative and try this on oven mitts, an apron (visualize a "bouquet" of hand and footprints all over mom's apron.) The sky's the limit.
5. \*Make sure you follow the directions for setting the fabric paint (the direction will be on the paint container). That way the washing machine will deliver mom back the same wonderful handprints wash after wash.

Here is a poem to go along with the dishcloth.

Sometimes I might upset you  
Just because I 'm small  
By leaving fingerprints of mine  
On a table, chair or wall.  
But everyday I grow a bit  
And I 'll be big one day  
When all my tiny fingerprints  
Have long been cleaned away  
So keep these prints of my two hands  
To help you to recall  
Just how big my fingers were  
That time when I was small.

Mother's Day Ideas

Mom's Apple Pie

Materials needed

Apple Potpourri

Pie tin (small aluminum)

Pom Poms (red)

Gold glitter

Tan Felt

Glue

## Scissors

pencil

wax paper

1. Place your pie tin upside down on the tan felt. Trace the shape with you pencil and cut out the pie crust.
2. Pour your potpourri into your pie tin. Dont eat it. It smells better than it tastes.
3. Fill your pie tin with pom pom "apples".
4. Put a bead of glue around the edge of the pie tin and cover with the pie crust felt.
5. Place a sheet of wax paper on top of the crust and place a book on top until the glue dries. Dont use a really heavy book or you may end up with apple sauce.
6. When your pie is dry, decorate the top by drawing lines with glue and sprinkle with glitter.

Your pie is done! Doesnt it smell Yummy. Put it anywhere you'd enjoy the delicious aroma of fresh apple pie. We usually make a card from a fish shape or tie or something similar, but one teacher put a fishing hat on her children, gave them a fishing pole and took each child's picture. Then had the children decorate a frame and put the picture inside. It was really cute.

## Book of Kisses

The children can make a "Book Of Kisses" to give to their mothers Mother's Day. Make booklets by cutting paper into 4 inch squares and stapling ten sheets together in one booklet for each child. Write "Book of Kisses" on the top page and invite the children to decorate the page that is the cover of the booklet. In small groups, colour the children's lips with lipstick and have them kiss each page of the book. Send it home with a note explaining that the mothers can redeem each page for a real kiss.

## Mother's Day Card

### Materials

Construction paper

Tempera paint

Pie pan

Scissors

Pencil

### Directions:

Fold the construction paper in half to form a card. Pour enough tempera paint in the pie pan to cover the bottom. Have the child lay the palm of the hand in the paint. Take the hand out of the paint and press the hand on the front of the card, with the small finger along the folded edge. Let dry. Leaving the card folded, cut out the handprint so the card is now in the shape of the handprint. Open the card and write the message.

## Plant for Mom

For Mother's Day we usually paint a plant pot and then re-pot a petunia into the pot. Also I ask the child to tell me one thing they love about their mom and I write it on a big heart which we paste into the center of a fingerpainting the child has done and we display them for everyone to read.

## Tealight Candle

Cut tissue paper into small pieces and glue on to baby food jars (use a glue/water mix and you can paint it on with a water color brush). First paint the jar with the mixture and place the tissue paper on. Then, after that has dried, paint over the tissue paper with the same mix. Put a tea light inside and you have a beautiful candle. These can be customized to any season or event, depending on the colors of tissue paper you use.

## Mother's Day Hug

Have children trace their hands and cut them out. Attach a verrrrrrry long strip of paper to hands and print on it. Wrap this around yourself and here's a BIG hug from me to you.

Science: Discuss what you might cook for Mom to eat. Mommy says to try some cheese; Eat your spinach, if you please. A glass of milk is good for you -- But shouldn't moms eat good foods, too?

## Grandma Handprint Gift

Make a hand print plaque to go with this poem

"I miss you when we're not together

I'm growing up so fast

See how big I've gotten

Since you saw me last?

As I grow, I'll change a lot,

The years will fly right by.

You'll wonder how I grew so quick

When and where and why?

So look upon this hand print plaque

That's hanging on your wall

And memories will come back me,

When I was very small."

## GREAT BOOKS

Are you My Mother by P E Eastman

Love You Forever by R. Munsch

SAND CANDLES Fill a baby food jar with colored sand and insert wick.

Next, pour melted wax on top. (To make colored sand mix salt and food coloring then microwave for a few seconds)

## MORE SAND CANDLES

Fill a shallow pan with sand. Make an impression in the sand, add the wick and pour melted wax in the sand. Layer with different colors. After the wax has cooled remove candle. Some of the sand will stick to wax.

## MOTHERS DAY YUMMY CUP

Take a regular plastic cup (tumbler), bright colors are cute! Let the kids decorate outside w/ marker. Help them write the occasion : Happy Mothers Day! Love you ! etc... We used med. pink cups w/ light purple tissue paper stuffed inside cup. Then let the kids fill w/ goodies for their Mom! We used a baggy of Hershey kisses, some gum, a small note-pad, and various other candies.

## PAT ON THE BACK FOR MOM

Materials: T-shirts

Fabric Paint.

Have the children make hand-prints on the back of the T-shirts, then write, "This Mom Deserves A Pat On The Back."

## Mother's Day Placque

I had a wood plaque pre-made for each of the children (each one was maybe 6" x 8" and had a routed edge and a coat of stain on it). I helped each child to put a hand print of any color they chose (press child's hand in tempera paint make handprint on one side of the front front of the plaque). I used my computer to print a little poem the kids helped me make up. It went like this:

Roses are red,

Violets are blue.

You're my one and only mommy

And I loveyou!

I did it in a script-type print so it looked kind of fancy and printed it small enough to fit on the plaque next to the hand print. The kids glued their poem on their plaques when the handprints were dry. I covered the table with LOTS of newspaper and helped each child individually to paint shellac (Mod Podge) on their plaques. These were placed out of reach to dry for a few days and were then wrapped for gift giving.

## Flower Pot

Small clay pot

Acrylic paint

Flowers cut out of fun foam

Glue

Craft sticks

Picture of each child

Moss

Foam brick

Let children paint their flower pot. Have children glue their flowers on craft sticks. Take the child's picture and cut their face out and glue on one of the flowers. Put piece of foam brick in bottom of pot, add moss. Stick 3 or 4 flowers in the pot.

Window Knick-knack for Mother's Day:

Cereal box for each child

Clay

Dried flowers

Scissors

Adult can do the cutting part ahead of time, if nec.) Cereal box can be the small individual size, or a larger one depending on what size you want your gift to be. Sit box upright and cut off part of the front leaving enough at the bottom for a flower box (planter, so to speak). Cut little blocks from the back resembling panes in a window. Put a clump of clay on the bottom of the box toward the front. Stick dried flowers into the clay so that they come forward and stick out of the "window".

Father's Day/Mother's Day Present: The children wanted to give Dad a lasting impression of their hands so we went & bought good watercolor paper. Then each child picked out acrylic paint in the color of their choice. Then we purchased a frame, glass & mat. I painted each child's hand with the paint using a foam brush then positioned their hand over the paper & pressed.....then I took a gold paint marker & made a bow on the index finger. Then in the upper corner in calligraphy I wrote....."Dad (Mom) we have you wrapped around our fingers" He truly loved the print & it now hangs in our foyer for a permanent reminder of their little hands. You could also do this on a t-shirt not only for Dad but for Grandma as well! Because some children do not live with (some do not even know) one parent or the other (or either), remind children that they can make gifts for "Someone Who Is Like a Mother To Me" or "My Special Person" ....

Mothers Day Snack Bag

The children cut out of a pocketbook shape out of a brown paper bag. punch holes around the edges and have the children thread together. They can then decorate the bag any which way they like. The children then place two napkins, microwave popcorn, two juice boxes, and place them in the bag. The children can go home and have a nice quiet snack with mom.

A Mother's Day Hug..

You need long paper (from a roll). Let the child hug you...then measure the hug with a piece of string. Put the string on the long paper and cut. Trace the child's hands and attach on either end of the paper. Let them decorate with bingo markers or whatever. Add a small heart in the middle with the poem:

"Here's a happy hug a bunch

Wrap it around and feel the crunch

May smiles and kisses come your way

With lots of love on Mothers Day (or Fathers Day or Grandparents Day)

Either use this along with a gift you've made as part of a card or make a book:

"You sew the buttons on my clothes" (glue button on this page)

"You gave me a hankie for my nose" (kleenex on this one)

"You make good things for me to eat" (picture from magazing)

"You buy me candy for a treat" (glue piece of candy on)

"You wash my clothes and mend my socks" (picture from mag and a cut our sock)

Dear Mother, I love you lots and lots!!

Big heart - can put child's picture in it) or....

Cut a doily into a heart (or buy it like that) and make it into a flower (add cut stem and leaves)

Put child's handprint on top of doily. Glue all onto bright colored paper with the following poem:

"A Piece of me I give to you

I made this flower

Because I Love You

The heart is for you

The hand is me

To show we are friends

The best there can be

I hope you will save it

And look back someday

At the flower we shared on your SPECIAL DAY!"

Do this craft with bright colored const. paper with coordinating colors. You will also need paint. Colors are up to you. On Reg. sized Const. Paper have the child paint his/her hand print on the paper up towards the top...this is going to be a flower. Then, Out of green Const. Paper, cut out a tulip stem and have Child Glue the stem where it goes under the handprint. When Paint of handprint is dry, cut out a heart and glue it to the palm of the child's handprint. Now, you should have a hand print flower with a heart in the middle. Print this Poem, cut it out and place it on the side of the flower...

A Piece of me

I give to you.

I painted this flower

To say "I love You."

The heart is you

The hand is me.

To show that we are friends-

The best there can be.

I hope you will save it

And look back someday

At the flower we shared

On your special day.

Kathleen Lademan



If you are doing a class cookbook for Mother's Day, here is a verse to go with it:

"Here are some favorites we like to cook  
We tell you how in this little book.  
We carefully measured and mixed each dish  
And send this to you with a  
Happy Mother's Day wish!"

Here are some starters for child dictated cards for Mother or Father's Day: 1. "To Mother on her special day This is what I want to say:....."

2. "Thank you Mom, for all you do Today it's my turn to help you! (Make a list)"

3. "Here are some things I'm going to do For Mommy because I love you! (List)"

Refrigerator Magnets

You need clothespins

Magnetic tape

Fun foam

Cut flower shapes from the fun foam and glue at the top of their clothespin. Cut stem, leaves from fun foam and glue beneath the flower. Put the magnetic tape on back. This will be a note holder. I think I will duplicate a "Mother" poem to go with it. Mom can put the poem up with the note holder and replace later if she wants to.

Mother's Day Apron

I buy white cook's bib aprons from a restaurant supply house. You can find one in your yellow pages. I buy 20 and they cost about 2.30 each. If you don't have the funds, parents will be happy to pay for these as they are really cool. I get two bottles of fabric paint, one lavender and one magenta or pink. I use pie tins for printing pads. I put round pieces of damp felt in the pie tins and pour the fabric paint on and spread it into the felt with a paint brush. (If somebody is absent, just cover this with seran wrap and use it when they return). I put the apron on the table and cover the center of it with a piece of mat board so they won't print there. I put the pie tin print pads on the mat board. The kid puts their hands back and forth between the print pad and the apron and stamps their hand prints all around the border and on the bib. The next day, they draw a picture they think their mom will like on the large space in the middle of the apron that was covered by the mat board the day before. I use fabric crayon or fabric pens to draw the picture. In addition, a companion gift goes with the apron. Each child draws a picture of their mom with a thin crayola black marker. Then I ask each child to tell me what's special and important about their mom. Then I ask them to tell me what their mom likes to cook and how she cooks it. I type these up, reduce the pictures and copy enough for the whole class. The children make a book cover, usually a

printing activity on construction paper. So the book is called, "The Important Book about Moms and What They've Got Cookin" Each book contains everyone's text and drawings. We then make a simple dessert: oreo cookie crunched on the bottom of little pie tins filled with chocolate pudding mixed with coolwhip - kind of a simple chocolate mousse. We have a "Mother's tea" which is a brown bag lunch with dessert served to the mom's by the children who also at this time give their gifts of the aprons and the books. The children also sing songs for the mothers. One of the songs we sing is this: It's a very old song my grandmother taught me but they have it in the library.

M is for the million things she gave me  
O means only that she's growing old  
T is for the tears she shed to save me  
H is for her heart of purest gold  
E is for her eyes with love light shining  
R means right and right she'll always be  
Put them all together they spell Mother,  
A word that means the world to me

We also sing, "You are the One Your Mommy Loves"

#### PASTA NECKLACE FOR MOM

Use various pasta shapes Wheels Straight Pasta with holes Hearts Bow Ties (tie on with pretty ribbon) Other shapes w/holes to string Dye pasta w/food color & alcohol. I use a small amount of alcohol (1/2 cup or less). Use about 1/2 bottle of food color in the rubbing alcohol. Add the pasta & drain. I do a small amount of pasta at a time & use a slotted spoon to drain the pasta. I keep using the colored alcohol. The pasta dries quickly. I use all kinds of bright colors. When dry let the children string the pasta on pretty ribbon. Tie on the bow tie shapes. This really is cute & fun for the kids. My mom's were proud to wear these beautiful creations that their child made. For a Mother's Day gift cut out flower petals from fun foam, have children paint craft sticks green. When sticks are dry children glue flower petals onto the sticks. On one of the flowers glue a picture of the child in the center of the flower. Get 3" clay pots and let children paint these ,add clay or old playdoh to bottom of pot, stick flowers in clay and add moss if you want. Our moms last year really loved these.

We've also planted flowers, the other old stand-by. Later, we'll have the kids decorate "flower-pots". Last year we made plaster flowers using a cookie stamp, and glued them onto clothespins the kids had painted green, and glued magnet strips on so they'd be refrig. note-holders, but as Tiana said, these type of things are not creative for the kids. A sure tip-off -- if done "right" they all look the same!! They are also a lot of work for the teachers!

One of my sons once made me a plaster handprint which he'd arranged sea

shells around, so it was somewhat creative. Another idea is to take photos of each child and have them decorate a photo frame with collage materials. I think the nicest thing is to dictate what they love about their mom and let them decorate a card. These are always "keepers".

One thing we do for our mothers on the Friday before Mother's day is provide them with a tissue corsage to take to work with them. We generally have our 4 and 5 year olds and school kids make the flowers. We buy the colored facial tissue that is 2 ply. Fold the tissues in a fan, tie yarn around the middle and fluff them up. I like to round the edges to make them prettier!!!

I just remembered a real cute easy Mothers day/Grandma's day gift. You need a tuna fish can. take the paper off and make sure it isn't sharp anywhere. You can hammer the inside rim a bit or ask people with that new kind of can opener (the kind that takes the whole top off and it isn't sharp) to do you can saving for you. You want the kids to put elbow shaped macaroni all over the outside of the can. There are big elbow shapes and small ones...either one is ok, or use both. . You can dye the mac before you glue it on, or I've also spray painted it gold and it looks real nice. Depending on the age of the child, and how messy they like to get their fingers, either let them dip the mac into the glue and stick it on, or put glue on a small area at a time, (spread around with your fingers) and let them stick the macaroni on. The craft glue or non washable kind works best, with much supervision, although I have used regular washable school glue and it's ok. Then cut a piece of felt (child's choice of color) to fit inside bottom of can and it make a darling "thing holder" ....for this thing or that thing....coins, jewelry, buttons...whatever.

#### Care Package

I recently went to a class for parents and providers and the speaker gave everyone a little baggie with a slip of paper in it. On it was written:

- A STICK OF GUM - to remind you to stick with it.
- A CANDLE - to give you light when you feel burned out.
- A CHOCOLATE KISS - to remind you that someone cares.
- SMARTIES - to help you on days when you don't feel so smart.
- LIFESAVER - to remind you that everyone needs help once in a while.
- A SNICKER - to remind you to see the funny side -- there is one!
- A ROSE - to remind you to take time to smell the flowers.
- CONFETTI - to help you celebrate the good times.
- A PENNY - with thanks for sharing your thoughts.
- A BAG - to help you keep it all together.

In the bag were all the items mentioned, the candle was a little birthday candle, the confetti was the glitzy stuff you spread on a table, the rose was one of a bunch you can buy at craft stores - very tiny, the smarties are those little candies that come in a roll." A Care Package To Help You

## Do ... "Whatever It Takes"

### Picture Frames

We made craft stick frames, and glued buttons all around them, and the words "cute as a button!" then glued pics of the kids in them, and paper to the back and wrote Happy Mother's (Father's, Grandparent's) Day! the date and the kids name. Then we glued magnets to the back so they could hang on the fridge.

### Votive Candle Holders

One baby food jar per child

Different colored tissue paper

Watered down glue

Paint brush

Votive candle or tealight

Rip paper into pieces paint on tissue paper with watered down glue allow to dry drop in a candle or tealight they look stained glass. we also did these one year on salad dressing bottles for a bud vase.

### Clear Plastic Pencil Holder

This craft has also been done by my daughter, with favorable response.

Purchase clear plastic disposable cups (not opaque, clear). The first thing you have to do is make a pattern from construction paper by cutting it until it fits along the inside of a plastic cup. (This may take you a few tries by trial and error. The finished product will look a little bit like a "U" or a semi-circle.) Once you have the pattern created, allow your child to draw, paint, glue pictures, etc. to the pattern. When dried and finished, place the artwork inside a plastic cup, then another cup inside the cup. Use a glue that dries clear to seal the cups together, taking care not to drip the glue inside the cups. My daughter drew pictures of herself and the recipient of the pencil holder, and used stickers as well as those tiny pictures often a part of the portrait packages.

### Tin Can Pencil Holder

This is a craft I made years ago, and it is still a cherished memento of my childhood. Begin with a clean, dry empty can of any size. Have your child cover the can with any of the following: cancelled stamps (what mine is made of), tissue paper, stickers, etc. Or you may wish to cut a piece of construction paper to cover the can and allow your child to decorate it as desired.

### Picture Frame

For Mothers day my dck are making a picture frame made out of Tongue depressors. I make the frame and then they decorate it with jelly beans and then i take a picture of each of the kids and put it in the frame from the back. We are going to make wrapping paper with there hand prints on it and we also made cards for the moms! They love the idea of eating the jelly beans while doing the project!

## Brooches

They turned out really nice! You take a pill bottle (the small plastic kind) and put some crayon shavings in it. Put it in the oven and let it melt down. Hot glue a broach(sp?) pin to the back. The kids thought it was really cool to watch the bottle shrink and the crayons melt! Mom's were very impressed too!

## Pin Cushions

Take a small babyfood jar. The older children used a nail & made 5 or 6 holes in the lids. Wash the jars & remove the labels & all the glue. The children filled the jars with porpourri & put on the lids. I cut a circle that is about 6 1/2 diameter using fabric with a tiny print. I cut about 10 different types of fabric designs so my kids could pick the fabric that they wanted. I did the same w/the ribbon. I cut my fabric circle using pinking shears. After the jar is filled I let the children pick a fabric circle. They took a small handful of poly-fil & put it in the middle of the fabric circle. The child applies some tacky glue to the outside of the jar lid. I then put the fabric w/the poly-fil over the jar & secure it on the jar w/a rubberband. You want to put the rubberband over the lid or just under it on the rim of the glass. Now you can adjust the fabric. I let my older kids tie on the ribbon over the rubberband. I also let the children put 4 pins into the fabric top. I wrote on the bottom of the jar w/permanent marker name of the child.

## Bird Baths

One year we made bird baths. You take a small clay pot and turn upside down and the saucer is placed on top of the pot with the basin up. Hot glue together. The kids painted the inside of the saucer blue and if you want to get fancy you can buy textured paint to paint the outside with. We then glued a little bird to edge of the bird bath and glued moss and ivy and little flowers inside one edge and around the bottom of bird bath. Turned out real cute.

## Potpourri Gel Jars

I think this would work GREAT in smaller baby food jars decorated with lace, flowers and ribbons!

2 cups distilled water

4 pkgs Knox Gelatin

50 drops essential oil

Heat one cup water in saucepan. Add gelatin, stirring to dissolve. Remove from heat, add remaining 1 cup of liquid and stir until dissolved. Put drops of essential oil into jars then add gelatin mixture. Place in fridge for approximately 2 hours. Remove, cover with plastic wrap or lid if you have one, and store at room temperature. To release the scent simply remove the lid... and when you are finished make sure you recover so all the scent doesn't evaporate. This recipe makes four gel jars..aprox. 4 oz each. To

decorate for gifts, tie ribbon or lace around the neck of the jar!

### Tile Trivets

One of the nicest gifts we've ever made were tile trivets. Go to your local tile store and buy some 12x12 ceramic tiles. Then you will need to go to a craft store and purchase paints that you will then use on the tiles AND bake in the oven to set. That is the key...mine are somewhere in that mess I call a playroom...you have to have the kind that bake in the oven to set the paint. Anyway, hand prints or foot prints on these are darling (you can add a cute little border and personalize with the child's name and the date) or just let the kids free-paint or sponge. Then, you will bake in the oven. After they are cooled, add little feet or some felt to the bottom of the tile and you have a really nice trivet/hot pad FOREVER. Now...the easier way - if you have Michael's or MJDesigns around you - see if they have a bisque dept. You can set up a time to take your kids in, purchase their trivets (from .99 - \$5.00) and they supply everything else at no additional cost (paint, brushes, sponges, aprons, CLEAN-UP...everything!). The price of the bisque includes everything including the firing in the kiln. I can't tell you how nice these turn out (homemade or from MJD) - we have them for all the seasons of the year and it's a nice way to look back and remember.

### Bookmark For A Special Mom

Let your children take a nature walk to collect such things as pretty leaves, flowers, blossoms, unusual weeds, etc. Be sure everything collected can be flattened. Provide pieces of posterboard or card stock for the children to glue their finds onto. When dry, cover each side with clear contact paper or laminate. Trim and punch a hole on one end of each bookmark. Tie on ribbon to make a tassel.

### Picture Magnet

Take a picture of each child and cut it to the size of a frozen juice lid. Glue the picture on the lid and decorate around it to make it a pretty lid. Put a magnet on the back and give it as a gift.

### Mother's Day Recipe Card Holder

Small plastic plant pots

Silk flowers

Plastic forks

Plaster of paris

Stickers

Have the children decorate the pots using various stickers. Mix up a batch of plaster and fill each pot almost full. Let stand for a minute or two or until the silk flowers will stand up in the plaster, insert a fork, handle first. Let harden, place a favorite recipe in the fork. It makes a great recipe holder for your counter.<\p>

### Soap Gifts

Per every 2 students:

1 bar of Dove soap cut into 10 small squares

1 tablespoon lemon peel

1 tablespoon orange peel

After you have pre cut the soap bars the children can grind them up in a small cheese shredder, and use a regular cheese grater to do the lemon and orange peels. Add ingredients for two children to a bowl and heat in a microwave for 30 seconds. It will look like a big puff. Let cool for a few seconds, divide the puff for two children and the children can then form them into a shape. Let stand overnight.

Mother's Day Sachet

Glue

Cotton Balls

Perfume

Lace Doilies

Thread

Plastic Sewing Needles

Saturate cotton balls with perfume. Place doilies together, back to back and sew with thread leaving a small opening. Insert cotton balls and tie thread to secure. Decorate as desired. Makes a wonderful sachet for mom.

Fingerplays

Mother's Day

Five flower baskets sitting on the floor.

One will go to.....'s mom,

Then there will be four.

Four flower baskets, pretty as can be.

One will go to .....'s mom,

Then there will be three.

Three flower baskets with flowers red and blue.

One will go to.....'s mom,

Then there will be two.

Two flower baskets, bright as the sun.

One will go to.....'s mom,

Then there will be one.

One flower basket, oh, it's sure to go.

To your very own mother, who is the Nicest one you know.

Talk with the children about what mother's do and what their mother does for them.

We Love Mothers,

Tune to: Frere Jacques

We love mothers.

We love mothers.

Yes we do

Yes we do.

Mothers are for hugging (hug self)

Mothers are for kissing (blow kiss)

WE love you

Yes, we do.

Thank you, mothers.

Thank you, mothers.

For your love,

For your love.

Mothers are for hugging, (hug self)

Mothers are for kissing (blow kiss)

We love you;

yes, we do.

I'll pick some flowers for my Mom.

To make a nice bouquet (pick flowers)

I'll give her a smile (smile)

And say, Happy Mother's Day.

I LOVE FAMILY

(tune: Frerer Jacques)

I love Mommy,

I love Mommy.

Yes I do

yes I do

And my mommy loves me

Yes,my mommy loves me

Loves me too

loves me too.

MOTHER'S DAY

Sung to tune of "This Old Man"

Mother's Day

Mother's Day

Is a very special day.

Here's a great big hug

And lots of kisses too.

Each one says that I love you!

I Love My Mommy

Sing to tune of "Up on the Housetop"

I love my mommy, Yessiree!

She is very good to me!

She makes me cookies and yummy treats,

That's my mom and she's real neat!

Oh, oh, oh, who wouldn't know,

Oh, oh, oh, who wouldn't know,



I love my mommy and she loves me,  
That's the way it's supposed to be!

Five Pretty Mommies

Sing to tune of "Five Little Ducks"

Five pretty mommies I once knew, \par Fat ones, skinny ones, tall ones, too,  
But the one in the middle that belongs to me...

I love her and she loves me!

Down to the grocery we did go,  
Wibble - wobble, wibble - wobble, to and fro,  
But the one in the middle that belongs to me,  
I love her and she loves me!

Mother's Day Song

(Melody: You are my sunshine)

I love you mommy

My dearest mommy

You make me happy

When I am sad

I want to tell you

I really love you!

When I'm with you I am so glad!

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! My dirty little fingerprints,  
I've left on every wall.

And on the drawers and table tops.

I've really marked them all.

But here is one that won't rub off.

I'm giving it to you.

Because I'm thankful,

For a mother just like you!

Another Poem

I laugh I dance I nap and play at Miss ( your name)'s  
but home is where I love to be

With Mommy right there next to me.

To hold and hug and kiss and say

"I love you mom,

Happy Mother's Day "

Sign Language Flower

Here is a unique flower for children to make and give to their moms on  
Mother's Day (or Father's Day. The hand forms a sign language symbol for  
"I love you."

Construction paper

Burlap or felt

Plaster of Paris

Polyester or cotton batting (is using fabric

) Tagboard

Water

Ice Cream Stick or thin dowel

Colored paper drinking cup

Scissors

Glue

Pencil or felt-tip pen

Newspapers

Container for plaster

Have children trace around their hands on tagboard with a pencil to make a handprint. Cut out pattern and place on folded construction paper, burlap or felt. Trace around pattern with pencil or pen and carefully cut out pieces. Insert end of stick or dowel between handprint cutouts. Dot dowel with glue to secure. Glue hands together by lining edges with glue. Let dry. Bend middle and ring fingers down and glue to palm, thumb out. Cover work area with newspapers. Mix and quickly pour plaster into cup. Insert flower and secure until set and dry. Paper or felt leaves may be glued to stem of flower.

Love Box

You use a small box like a jewelry box or make one out of box board or cut a small piece of wood. Have each child wrap it in paper or fabric Tie a ribbon with a bow around it. And attach this poem:

This is a very special gift

That you can never see.

The reason its so special is

Its just for you from me

You can never unwrap it,

Please leave the ribbon tied.

Just hold the box close to your heart,

Its filled with love inside.

childs name and the date

A BERRY TART FOR MOM

PREPARED with a ready-made crust and whole strawberries, this foolproof fruit tart meets two important requirements for any Mother's Day dessert: It is both elegant and edible.

SHELL

1 9-inch frozen piecrust

FILLING

1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened

1/3 cup sugar

2 tbsp. milk

1 tsp. vanilla extract

TOPPING

3 cups whole strawberries, washed and hulled

#### GLAZE

3 tbsp. apricot jam

1 tbsp. sugar

1 tsp. vanilla extract

Bake the piecrust according to the package directions and then set it aside to cool. In a mixing bowl, beat together the cream cheese, sugar, milk and vanilla extract until smooth. Spoon the filling into the cooled piecrust, spreading it evenly in the shell. Arrange the strawberries, bottoms up, on top of the filling.

Next, heat the apricot jam, sugar and vanilla extract together in a saucepan, stirring occasionally, until the mixture just begins to boil.

Remove the pan from the stove and use a pastry brush to paint each berry with the glaze (a fun job for kids). Chill for 30 minutes before serving.

Serves 6.

Hugs,  
Mary

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Make a big flower out of construction paper and put your child's face on it then tape it to a long bamboo skewer painted green and stick it in a flower pot with foam or something sturdy to hold it up. Then Cut out your child's hand using green construction paper for the leaves. These are the best flowers because they will never die.

Idea from Kelli H.  
Mesa, AZ

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