

Home Decorating Badge

Teaching:

Believe it or not, there will come a day when you will be responsible for taking care of your own home! It's a big responsibility. You can start learning now how to care for your own space. How many of you have your own room? How many of you share a room? Whether you have your own space or share, there are still parts of the room that you are in charge of—that reflect your habits (good or bad) and personality.

What are some ways we can care for our room?

1. Pick up things! Make sure every item has a place to go. When your room is a mess, does that make you want to stay there? No! The mess isn't inviting and is not peaceful. We want our rooms (and our homes to be a haven of rest ---a place your family will want to hang out at!)

What are some strategies for organizing? (baskets, bins, clearing out clothes that don't fit or toys you don't play with anymore...etc.)

2. Add your own touch to your space. Each of us are attracted to different things. Some of us love the color red, others prefer more subtle colors. Some of us like big, bold, patterns. Others like simple designs. No matter what is your preference, there are a couple of design tips:

*Talk about groupings---many grouping contain objects in 3's or 5's., unless we are dealing with something that is completely symmetrical. (Show some examples with the foam core board pieces)

*Pair a bright, bold, pattern with subtle patterns within one grouping. Look at all the pieces as a whole.

*Look at the colors in the main pattern. That will give you direction on how to choose colors and pieces for the project.

Wall Art Project



Supplies:

foam core board pieces
pattern paper
Mod Podge
foam brushes
paper cutter
Exacto-knife and glass mat
scissors
foam stamps
white and black paint.

I thought about having different stations for the girls to move through, so you will need at least 2 tables or more.

Station 1: foam core board pieces. I pre-cut foam-core board into 8"x8" pieces, 6"x8", and 4"x4" pieces. Have girls plan a grouping. Which sizes? Will you hang them vertically or horizontally? How will you place the pieces? Have them practice several different arrangements before picking the papers.

Station 2: Scrapbook paper, paper cutter: Purchasing a coordinating set of pattern paper makes choosing the backgrounds easy. Let each girl choose different patterns/solids or combine pieces together to cover the foam core boards as part of the wall art.

Station 3: Modge Podge: Have 3 plates of Mod Podge and several foam brushes. Instruct the girls on how to use Mod Podge

1. Use in light coats. Start on one side of the foam core board and then place one edge of the paper down, Lightly add more coats across the foam core board until all the paper is down. Don't worry if your paper hangs off the edge---we can trim that up. If there are bubbles, you can carefully rub it out---but most likely the bubbles will disappear some after drying.
2. Have an adult help w/ trimming any overhanging pieces of paper with an Exacto knife and the glass mat.

Station 4: Stamping. Talk to the girls about keeping things simple. Have them pick either a design or a letter to stamp on their foam core board. In my example, the piece that has the Letter S stamped on it will have my family photo added later. When the girls get home, they can add other embellishments such as photos, buttons, ric-rac etc.

Tips for stamping:

1. Have 2 plates---one for the black paint and one for the white paint. Have a couple of foam brushes. Lightly cover the stamp with paint and then press directly down. Stamps can be cleaned w/ water and soap after class.

How to adhere to the wall: Since foam core board is very light, you can use a small piece of velcro to hang on the wall. You can also use Poster Putty (the sticky stuff used to put up posters).

Other Options:

Add a line of thumb tacks on the board and use as a necklace holder.

Add a picture of friends or family.

Find some coordinating buttons, fabric or ric-rac and add as embellishments.

You don't have to hang it up---you can use a plate rack to proudly display your piece(s) on your dresser.

Have fun personalizing your space!



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