

Thanksgiving

Art Center: Cornucopia Construction

Materials

Two large sheets of brown construction paper, tape, scissors, pencils, colored construction paper, staplers, newspaper, markers.

Prepare the Activity

Tape sheets of paper together and then roll and tape them to form cornucopia. Trim as shown (see sketch a). Make a sample stuffed vegetable shape, following directions below.

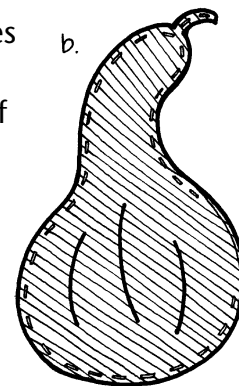
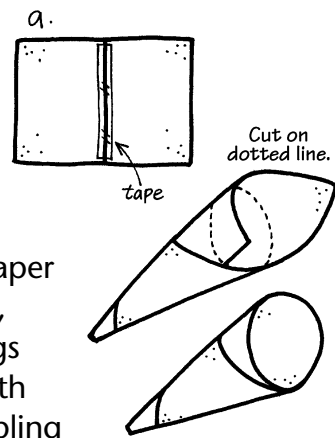
Giving thanks to God is something we can do every day of the year. Some countries have special holidays during which they remember to give thanks. Let's make something that was used by the earliest people who celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday.

Lead the Activity

1. Show paper cornucopia. **What is this called?** (A cornucopia, or horn of plenty.) **Cornucopias are traditionally filled with lots of nuts and vegetables to show the good food God gives to eat. We're going to fill our cornucopia with some of the good things for which we're thankful to God.**

2. Students draw outlines of fruits, vegetables or nuts on colored paper (apple, pumpkin, zucchini, crookneck squash, walnut, pecan, corn, etc.). Students place second sheet of colored paper behind drawings and then cut around their drawing, making sure to cut through both layers of paper. Students staple around edges of cutout shapes, stapling layers together but leaving a gap (see sketch b).

3. Students draw details of fruits, vegetables or nuts on one side of shapes and write or draw things for which they are thankful on the other side of the shapes. Students crumple up individual sheets of newspaper and stuff them in through the gap, filling their shapes before stapling them shut. Students place completed shapes in and around paper cornucopia.



Options

1. Students may make and decorate as many shapes as time allows. Students may also make their own paper cornucopias.
2. Encourage older students to help younger students with cutting, stapling and stuffing.

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Discussion Questions

1. **How does God care for you? For what would you like to thank God?**
2. **What other things does God give all people in the world?** (His love. Beautiful nature. Forgiveness of sins and eternal life when we believe in Jesus and ask for forgiveness.)
3. **What are some ways to give thanks to God?** (Sing Him a song of thanks. Tell Him what you are thankful for when you pray.)