

Holiday Helps

Ideas for Elementary Classrooms

Need a way to give someone a few notes of encouragement or a special treat?
Recycle greeting cards in a unique way that says "I love you!"

Weave-a-Heart Message Holder

What You'll Need

- greeting cards
- construction paper
- scissors
- tape or glue
- pencil
- optional: candy treats

What You Do

1. Cut off the fronts of two greeting cards that are similar in size but have contrasting background colors. (Or cut two 4" x 6" pieces of construction paper that are contrasted in color.) Fold one card in half and cut a curved edge at the top as illustrated.
2. Open the cut card and trace the curved shape onto the other card; cut to match. Cut five or six slits in each card from the bottom straight edge a little more than three fourths of the way up. The slits should be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. Place the cards so the curved tops resemble a heart. Weave the strips together. Trim as needed and secure the open ends with tape or glue.
3. Trace the shape of the woven heart onto a piece of construction paper. Cut out the paper heart. Form a pocket by gluing the paper heart to the back of the woven heart, gluing only along the two straight edges. Write messages on slips of paper and put them inside the pocket, or fill the pocket with candy treats.

Another Idea!

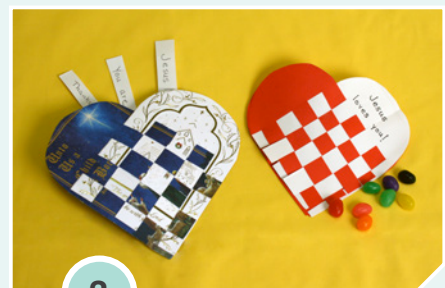
Challenge kids to list unusual ways to use these message holders. They could be used as tray favors at a local retirement center, given as teacher appreciation gifts, or sent to encourage missionaries. Select one project and let kids serve Jesus in a creative way.



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