

Ten Low-Mess Crafts

Book-Inspired Craft Pack

Simple crafts that pair with picture books your family already loves.

How to Use This Pack

Each craft lists the pairing book, materials and a 3-step how-to. Substitute freely — the goal is time together, not perfection.

1. Very Hungry Caterpillar Sticker Fruit

Pairs with: The Very Hungry Caterpillar · **Ages:** 1–4

You need: Colored circle stickers, paper, green marker.

- Stack circle stickers to build a caterpillar body.
- Draw legs, antennae and a smile.
- Add a paper fruit for the caterpillar to munch.

2. Brown Bear Color Parade

Pairs with: Brown Bear, Brown Bear · **Ages:** 1–3

- Cut animal shapes from colored construction paper.
- Glue in the book's order onto a long strip.
- "Read" the parade back — child names each color/animal.

3. Rainbow Fish Foil Scales

Pairs with: The Rainbow Fish · **Ages:** 3–5

- Draw a fish outline.
- Glue small aluminum foil squares as sparkly scales.
- Give one scale to a friend — talk about sharing.

4. Chicka Chicka Coconut Tree

Pairs with: Chicka Chicka Boom Boom · **Ages:** 2–5

- Cut a brown trunk and green fronds.
- Write letters on small paper squares.
- Stick letters on the tree while chanting the rhyme.

5. Where the Wild Things Crown

Pairs with: Where the Wild Things Are · **Ages:** 3–5

- Cut a paper strip long enough to fit a head.
- Decorate with markers, feathers or stickers.
- Roar loudly and start a wild rumpus.

6. Goodnight Moon Shadow Box

Pairs with: Goodnight Moon · **Ages:** 2–4

- Fold a paper in half to make a room.
- Draw a bed, a moon and a mouse.
- Say goodnight to each object before bed.

7. Snowy Day Cotton Ball Print

Pairs with: The Snowy Day · **Ages:** 1–4

- Dip a cotton ball in white paint.
- Dab across dark blue paper.
- Add a red-hooded stick figure like Peter.

8. Press Here Dot Painting

Pairs with: Press Here · **Ages:** 2–5

- Dip a fingertip in yellow paint.
- Follow the book's directions to add dots.
- Shake the paper, blow on it, count the surprises.

9. Day the Crayons Quit Letters

Pairs with: The Day the Crayons Quit · **Ages:** 4–5

- Choose a favorite color crayon.
- Dictate or write a short letter from that crayon.
- Deliver it to a family member.

10. Story Stone Set

Pairs with: Any book · **Ages:** 2–5

- Collect 6 smooth stones.
- Paint a favorite book's character on each.
- Use stones to retell — and then remix — the story.

Grown-up tip: The craft doesn't need to look like the book. Talking about it does.