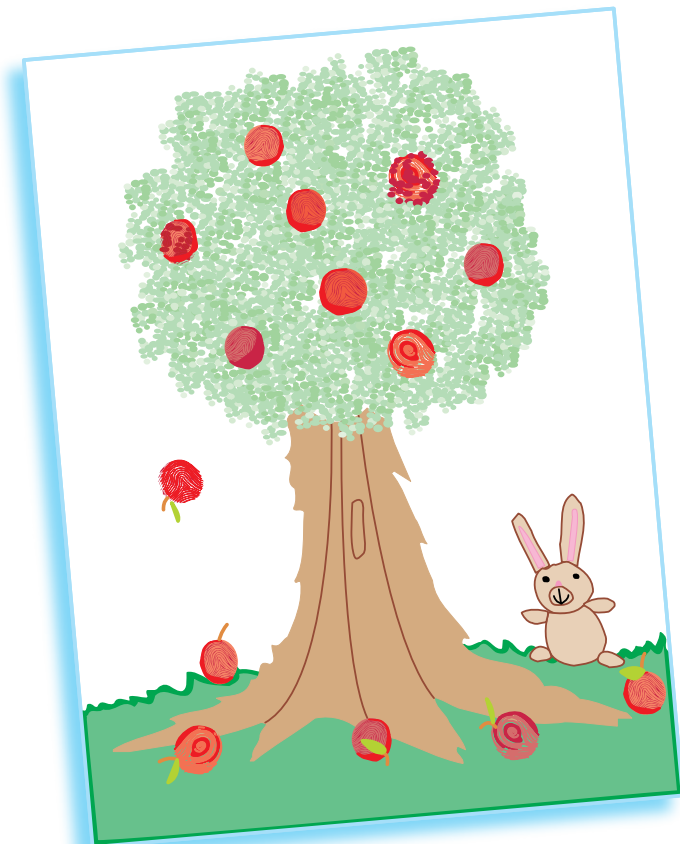




“Thumb” Apples!

These apple trees are truly “thumb-thing” special! To begin, tear a tree trunk shape from brown paper and glue it on a 9" x 12" sheet of white construction paper. Use green tempera paint and a sponge to paint the tree’s foliage. When the green paint is dry, pour a mixture of liquid soap and red tempera paint into a shallow pan. Use the paint to make a desired number of red thumb-print apples on and near the tree. Allow drying time. Then use crayons or markers to add colorful details and a background scene.

adapted from an idea by
Jane Manuel
Wellington, TX

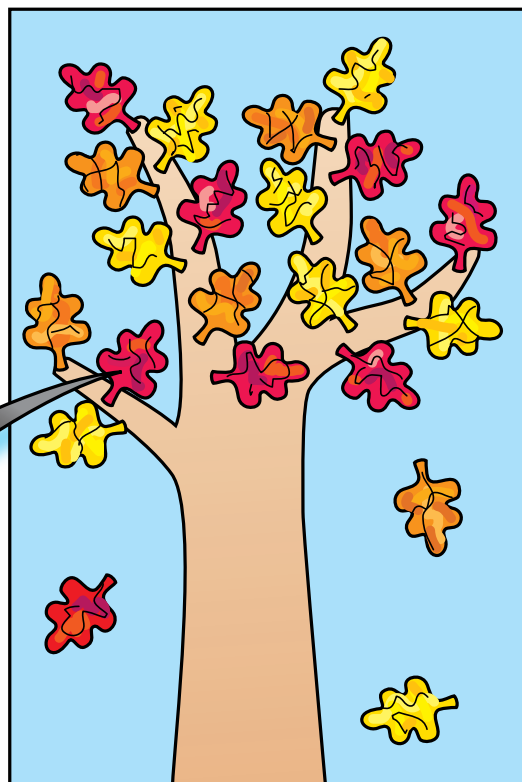


Colorful Autumn Leaves

Bring the beauty of fall indoors with this two-day project! On the first day, make three colorful collages. To do this, cut patches of red, yellow, and orange from magazines. Sort the pieces by color. Glue each resulting collection onto a 6" x 9" rectangle of like-colored construction paper, until the paper is completely covered.

On the second day, draw and color a well-branched tree on a 12" x 18" sheet of light blue construction paper. Then repeatedly trace a leaf template on the back of each collage. Cut out the leaves and glue them on (or near) the tree so that their bright fall colors show!

Dawn Hanson
Cornerstone Christian School
Olympia, WA

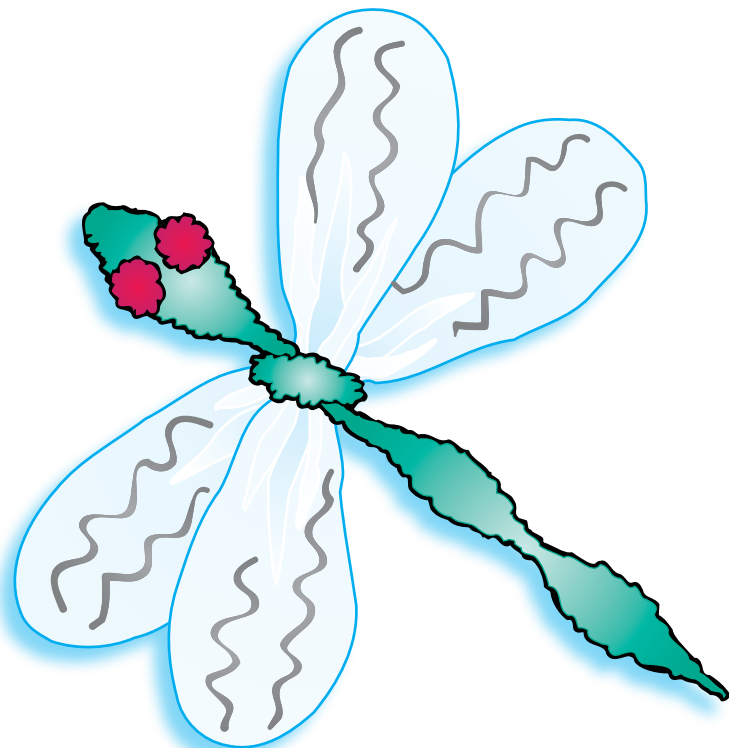
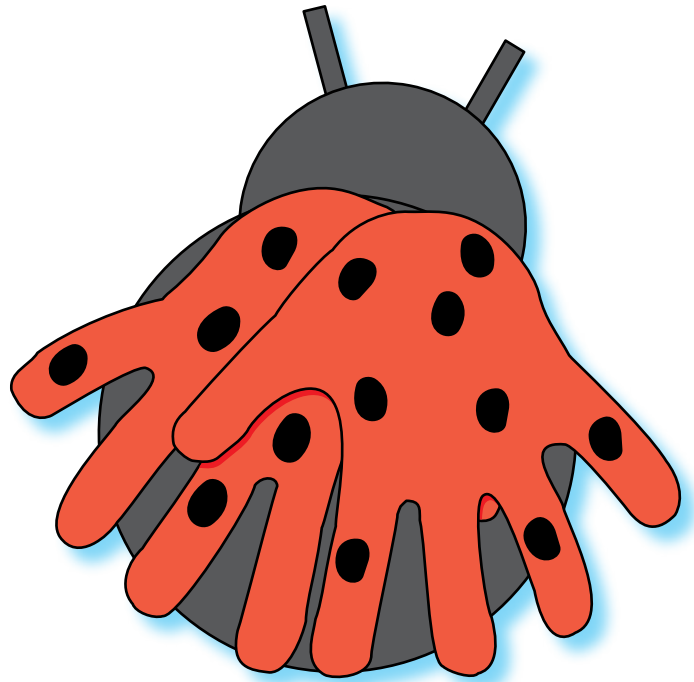




Little Ladybugs

Count on students to go buggy over these handy garden visitors! To begin, glue a three-inch black semi-circle (head) to a five-inch black construction paper circle (body) to resemble a ladybug. Cut two antennae from construction paper scraps and glue them on. Turn the ladybug over. Next, fold a 9" x 12" sheet of red construction paper in half to 6" x 9". With fingers either outstretched or together, trace one hand on the folded paper. Carefully cut along the tracing through both thicknesses of the paper. Then position the hand cutouts on the ladybug to resemble wings. Glue them in place. Use black tempera paint to make thumbprints on the wings. Allow the paint to dry; then the spotted critter will be ready for display!

Carol Hargett
Fairborn, OH



Dazzling Dragonfly

Sporting delicate wings like its real-life counterpart, this dragonfly impostor is made to dazzle. Snip one pointed end from a 12-inch chenille bump pipe cleaner. About one-half inch from the cut end, glue two small pom-pom eyes. To make the wings, draw dark, wavy crayon lines on each of two 3" x 12" strips of waxed paper. Round the corners and pinch the middle of each strip. Wrap the prepared pipe cleaner around the wings.

Darcy Brown
Elon College Elementary
Elon College, NC