

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

February 2024: Valentine's Basket

Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

Have you ever given or received a Valentine's Day card? Some historians believe that the idea comes from the German tradition of *Freundschaftskarten*—or friendship cards that Germans give on birthdays and New Year's Day. The tradition eventually spread to Valentine's Day, and cards have now been exchanged on February 14th for hundreds of years!

INVESTIGATE.

What makes a card special? Survey your family and friends and see what they like most about the cards they have received. Did something make one card stand out from the rest?

Cards normally have two unique features: #1) a design or message on the front, and #2) a personal note written inside.

First try to brainstorm original ideas for the front of a Valentine's Day card! Ideas could include...

- Artsy designs, hand-drawn pictures, or photographs
- Jokes that will make your receiver smile or laugh
- Riddles or brain teasers
- Games or puzzles

Then think about the people you would like to give a Valentine's Day card to. Don't forget about family members, classmates, teammates, teachers, coaches, and friends. Jot a list here!

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

INNOVATE.

Now that you have some ideas for cards *and* the people you'd like to give cards to, it's time to get started creating your own!

You'll need:

- Your Valentine's Basket
- Different types of paper and cardstock
- Markers and pens
- Glitter
- Glue
- Scissors
- Acrylic paint and paintbrushes
- Any other materials that could help bring your ideas to life

1. Begin by choosing the first person you'd like to create a Valentine's Day card for.
2. Select a goal for your card: Do you want to make this person smile, laugh, use their brain, or feel special? (It's possible to accomplish more than one thing!) Then think about what you know about this person. Out of the card ideas you already brainstormed, which one could help you accomplish your goal?
3. Then get started! Grab a piece of paper, fold it in half, and design the card's cover. Incorporate different colors and textures to make it as original as possible. Using paint, cutting and pasting different materials, adding sequins or glitter, creating a collage, or even making a pop-up can all make your card more unique!
4. Once the front of your card is complete, it's time to personalize the inside. This part has the potential to mean the most to the person who receives it, so take time to think about what you want to say. Remember to also include a greeting ("Dear..." or "To...") and your signature!
5. When it's all set, place your card in your Valentine's Basket so it's ready to be given on Valentine's Day. Then continue adding cards as you finish them.
6. On February 14th, distribute the cards you have created as you wish those special to you a *Happy Valentine's Day!*

Share a picture of your Valentine's Basket bursting with cards using #kidsworkshopexplore.



Look how beautiful your basket turned out! Just like all the colors that you used to decorate your basket, a **Painter** uses different colored paints and tools like brushes, rollers, buckets, ladders, and tape to make homes and structures look beautiful.

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