

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshops

Penguin Mailbox: Messages of Kindness

February 2026 | Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

Have you ever gotten a note that instantly made you smile? Maybe it was a silly joke from a friend, a birthday card, or a quick “good luck” message before a big event. Words have the power to brighten someone’s day, especially when they are shared with kindness.

INVESTIGATE.

Messages can be delivered in many ways: by hand, through the mail, or even digitally. In your Penguin Mailbox, you will deliver physical notes. But how can you make them fit inside the box more easily?

1. Use your imagination or do some research to learn about different paper folding techniques. You can look for books at the library or find information online. Make sure you ask an adult for help when searching online or using the internet.
2. Test three different paper shapes or folding styles to see which fits best in your mailbox. Record your results in the table below:

Fold Type / Size	Fits in Mailbox? (Yes/No)	Stays Neat After Folding? (Yes/No)	Easy to Open? (Yes/No)

3. Choose the best folding style for your messages based on your tests.

INNOVATE.

Turn your Penguin Mailbox into a hub for spreading positivity by creating your own postage stamps and writing messages to deliver.

You'll need:

- Your Penguin Mailbox
- Craft foam or paper
- Markers
- Glue
- Scissors

1. Cut small rectangles from craft foam or paper to make your postage stamps.
2. Decorate each stamp with bright colors, patterns, or small drawings that match your message.
3. Choose what kind of messages you want to send: kind words, silly jokes, or short poems.
4. Write your messages neatly and add small doodles to make them extra special.
5. Use the folding style you discovered worked best in your tests. This will help your notes fit neatly in the Penguin Mailbox and stay in good condition until they are delivered.
6. Place your finished messages inside the Penguin Mailbox. You can deliver them in person, let the recipient find them as a surprise, or invite friends to check the mailbox for their special delivery.

Set a goal to deliver one kind message each day for a week. Keep track of who you’ve sent them to and see how many people you can make smile.

Share a photo of your Penguin Mailbox filled with cheerful notes and custom stamps using #kidsworkshopexplore.



Construction workers are the people who build and repair our world. They use special tools and heavy machines to create all sorts of structures that we use every day such as mailboxes.

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