



Do at Home Craft

This week's crafting activity... **Crafty Summer Kites**

Get your kids into the great outdoors and away from technology for a little bit this summer by crafting and flying your very own kites! The fun comes from making them personal and flying them in the park where everyone can see your handiwork. You can stroll them around the park, do some kite races, or just keep them flying while you have a picnic.

You will need:

- Crafts knife
- Two flat sticks: 1/2x3/8x42 inches and 1/2x3/8x38 inches
- 60 feet of string
- Glue
- 45 x 45 inches of paper
- Pencil
- Paint, glitter glue sticks, crayons, and colourful markers
- Crepe paper and ribbons in various sizes
- Fast-drying glue

Instructions:

- 1 Carve a lengthwise notch 1/4 inch deep into both ends of each stick using the crafts knife. The notches should be deep enough to tightly hold the string.
- 2 Place the middle of the short stick over the long stick about 9 inches from one end of the long stick. Where the sticks intersect, tie them together with string. Knot; cut excess string. Add glue for extra holding power.
- 3 Starting at the top, thread string through each notch all the way around; repeat, keeping string taut. Finish at the top and tie a knot but don't cut the string. This is the kite's frame.
- 4 To make the bridle (where you'll attach the flying string), draw the knotted string back from the top and tie it off where the sticks intersect. Cut the string, leaving a 3-inch tail.
- 5 Place the frame flat onto paper, and lightly draw an outline of the kite frame, adding 3/4 inch all the way around. The extra eventually will be folded over the string and glued.
- 6 With scissors, cut out the sail, then set the frame aside until the sail is decorated.
- 7 Use paint, glitter, crayons, and markers to decorate the sail.
- 8 When the decorating is finished, allow 10 minutes to dry. Place the frame flat against the sail. Pour fast-drying glue onto the edges of the sail, and fold edges over the string. Allow to dry for five minutes.
- 9 Tie the remainder of your string to the bridle tail to create a flying string. Use crepe paper and/or ribbon to make a kite tail.

