

SOCK TOYS

Options

SOCK TOY IDEA

We are working on a project based on a Holocaust children's book. We are making sock toys to donate to a local school through the Elementary Mentor program at South Albany. Each class will need one representative to deliver the toys with the mentors on Dec 15th during their third period class. You will describe to the elementary students why we created the toys, read the book *Let the Celebrations Begin!* by Margaret Wild and Julie Vivas, and hand out the toys to the students.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

~a pair of unused socks for yourself (and maybe an extra pair for a classmate if they can't afford to purchase one. The Dollar Tree might be a good place to look for something affordable)

~a sandwich bag to keep all your materials together

~a creative mind and a giving heart

EXTRA MATERIALS NEEDED:

~stuffing

~buttons

~fabric glue

~needles/thread

~googly eyes

~ribbon

~ felt or fabric

~If you have extra/castoff art supplies that you no longer need, we would love to take those off your hands.

~Or you could bring some just for your own sock toy.

OWL



This is most likely the easiest, but there are NO instructions. This will require creativity on your part.

BEAR

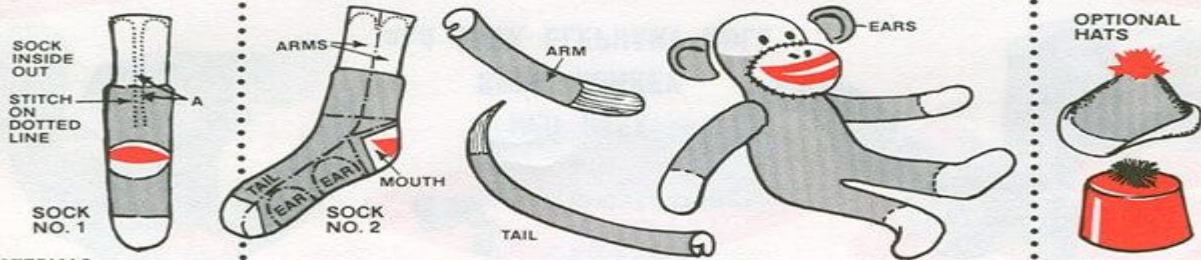


Super cute...instructions are visual. This project would be for those who are more crafty.



SOCK MONKEY: MORE COMPLEX

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING THE RED HEEL SOCK MONKEY TOY



MATERIALS:

1. One pair NELSON Red Heel Rockford Socks.
2. Stuffing—cut up old nylon stockings, hosiery waste, cotton batting, kapok, shredded foam rubber or polyester fiber.
3. Red knitting yarn.

INSTRUCTIONS:

TURN SOCK INSIDE OUT

Sew a seam (A) 1/2 inch on both sides of center of sock starting three inches from the white heel and across the end of top. Cut sock between seams and to within 1-1/2 inches of white heel. This leaves an opening in crotch.

Then turn sock so seams are inside and use crotch opening to stuff head, body and legs.

ARMS:

Cut the upper part of the sock into two pieces. Seam, rounding ends and stuff the arms.

MOUTH:

Cut the heel from the sock, leaving a brown edge around the white. Fasten on lower part of the face, whipping around the bottom; stuff and finish sewing around top. The mouth can be improved by a running stitch of either black or white across the middle of the lips.

TAIL:

Cut a one inch strip, taper to end of cuff on length of front of sock. Seam and stuff.

EARS:

Cut the ears from the remaining brown part of the sole of the sock.

EYES:

Sew on moving eyes, buttons, felt, or embroider with black thread. (For very small children embroider eyes.)

CAP: (Optional)

Cut off toe of another sock, leaving 1/2 inch of brown to roll for a brim. Sometimes a fez is used for a cap.

There are many variations from this basic pattern. Decorations can be either pompons, yarn or bells. Jackets, vests and skirts are also used for clothing the monkey.

CREATE A TAG FOR YOUR TOY: THINK BEANIE BABY



Halo

Date of Birth: August 31, 1998

When you sleep, I'm always here

Don't be afraid, I am near

Watching over you with lots of love

Your guardian angel from above!

YOUR TAG

Name (of your animal)

Date of birth

Cute poem that is appropriate for an elementary child about their toy.

On the back of the tag this will be printed:

During World War II, the Polish women at the Belsen Concentration Camp made toys for the children in the camp. They believed that, no matter how bad times were, the children should have toys.

This toy was created in their memory by _____.

SOCK TOY PROJECT REFLECTION

The sock toy project was based on the picture book *Let the Celebrations Begin!* which tells the story of the women in the Belsen Camp during World War II who made toys for the children so that they could find some joy during dark times.

1. What connections do you see between this project and Elie's story?
2. How do you think art (creating toys) helps us better understand someone else's story?
3. What do you hope the elementary school students with whom this project was shared learn from this experience?
4. What would you have done differently to make this project more successful for yourself or for the class?
 - a. Teacher Example: I would give a class lesson on how to thread a needle and tie knots.