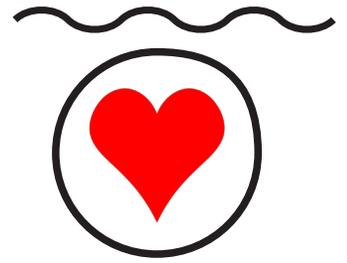


# Kids Explore!



## Make Greeting Card Stencils

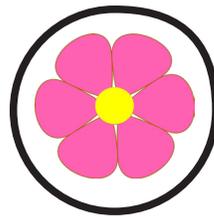
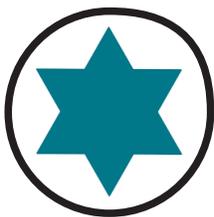
Use non-recyclable plastic lids to make stencils for greeting cards or just for fun. This is a great way to make use of all those container tops that have lost their bottoms!

### Materials

- ◆ Plastic container lids (such as leaves). Simple shapes are best.
- ◆ Sharp scissors
- ◆ Permanent marker or ball point pen
- ◆ Crayons or paints
- ◆ Paper (heavy-weight is best if you're making cards, but not required)

*Steps with a \* may require adult help.*

1. Gather some plastic lids from yogurt or salsa-type containers.
2. Draw the outline of shapes onto the lids using a permanent marker or a pen. Make up your own shapes, trace around things like cookie cutters, or trace around natural items
- \* 3. Poke sharp scissors into the middle of each shape and cut outward until you reach the edge of your drawn shape. Carefully cut out the shape along its outline.
4. If you're going to make cards (for holidays, birthdays, thank yous, etc.), fold your papers into card format before you start decorating.
5. Place a stencil lid on your paper with the flat side down. Use crayons or paints to fill in the stencil opening and make a picture on your paper. Be creative! Cover the area around the stencil with scrap paper (to prevent painting on your work surface) and splatter paint the opening. Or print with sponges or natural objects in the opening to create interesting textures.
6. If you made cards, let them dry and then send to faraway friends and family or nearby folks that you want to greet or thank.
7. For more fun, make a set of decorated cards to give as a gift!



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