MELTED CRAYON STAINED-GLASS CHRISTMAS TREE

Create an awesome faux stained-glass masterpiece with just a few supplies you most likely have around your home! There will be 2 different options for creating our melted crayon Christmas trees. You decide which one you would like to create based on your materials and comfort level- both require adult supervision! One cool thing about this project is you can display your stained glass with any "frame" shape- not just a Christmas tree! Get creative and have fun!

MATERIALS

OPTION 1- Griddle

- Electric griddle
- Aluminum foil
- Tape
- White computer paper
- Crayons
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick (or tape)
- Pencil

OPTION 2- Iron

- Iron
- Old towel
- Parchment paper or scrap paper
- Wax paper (2 sheets)
- Pencil sharpener
- Crayons
- Construction paper
- Scissors & Pencil
- Glue stick or tape

OPTION 1 – GRIDDLE INSTRUCTIONS

1.

Before you begin, set up your work area! Peel back or off the paper of some crayons and cover your griddle with a large piece of foil. Turn the griddle onto a *LOW* setting and allow to warm up. Place white computer paper on the foil covered griddle. This can also be done on a foil wrapped baking tray on a glass stovetop on low. For both methods *adult supervision is required!*

2.

When you begin coloring, make sure to ONLY touch the crayons- do not rest your hand against the griddle! It helps the crayon melt better if you hold it in place pressed to the warm paper for a few seconds. Once it is warm it will glide and melt across the paper! You can also pre-color a piece of paper and then place on the warm surface and watch the crayon melt!

3.

Experiment with color mixing and try to fill up your entire paper with crayon wax! You can even try placing small chunks of crayon around your paper and letting it melt on its own!

4.

Using a piece of dark colored construction paper the same size as your melted crayon paper, fold the paper in half long way (hotdog bun). Using a pencil draw half of a Christmas tree (or any simple shape) along the fold. Try to make it large, but do not go off of the edge of the paper! This will be the frame for your stained-glass window.

5.

Keeping the paper folded, cut the tree out using scissors. Unfold it to reveal a frame! Using a glue stick or tape, attach your crayon paper to the back of your frame.

6.

Tape your masterpiece to your window for the full effect! This also looks great against Christmas lights or would be a fun idea for the cover of a greeting card! The possibilities are endless! Take a picture of your creation and share it on social media using the hashtag #cdmartstudioonline as well as #childrensdiscovermuseum and don't forget to tag the Children's Discovery Museum!

OPTION 2 – IRON INSTRUCTIONS

1.

Start by peeling back or off the paper of some crayons and using a pencil sharpener, sharpen them to create a few piles of crayon shavings. You might want to do this onto a paper plate or piece of paper. You don't need a lot- just try to have a few colors to work with. Cut your wax paper sheets to the size of your construction paper using scissors.

2.

Now lay out your old towel flat on a heat safe surface- you may want to fold the towel in half so you have 2 layers. Place one piece of your wax paper on top of the towel. Sprinkle crayon shavings onto the wax paper! Play with color placement and try to avoid getting shavings on the towel or on the edge of the wax paper. You don't need to cover the whole wax paper- the crayon wax will melt and "ooze around" so give it some space to spread.

3.

PLEASE USE ADULT SUPERVISION OR HAVE AN ADULT DO THIS NEXT STEP!

Place your second piece of wax paper onto the crayon shaving covered piece on top of the towel. Place a piece of parchment paper or scrap paper on top of the wax paper (do **NOT** go right onto wax paper with iron!!) and run a dry medium heat iron over the parchment paper quickly, melting the crayon shavings. Allow everything to cool and then follow steps 4-6 from Option 1!