

Thanksgiving Craft Stick Baskets

Taking a craft to the elderly at Thanksgiving is a great activity. This craft is fun and the boys love to make these baskets from Craft (popsicle) sticks.

Materials needed:

4-sided basket (squares):

1. 4 ½" x 4 ½" x ¼" plywood for base.
2. 28 craft sticks (you can buy these in boxes of 1000 at craft stores).
3. White glue.

6-sided basket (hexagons):

1. Hexagon - 4 ½" across (each side is 2 5/8").
2. 51 craft sticks.
3. White glue.

8-sided baskets (octagons):

1. Octagon - 5 ½" across (each side is 2 3/8").
2. 60 craft sticks.
3. White glue.

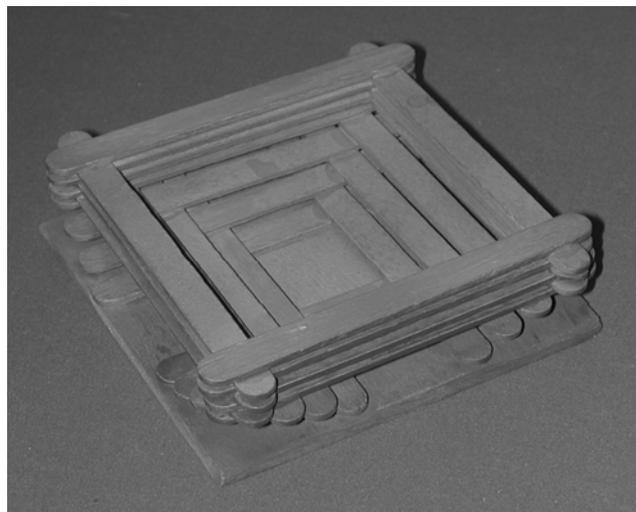
Before the meeting:

1. Cut square, hexagon and/or octagon bases.
2. Sand bases on sander.
3. Make an example of each to take to the meeting.

Assembly at the meeting:

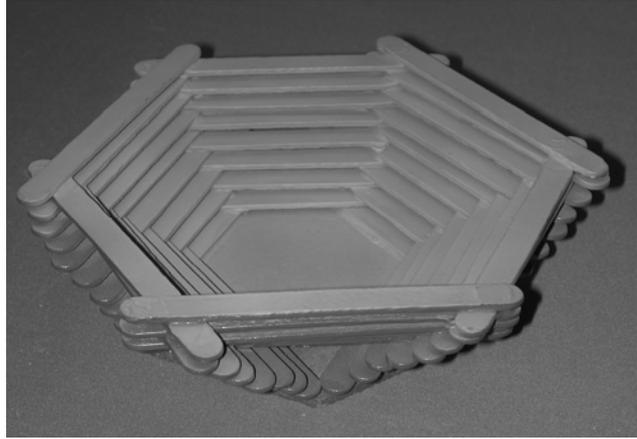
Square baskets: (use for youngest boys, and older boys if desired).

1. Boys begin by gluing 2 craft sticks about 1" apart near the center of the square base (if a 'bowl' shape is desired. If the sticks are glued to the outside edges, then you will have a square shape).
2. Glue 2 more sticks across (at a right angle) to the 1st 2 sticks.
3. Glue 2 more sticks across (at a right angle) to the previous 2 sticks, but moved out about the width of a stick.
4. Continue to add layers of sticks, laying each a little wider to form the bowl, until all sticks have been added.

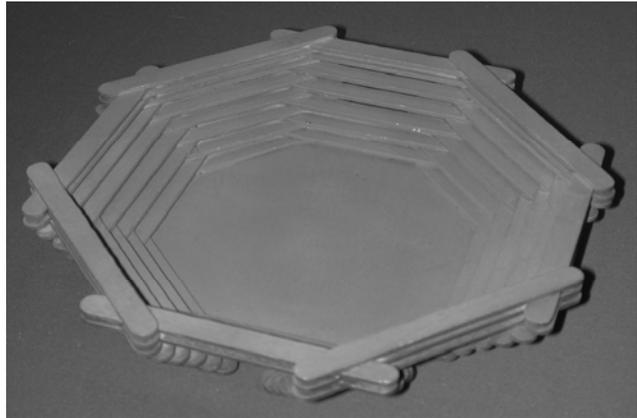


Hexagon baskets (6-sided): (use for older boys if desired)

1. Boys begin by gluing 3 craft sticks to form a triangle from 3 apices of the hexagon base.
2. Glue 3 sticks to form a triangle onto the 1st triangle (but rotated so the two triangles form a 6-sided figure (hexagon)).
3. Glue 3 sticks to form another triangle onto the 2nd triangle (but rotated so this triangle lines up over the first triangle). If you lay the sticks exactly vertically, one will get a small 6-sided basket with vertical walls. If you make the 3rd and successive triangles a little larger (about $\frac{1}{2}$ the width of a craft stick), then you will get a bowl shaped basket.
4. Continue to add layers of sticks, laying each a little wider to form the bowl, until all sticks have been added. The last 2 or 3 layer of sticks will be vertical to form a lip around the bowl.

**Octagon baskets (8-sided). (Use for oldest boys)**

1. Boys begin by gluing 4 craft sticks to form a square onto the base (the corners will stick out a little from the base).
2. Glue 4 sticks to form a square onto the 1st square but rotate the second square so as to make an octagon shape.
3. Glue 3 sticks to form another square onto the 2nd square (but rotated so this square lines up over the first square). If you lay the sticks exactly vertically, one will get a small 8-sided basket with vertical walls. If you make the 3rd and successive squares a little larger (about $\frac{1}{2}$ the width of a craft stick), then you will get a bowl shaped basket.
4. Continue to add layers of sticks, laying each a little wider to form the bowl, until all sticks have been added. The last 2 or 3 layers of sticks will be vertical to form a lip around the bowl.



The baskets can be left natural or spray painted (do the spray painting outside the building!).

Be sure to make extra baskets to deliver. Next week, bring some candy to put in the square and hexagon baskets before delivery. The octagon basket is large enough that you can put an apple and a banana in it. Deliver the 5 extra projects to elderly in the community. Be sure to call them on the day of the visit so they will stay up and have the porch light on. You may want to take the boys for an ice cream treat after the visits!