Make craft stick snowflakes!

Like it or not, winter is here! Our Hatley Branch recently embraced the chilliest season of the year by hosting a Winter Craft Day for all ages. If you missed that program, don’t fret. You can still spend a snowy day inside making one of the crafts using things commonly found in your own home.

**Supplies needed:**
- Wooden craft sticks
- Craft paint
- Glue (Elmer’s or hot glue)
- Decorative accents (glitter, stickers, etc.)
- String or yarn (optional)

**Instructions:**
1. Paint four wooden craft sticks with any color. Let dry.
2. Glue together two of the craft sticks to form an “X.” Glue another stick vertically through the center of the “X.” Glue the final stick horizontally through the center of the “X.” Your sticks should now resemble an eight-pointed snowflake.
3. Glue on any decorative accents you want to use to detail your snowflake, including glitter, confetti, and more. Let dry.
4. Cut a piece of string or yarn to your desired length. Glue both ends to the back of the snowflake to form a loop. Let dry and then hang your snowflake!

Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist

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Celebrate the Phyllis Donner Aquarium’s fifth anniversary!

One of the main attractions at MCPL Wausau is the 650-gallon Phyllis Donner Aquarium. This beloved habitat—home to various sea creatures including fish, starfish, and various kinds of coral—was originally built in 2012 by Las Vegas-based Acrylic Tank Manufacturing (ATM), known for their Animal Planet reality series “Tanked.” The aquarium was unveiled to the public in December 2012, and has since become a point of fascination for those visiting the Wausau Headquarters’ children’s area.

MCPL will celebrate the aquarium’s five-year anniversary on January 13 with a special commemorative ceremony and story time. Library Director Ralph Illick will say a few words about the history of aquarium along with MCPL’s aquarium expert Darren Leter. In addition, kids and families will hear ocean stories, do some fish-themed art projects, play games, and hold and touch real-life sea creatures!

Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist

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“Love in Six Words” Writing Contest

Do you have a burning love inside you that you just have to share? Or are you a hopeless romantic and enjoy expressing yourself through the written word? Then spread the love with the return of our “Love in Six Words” writing contest!

Beginning 1/29, adults can submit what love means to them in just six words. You could write about the love for a child or spouse, pet, best friend, song, or even an inanimate object. As long as your submission is six words or less and features no obscene language, it will be considered by our panel of judges. The top five entries will be put on display at MCPL Wausau and will be shared via social media!

Entries can be emailed to love@mcpl.us, or paper copies may be dropped off at MCPL Wausau by 2/9. Please include your contact information, and limit yourself to no more than three entries.

For more information, call 715-261-7230.

Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist

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Events for Kids and Teens

Did you know the library schedules a variety of fun and educational events for children and teens every month? Check out the interior of this newsletter or visit www.mcpl.us/events for the latest information!

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New Book Sale Room!

Visitors to the next Friends Book Sale will notice something a little different: new surroundings!

Beginning with the next book sale in February, all Friends of MCPL book sales will be held in the west-facing ground-level book sale room. Previously used as a shipping and receiving garage, this newly renovated space will be easier to access than the library’s third floor (where sales used to be held), which was only accessible by elevator and proved problematic when book sale attendance was high. Parking is located just a few feet away from the new book sale room as well, making for a shorter trip when hauling away your treasured finds.

The next sale will open 2/1 with a special members-only sale from 5-8pm (where non-members can join in the spot for just $10). The sale will continue 2/2-2/3, 9:30am-4:30pm, and will wrap up 2/4, 1-4pm. Though the digs will be new, the Friends’ book sales will still feature incredible deals on thousands of books, audiobooks, music CDs, movies, and TV series on DVD, video games, art works, and other items.

Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist

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Value Line: Free Stock Market Research

Are you interested in the stock market and looking for a straightforward, free source of professional investment data and ratings? Look no further! MCPL offers its patrons access to Value Line, a database of publicly-traded stocks, mutual funds and more, plus a plethora of related statistics and a proprietary “Value Line” rating to help you evaluate investment opportunities.

Visit www.mcpl.us/value-line for access or more info.

Ben Krombholz, IT Technician

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Upcoming Events

Did you know the library schedules a variety of fun and educational events for all ages every month? Check out the interior of this newsletter or visit www.mcpl.us/events for the latest information!
EVENTS FOR KIDS & TEENS

Craft a Paper Aquarium! 1/2-1/3 @ MCPL Athens Help us stock your paper “aquarium” by creating coral, sea plants, and a fish. Donation.

LEGOS® Black Party Tue., 3:30-4pm 1/2, 1/16 @ MCPL Marshfield Children of all ages and their families are invited to build creative projects using LEGO blocks! Registration required. Parent/child fee.

Outside the Lines: A Family Coloring Party Sat., 10:45-11:45am 1/6, 1/20 @ MCPL Hatley Bring your family for a fun day of gaming! Board card games and DIY craft kits for all ages will be available.

DIY Snowflakes Mon., 1/18, 3pm @ MCPL Athens Patrons of all ages can make their own decorative snowflakes using wooden craft sticks or paper.

Bubble Story Time Tue., 1/9, 10am @ MCPL Mosinee Kids and families can enjoy bubble-themed stories and participate in bubble activities!

Hobbies and Crafts Night Thu., 6pm, 1/15, 2/19 @ MCPL Athens Hobby and craft enthusiasts are welcome to join us for a night of creating and socializing.

Winter Craft Day Tue., 1/9, 3-6pm @ MCPL Wausau Grades K-5 are invited to learn the science of winter-themed crafts!

Tweens Book Club: "The Year of the Dog" by Grace Lin Thu., 1/18, 4pm @ MCPL Wausau

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