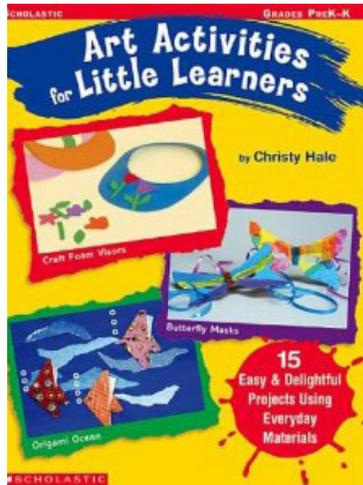




# My Home

Children work in three dimensions to create a model of their home.



lesson excerpt from  
*Art Activities For Little Learners: 15 Easy & Delightful Projects Using Everyday Materials*  
 by Christy Hale  
 (Scholastic Teaching Resources, 2004)

## Materials

- Newspaper (to cover tables)
- Recycled milk cartons and cereal and shoe boxes
- Tempera paint in assorted colors
- Paintbrushes
- Containers or shallow trays for paints
- Construction paper in assorted colors
- Glue
- Scissors

## DAY ONE

**1** Have a discussion about homes. Ask children each to describe the building in which they live. Is the building tall? Long? What color is the building? How many windows does it have? What color is the roof? (Be aware of different living situations and avoid comparison of size and standard of living.

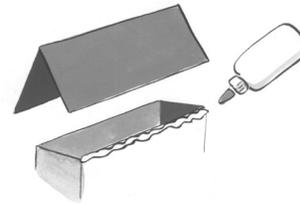
**2** Divide the class into groups. Cover each table with newspaper. Provide each group with tempera, paintbrushes, containers or shallow trays for paints, recycled milk cartons and boxes. After each child has selected a carton or box to use as the home, have him or her select a color of tempera to paint it. Children can then paint the boxes and leave overnight to dry.



## DAY TWO

**1** Provide each group with an assortment of colored construction paper, glue, and scissors.

**2** Have children select a color of construction paper for the roof. Help them fold the paper in half lengthwise, try out the roof on top of the home, and trim excess length.



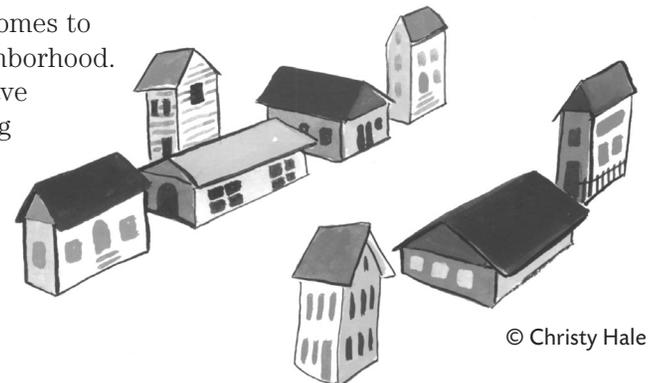
**3** Demonstrate how to attach the roof to the base of the home. Glue along the top edges of the home, position the roof in place, and hold until glue sets.

**4** Provide children with construction paper scraps for cutting out windows, doors, stairs, and any other details.

**5** Help children glue these pieces in place and leave to dry.



**6** Organize the many homes to create a classroom neighborhood. Later, you might also have children practice reading or writing their address information at the writing center.



© Christy Hale

## BOOK LINKS

**Mr. Pine's Purple House** by Leonard P. Kessler (Purple House Press, 2001)  
 First published in 1965 and now back in print, this is a simple, memorable story about breaking from conformity and the triumph of individualism.

**Let's Go Home: The Wonderful Things About a House** by Cynthia Rylant (Simon & Schuster, 2001)

"No matter the kind of house, it is the living inside that makes it wonderful." This oversize picture book brings to life the delightful, varied world of houses, while also exploring the idea of what makes a home.

**Houses and Homes (Around the World Series)** by Ann Morris (Mulberry Books, 1995)

A colorful photo-essay showing houses around the world—from Buckingham Palace to a straw house, from New York City to Papua New Guinea. Includes an explanation of housing materials and available resources in each area.