

Sugar Plum Faire - Grade One Felted Soap Craft

OVERVIEW

Small soaps are felted with colorful roving. It's a bit like having a built-in wash cloth. These make lovely gifts. The youngest children can do this craft with supervision.

LOCATION

Grade 3 Classroom

MATERIALS NEEDED

At school:

- 5 tables (or 4 tables & 2 desks for dry gds)
- electric hot water kettle
- felting socks
- natural roving 2 pounds natural and colored
- 6 plastic tubs

School will provide:

- 12 bath towels
- Laundry basket for wet towels
- Plastic baggies for finished soap *
- 40 two pack bars of soap from Trader Joes, Oatmeal honey*

PRE FESTIVAL TO DO:

- **FELTING TUTORIAL BY Frau Greer**
More Adults with experience prior to volunteering the better. Think parent evening or set up afternoon before. Parent Rep must know how to felt and be able to teach others. (2018 – Sandra Hinsley will assist you in learning how to do this the morning of).
- **BUYING SOAPS AND CUTTING SOAPS**
Cut soap in half before event. If soap splits, heat slightly in the microwave before cutting. If the Festival Committee has time, they may have already done this for you.

STAFFING FOR FAIRE DAY

- Set up: 2 people about 30 minutes Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.
- Event staffing: One hour shifts, minimum of 4 volunteers per shift (5 would be nice.)
- Clean up: 3 people for 1 hour

SET UP IN 3RD Gr Classroom - See pictures that follow

Move Desks and chairs to north end of the room and stacked to free up $\frac{3}{4}$ of the floor space

Table 1 - Greeting: just to the right as you come in the room. Volunteer will mark off plums on patron's card & explain craft. Display sample soap decoratively. Place Tally Sheet and pen on table also.

Tables 2 – Dry Goods: place along the windows, with space behind for two people to stand with their backs to the window. The first table has soap & pre-pulled white roving

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Table 3 – Pre-pulled colored roving & felting socks

Table 4 & 5 – perpendicular to dry goods table down middle of room ending at sink. Line with towels. Place bins of warm water on top.

Process: raw soap, natural roved soap, natural and color roved soap, soap in a felting sock, and felted soap

Greeter/plum taker: marks plums off patron's card, notes # of soap sold on Tally sheet, explains craft.

Felt Helpers:

As people began the process they were guided through each step by the volunteer at each station which was broken down this way: One-two volunteer/s instructing and/or guiding the roving going onto the soap. The natural roving is wrapped tightly around soap. This is the hard part, getting all the corners covered, getting it tight, not too bulky, etc. At table 3, the crafter is instructed to pick three colors, and given separated strips of color roving to wrap on their soap. When they are done, the soap is placed in a felting sock, the top is twisted, and they move on.

One-two volunteer/s helping get the soap into the sock and encouraging/guiding through the felting process and onto the sink for rinsing and bagging of their soap. The volunteers were great at being fluid and going where the need was greatest as participants ebbed and flowed throughout the event.

Both sides of Tables 4 and 5 used. One volunteer helps the crafters, plunge their soap into the water and massage it and squeeze it for a good long while. They also add hot water to the tubs, and dump soapy bins out and refill them. It helps to check the felting process a few minutes in, by opening the sock and checking for loose parts and folding them back in and twisting the sock back up.

Once the felting is done (sometimes you need to just do a bit of the hard squeezing for the little ones) send the to the sink to rinse their soap in cold water, dry it on a towel and put it in a baggie.**

CLEAN UP

- Return tables to Skinner Hall
- Place left over materials into plastic bin.
- Take towels home to wash.
- Return other materials to their owners.
- Return desks & chairs to their proper places

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Felted Soap Tally
2 plums per soap

Instructions:

1. Mark off 2 plums per soap on patron's sheet
2. Make a line in a box for each soap sold during your shift. Count by fives. IIII/ (4 lines then slash across) Each box has 5 lines total then move to next box

11 am to 12 pm

12 pm to 1 pm

1 pm to 2 pm

2 pm to 3 pm

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