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Letter from the Editor

Hello Crafty Families,

Everybody knows that yarn makes for a great crafting material. Who would've thought that our granny's collection of wound-up wool could turn into an adorable caterpillar or a fun mobile? It wasn't until college that I discovered the magic usefulness of yarn. Soon, I was using yarn to make garlands, pom pom dandelions, and cute surprises to give to my friends. I just wish I had started using yarn at a younger age – what fun I would have had as a kid!

In this free eBook, you'll find some quirky crafts made from yarn that you and the kids can make together or with friends and siblings. You can even set your teens and tweens up with some of the cool crafts inside this eBook. If your high schoolers are bored and looking for something to do, they can make the String Art on Wood found on page 28. Or if the big kids want to try a garland of their own, they can make the elementary-level Yarn Ice Cream Cones found on page 16. No matter the time of year, these yarn crafts will get the kids thinking creatively and having fun!

You can find more craft projects, recipes, and activity ideas at <u>www.AllFreeKidsCrafts.com</u>.

Our eBooks, like all our kids' craft projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our kids' crafts community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our <u>free e-mail newsletter</u>.

Happy crafting!

Sincerely,

The Editors of AllFreeKidsCrafts.com

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# **11 Popsicle Stick Crafts for Kids**

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# **Yarn Art Projects**

OMG Color Yarn Art By: Jackie Currie from Happy Hooligans



Let your kids add a pop of color to their day this summer with this OMG Color Yarn Art activity. This free kids' craft is perfect for toddlers through elementary students and comes with multiple age-appropriate ideas. Younger kids can work on their fine motor skills by working with natural materials like twigs, while older kids will love creating cool patterns on paper plates. This summer kids' craft is great for an arts and crafts project for summer camp or any large kids' group. After your kids are finished, they can turn their projects into wall art or crafty mobiles. Your kids will be saying "OMG!" with this fun and colorful kids' craft.

- Paper plate
- Scissors
- Glue
- Various colors of yarn



1. Choose a color to start with and press the end of the yarn into the glue in the middle of the plate. Now, simply start coiling your yarn around and around, working your way out toward the edge of the paper plate.

2. With your fingers, nudge your yarn up close to the previous coil so the paper plate doesn't show through.

3. Switch up your colors as often as you'd like.

4. Each time you change yarn colors, simply start your next color where your last one left off, gluing them together as if they were one continuous piece.



5. Keep winding and switching colors until you're happy with the way your art looks. Finish by cutting off the yarn and gluing the end in place.



#### **Easy Popsicle Stick Crosses**

By: Stephanie Hamen for AllFreeKidsCrafts



Are you teaching Vacation Bible School this summer? These Easy Popsicle Stick Crosses make great easy crafts for kids. Popsicle stick crafts for kids are super popular to make in the summertime, so why not use these versatile wooden materials to make a meaningful keepsake? These yarn-wrapped crosses are simple to put together and would make a great activity for elementary school kids. Have kids pick from an array of different colored yarn to personalize their crosses. These simple crosses would also make great Easter crafts or Christmas crafts for children.

#### Materials:

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Popsicle sticks

#### Instructions:

1. Take two Popsicle sticks and create a cross.

2. Wrap yarn around and crisscross it until the sticks are in place. Tie off in the back and trim the string off with scissors.



Washi Tape Snake Craft By: Rachel Nipper from I Heart Crafty Things



These snakes are colorful, but they are also very hungry. They are looking for a snack and your little snake charmer needs to come to the rescue! Your kids can make their own DIY toys with this Washi Tape Snake Craft. This craft idea for kids is bound to be the best because your kids can follow the easy tutorial and learn how to make homemade toys out of familiar crafting supplies. This toilet paper roll craft is a great excuse for your kids to break out the Washi tape collection and get crafting!

- 3 toilet paper rolls cut in half
- Washi tape (varying colors and patterns)
- Hole punch
- String or yarn
- Scissors
- 2 googly eyes
- Small piece of red yarn (or red strip of paper if you don't have red yarn)
- Glue dots (or school glue)



1. Cut your three toilet paper rolls in half and lay the pieces down to make a long snake shape. Gather together the washi tape you want to use to make your snake.



2. Use the washi tape to decorate your toilet paper rolls. It might be helpful to pre-cut pieces of the washi tape for smaller children and place them on the end of a table hanging off, so they can easily grab them.



3. When you are finished decorating your pieces, line your snake up exactly as you want it and use your hole punch to punch holes in the toilet paper roll pieces to connect them together. The inside pieces will need a hole on each end, but the two outside pieces will only need one hole punched in them.



4. Now connect all the pieces together. Cut a piece of your string or yarn, thread it through one hole from one of the toilet rolls and another hole in another toilet roll and tie a knot. Cut off any excess string. Continue this process connecting all six pieces together.



5. Finish your snake by turning it over and gluing on googly eyes and a piece of red yarn for a tongue.







Pom Pom Caterpillar By: Lion Brand Design Team



Little ones are going to have a blast helping you make this sweet Pom Pom Caterpillar. Learning how to make your own toy has never been so fun. Just making the pom poms is a fun project, but combining them to create this soft and squishy caterpillar is super fun. While the youngest might not be able to do this project on their own, they will be able to help choose colors and learn how to make pom poms. This sweet pom pom fellow is going to become a new favorite toy.

- Vanna's Choice Yarn: Aqua (A), Silver Blue (B), Mustard (C), Raspberry (D)
- Pom pom maker
- Large-eye blunt needle
- Glue-on eyes
- Craft glue



1. Following pom pom maker directions, make one medium and one large pom pom from yarn A.

2. Make one medium pom pom each with yarns B, C, and D.

3. Arrange pom poms in the following order: large A pom pom, B pom pom, C pom pom, D pom pom, medium A pom pom.

4. Glue pom poms together.

5. To make the antennae: Thread a strand of B into blunt needle. Insert needle into large A pom pom and pull through to opposite side. Remove needle. Knot and trim strand ends.

6. To create the eyes and mouth: Cut 2 small circles from felt. Glue to large A pom pom for eyes. Cut a 1 ¼ inch length of C and glue below eyes in a semi-circle "smile."





## **DIY Yarn Decorations**

## Ice Cream Yarn DIY Garland (Preschool/Kindergarten) By: Paige Flamm from The Happy Flammily



Bringing some sweetness into your daily life just got a little easier with this Ice Cream Yarn DIY Garland! Perfect for an ice cream sundae-themed party, this easy-to-make garland adds a cool touch to any party space. Made with yarn and ice cream cones, these decorations are super easy to make and fun to personalize. Top these yarn garlands with red pom poms to add that classic 'cherry on top'. This DIY garland is an easy, budget-friendly take on this classic dessert combined with adorable decor. And it's one type of ice cream you don't have to worry about melting! Grab some yarn and ice cream cones to make some of the sweetest easy craft ideas for kids you have ever seen.

- 2 different colors of yarn
- 12 ice cream cones
- Red pom poms
- Hot glue gun and glue
- 12 pieces of printer paper
- Twine





1. Crumple one piece of printer paper into a ball.



2. Wrap one color of yarn around the ball of paper until you get a ball that is about the size of a scoop of ice cream. Once you got your ball of yarn to the size you want, tuck the loose end of yarn under the other threads so that it's not sticking out.



3. Run hot glue around the edge of the cone.





4. Lightly press the ball of yarn into the cone.



5. Place a dot of hot glue on top of the ball of yarn and then place one of the red pom poms on top. Repeat this process eleven more times until all the cones are filled. Remember to do six cones in one color of yarn and then six cones in the other color of yarn.



6. Once you have all cones filled, run the twine through the backside of the cones, preferably through pieces of yarn that are running vertically so that all the cones hang on the string in the same direction.





## Yarn Ice Cream Cones (Elementary School) By: Allison Michelena from A Glimpse Inside



This easy craft for kids is the sweetest party decoration idea! There's nothing better than an ice creamthemed party because, let's be honest, who doesn't like ice cream? Your kids can make Yarn Ice Cream Cones for a fun craft project or for a quirky room decoration idea. This ice cream cone craft has endless possibilities with different colors of yarn and toppings ideas. You and your kids can even string them together to make a DIY garland. Get creative with this craft idea for kids and make a cool craft project that looks good enough to eat.

- Ice cream cones
- Yarn in your color choices
- 2 ½ inch Styrofoam balls
- Small wooden balls/beads
- Red acrylic paint
- Green floral wire
- Low temp hot glue gun



1. Begin by painting the balls/beads red and let dry.



2. For the ice cream, start by placing a dab of glue on the Styrofoam ball and place the end of the yarn on the glue.





3. Wrap the ball with the yarn, working around the ball, changing directions to make sure the full ball was covered.



4. Continue wrapping the ball until the whole ball is covered and you can't see any more of the white coming through.





5. Once dry, glue the "cherry" on top of the ice cream.



6. Then, place hot glue all along the inside rim of the cone to hold the ball.





7. Place ice cream ball inside the cone, gently pressing down to make sure it sticks to the glue.



8. Take the green floral wire and cut off small pieces using wire cutters.





9. Then glue the stem to the cherry.





Pom Pom Mobile By: Lion Brand Design Team



The kids are going to love making a huge pile of bright and colorful pom poms for this Pom Pom Mobile. Using a pom pom maker to learn how to make pom poms is a fun way to get the kids involved with this unique home décor craft for kids. This is the perfect project to use up those small balls of left over yarn, or use one of the color coordinated collections available. The mobile is sure to look festive no matter where the kids decide to hang it, and they will be proud of their handiwork.

- Lion Brand Bonbons Yarn: Brights
- Pom pom maker
- Metal ring about 1 ½ inches (4 centimeters) in diameter
- Metal ring about 5 inches (12.5 centimeters) in diameter
- Craft glue



1. With red from the yarn pack, wrap yarn around the small ring, completely covering the ring. Secure yarn ends with glue.

2. Repeat with purple from the yarn pack and the large ring.

3. Following package directions, and with yarns from the yarn pack, make 21 small pom poms, about 1 inch in diameter and six large pom poms, about 2 inches in diameter.

4. Cut a 60 inch strand each of light green, orange, and pink from the yarn pack. Hold these three strands together and fold in half.

5. Lay folded end of strands over the small ring. Pull ends of strands through the fold and tighten to secure the strands to the ring. You will have six strands hanging from the small ring.

6. At this point, the easiest way to work is to suspend the ring from a hook. You could also slip the small ring over the top of a hanger and hang the hanger from a doorknob.

7. Working with one strand at a time, thread end of strand into a blunt needle. Insert needle through one small pom pom. Wrap strand over and around large ring, drawing out the strand so that the large ring hangs 10 inches below the small ring.

8. Repeat with remaining strands, spacing the strands evenly around the large ring. When you are happy with the position of the large ring, glue the wrapped strands in place to the ring so it will not slip out of position.

9. Thread the end of one strand back into the blunt needle and draw the needle through two small pom poms. Slide one pom pom up the strand and knot the end of the strand below the second pom pom.

10. Thread the end of the next strand into the blunt needle and draw the needle through one small pom pom. Slide pom pom up the strand so that it hangs at a height midway between the two pomp oms on the first strand. Knot the end of the second strand and trim.

11. Repeat with the remaining strands, alternating two pom poms and one pom pom on the strands.

12. Glue large pom poms evenly spaced around the large ring. Glue remaining small pom poms to ring between the large pom poms.



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## Yarn Crafts for Pre-Teens and Teens

Chunky Pom Pom Necklace By: Lion Brand Design Team



The tweens and teens are going to love this trendy project. The Chunky Pom Pom Necklace is a superquick project for the girls to make. They will learn how to make pom poms with a pom pom maker, and they won't believe how fast and easy they are. The base of the necklace is worked with a crochet hook, but don't let that intimidate your little ones; this project really is easy! This beautiful necklace can be worked up in any color combination, so don't be surprised when the girls make one to go with every outfit.

- Lion Brand Bonbons Yarn: Crayons
- Pom pom maker
- Crochet hook size P-15 (10 mm)



1. Cut two 14 foot (4.3 meter) lengths of each yarn color in the pack to make sixteen strands. Holding all sixteen strands together, crochet a chain about 28 inches (71 centimeters) long. Fasten off. Knot ends of chain to make necklace. Trim yarn ends.

- 2. Following package directions, and using all eight colors in the pack, make a large pom pom.
- 3. Tie pom pom over the knot on the necklace.





Rainbow Wrapped Headband By: Lion Brand Design Team



The ombre look just got a colorful upgrade with this Rainbow Wrapped Headband. Kids can easily update their style with this simple tutorial. Not only does the Rainbow Wrapped Headband look adorable; it's extra-comfortable, too! Kids can customize this DIY hair accessory by choosing any set of colors they want, or they can copy the rainbow sequence in the tutorial below. No matter what they choose to do, the Rainbow Wrapped Headband is sure to become their new favorite accessory.

#### Materials:

- 1 package 601-660 Bonbons Yarn: Celebrate
- Headband
- Craft glue

#### Instructions:

1. Apply a small amount of glue to a 1 inch (2.5 centimeter) area at one end of headband and wrap with one strand of emerald green yarn for about 1 inch (2.5 centimeters). Trim beginning end of yarn, add a tiny additional bit of glue to secure the beginning end of yarn, and allow it to dry.

2. Apply glue to the next 1 inch (2.5 centimeter) section of headband. Wrap this section with the strand of emerald green and a strand of pea green.

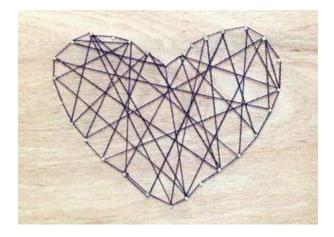
3. Continue applying glue and wrapping 1 inch (2.5 centimeter) sections of the headband in a rainbow color sequence or in the color sequence of your choice. As you continue to wrap the headband, you can glue yarn ends in place, or you can hide the yarn ends by wrapping over them. Just do whichever is easier for you. The headband should be wrapped with yarn in fifteen sections, each about 1 inch (2.5 centimeters).

4. Allow headband to dry completely.



### **String Art on Wood**

By: Tanner Bell and Courtney Chambers for AllFreeKidsCrafts



Your room is going to look so unique and creative when you try your hand at String Art on Wood. This is a great weekend project to do when you're done with homework. The materials are probably in your house or garage already. You can use your favorite color of scrap yarn to make the string art patterns. The wood can be recycled from a past project or purchased cheaply because you don't need a lot of it. You can make any design you want with this string art DIY craft, so the possibilities are endless.

#### Materials:

- Canvas
- Nails
- Hammer
- Yarn
- Scissors

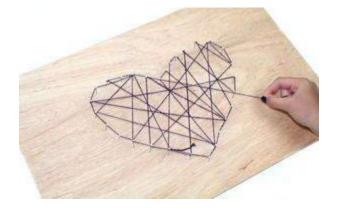
#### Instructions:

1. Hammer in the nails in the shape you want. A heart, a star, a flower, and your initial would all be fun options.





2. Tie the end of the yarn off on a nail. Tightly pull it and wrap it around another nail and continue doing this until you are happy with the design. It looks best to stretch it from one nail to another.



3. Tie the end of the yarn off on a separate nail. Trim off any excess if you need to. It would be super fun to use a variety of colors of yarn.





## Thanks to everyone included in this eBook:

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