

Photo Book Ends

(suitable for Father's Day Gift)

A lovely gift for any parent or friend - would be great as a special Father's Day surprise -Sunday 15th June 2008.

It really needs to be made over a 3 or 4 week period to allow drying time. There may look to be a lot of bits needed, but this project really is worth it. It would also link well with a series of devotions thinking about God as 'Our Father'; remember how He cares for us.

(Do remember that not all girls will have good male role models- be sensitive)

You will need for 1 Book End.

A milk cartons/ juice carton (washed out and dried carefully)

Scissors

Ruler

Pencil

Masking Tape

Something heavy to fill the box with (could be pebbles, sand or dried peas)

Newspaper

Paper Mache paste (or wallpaper paste)

White paper

Ordinary craft glue

Paint

Paint brush

A photograph of each child which will fit on one side of the box

Any other random bits from the craft box

Paper / cloth to cover the tables

To Do:

In advance prepare the paper maché paste in a large bowl or use wallpaper paste (you could cheat and use ready prepared paste, available in all good DIY stores.)

In advance, tear strips of newspaper about 2.5/3cm wide.

Measure the base of the carton, if it is 10cm square, make 2 marks on the carton one 10cm up from the bottom and the second 20cm up from the bottom.

Cut the top section of the carton away at the 20cm mark.

Cut down each of the 4 corners to reach the 10cm mark.



Fold each side down so that a 10cm cube /box is formed. Reopen it.

Now fill the box with the pebbles etc, refold the sides and tape tightly with the masking tape (you do not want sand escaping!)

Dip a strip of newspaper into the paste; remove the excess with your fingers.

Cover the box in about 4 layers of paper maché.

Allow the box to dry completely, will take a few days

Cover the box in a further 1 or 2 layers of plain white paper dipped in the paste. (White paper is easier to paint than more newspaper)

Allow the box to dry completely; again it will take a few days.

Paint the whole box in your choice of colour and allow to dry.

Cut photo to size if necessary, glue to one side of the box (front)

Decorate the other surfaces of the box – leave one side bare that will rest against the books.

If you'd like to make the Book End last as long as possible, use a spray varnish all over.