

Stratford *Lantern Parade*

LANTERN WORKSHOPS

GENERAL NOTES:

Lantern making can be a MESSY activity! Surfaces must be protected in advance - or be easy to clean up afterwards.

Tables, covered in plastic sheeting, should be provided with workstations of adequate size for each lantern design. Depending on the size and type of the lanterns being constructed a minimum of 4' of table space is usually adequate for each workstation. The number of tables will depend on the number of participants expected at each workshop.

Instructors or volunteers should be available at each table to answer questions and assist lantern-makers.

Supplies could be gathered together in one part of the room OR placed on/near each table.

Water for washing hands will be appreciated. (Towels and soap, too!) Smocks can be made from plastic garbage bags to protect clothing, although "crafting clothes" should be recommended when promoting the workshops.

Lots of paper towels and other clean-up supplies should be available for dealing with spills of glue or paints.

Stratford *Lantern Parade*

How to make a PYRAMID LANTERN:

SUPPLIES:

- reeds (or straight, narrow sticks)
- scissors or utility knife
- masking tape
- water resistant tissue paper
- wood glue (carpenter's glue)
- water
- bowl
- sponge brushes
- LED light source (battery tea light)
- wire (hanging loop)
- bamboo pole
- hook

METHOD:

Cut reeds to desired length using scissors or utility knife:
4 of length *A*, 4 of length *B*, 2 of length *C*

Use masking tape to secure the reeds together and form the frame shape of the lantern.

Note: If using LED light strings (as opposed to a tea light) use masking tape to secure the lights to the completed frame. Secure the battery pack (with on/off switch) at the very top of the lantern where you can reach it easily.

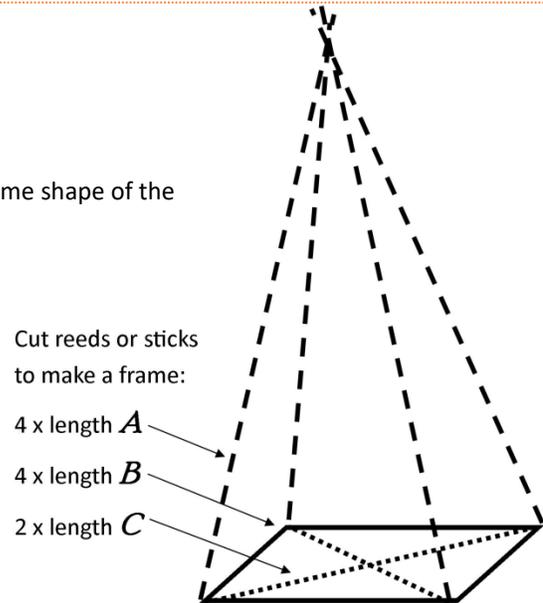
Turn the lantern upside down and place in a jar or other support. Add 1-2 layers of tissue paper to the lantern, starting with the bottom of the frame.

- Place tissue paper onto a protected (plastic-covered) surface.
- Pour glue into a bowl and dilute with water (about 50/50). Mix thoroughly.
- Use a sponge brush to cover one side of the waxed tissue paper with dilute glue.
- Carefully lift the tissue sheet and turn it over. Try not to let the tissue stick to itself!
- Brush dilute glue onto the other side of the paper.
- Carefully lift the glued sheet off the table surface and lay it onto the lantern frame.
- Excess tissue can be (carefully) torn or cut away. Press the tissue against the frame to make sure you get good contact all along the frame.

After the bottom of the frame has been covered the frame can be removed from the support cup and placed on its side. Turn the frame and add tissue until all sides are covered.

Note: Leave space between the top of the lantern frame and the top of the tissue paper for accessing the battery pack (for LED string lights) or for inserting and removing the candle (for batter LED tealights)

Place the covered frame upside down (back in the jar or cup) or hang it to dry.



Stratford *Lantern Parade*

TO FINISH THE LANTERN:

DECORATE:

When the lantern has dried completely it can be decorated with a wide variety of materials – or left plain! Remember that decorations that are more opaque will be seen as silhouettes; light will shine through decorations that are more transparent.

ADD A LIGHT:

A length of string, with one end taped to each side of the battery tealight, will make a loop for hanging your candle inside the lantern. The loop can be hung from the reeds at the top of the lantern. Adjust the length of the string to get the candle hanging where you want it.

ADD A HANGING LOOP:

Add a loop of wire to the top of the lantern to hang it from your carry pole.

MAKE A CARRY POLE:

Add wood glue to the threads of a “cup hook” and gently screw it into the end of a bamboo garden stake. You may need to wind tissue paper around the threads to get a tight fit. Let it dry completely before hanging your lantern!



**AND NOW YOU'RE ALL READY
TO JOIN THE LANTERN PARADE!**

**THIS LANTERN TAKES APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR TO CONSTRUCT AND 4-5 HOURS TO DRY,
DEPENDING ON HUMIDITY. DECORATING CAN TAKE AS LITTLE – OR AS MUCH – TIME AS YOU LIKE!**

Stratford *Lantern Parade*

How to make a **BALLOON LANTERN**:

SUPPLIES:

- balloon
- tissue paper
- wood (carpenter's) glue
- water
- bowl
- sponge brushes
- large mouth jar or cup
- LED light source
- paper punch
- string
- 2 pony beads
- bamboo garden stake
- cup hook

METHOD:

Inflate the balloon to the desired size and tie it shut.

Secure the balloon (knot down) in a jar or cup to stabilize it while you work.

Cover the balloon with **at least 4** layers of tissue paper. Tissue paper can be torn (or cut) into narrow strips OR entire sheets can be used and draped over the balloon.

- Place tissue paper (strips or sheets) onto a protected (plastic-covered) surface.
- Brush dilute glue onto one side of the waxed tissue paper.
- Carefully lift the glued strip off the table and lay it over the balloon. Try to get an equal number of layers of paper all over the balloon's surface.

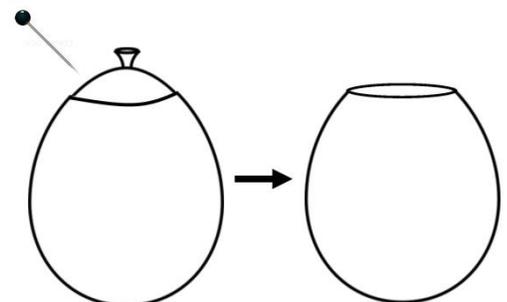
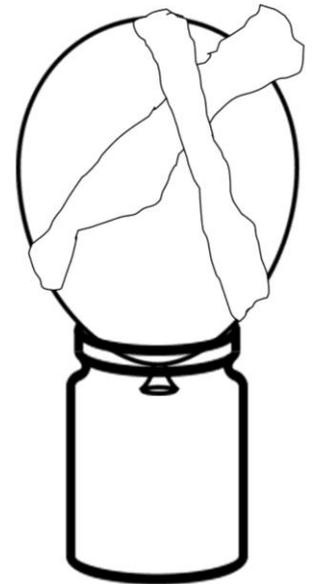
Note: While the paper is wet, excess tissue (hanging down over the cup) can be folded or pressed back to strengthen what will become the opening of the lantern.

Lightweight decorations (string, yarn, paper ribbon, tissue shapes, glitter) can be pressed down into the tissue paper while the lantern is still wet.

Leave the tissue-covered balloon in the support (jar or cup) to dry completely.

TO FINISH THE LANTERN:

When the tissue paper has dried completely, remove the lantern from the cup. Pop the balloon and peel it away from the tissue paper.



Stratford *Lantern Parade*

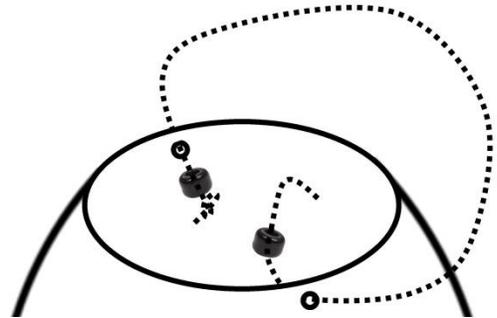
DECORATE:

You can decorate your lantern with a wide variety of materials! Remember that decorations that are more opaque will be seen as silhouettes. Light will shine through decorations that are more transparent.

ADD A HANGING LOOP:

Punch a hole in either side of the top of the lantern (just below the lip).

Cut a length of string about 3x the width of the lantern opening. Tie a pony bead to one end of the string. Push the other end out through one of the holes in the lantern lip. Take the string up and over the lantern and push it back through the other hold, to the inside of the lantern. Secure this end of the string by tying on another pony bead. This will make a loop for hanging your lantern from its carry pole.



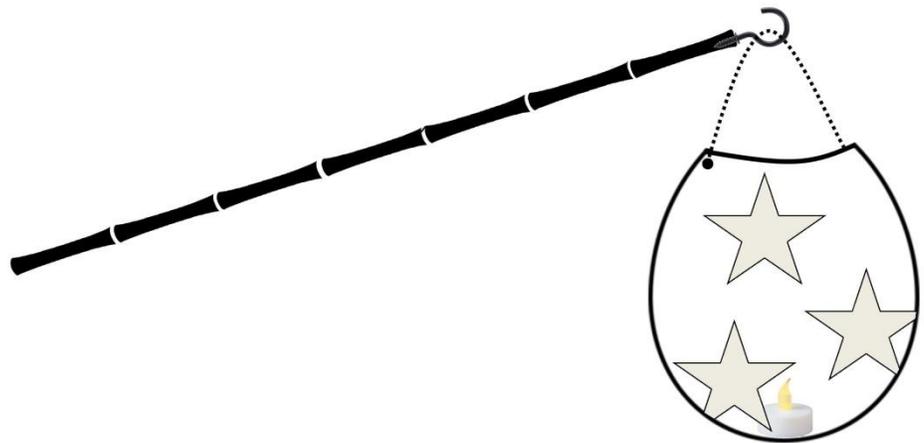
ADD A LIGHT:

Drop a battery tealight – or LED light string – into the lantern through the open top.

MAKE A CARRY POLE:

Add wood glue to the threads of a “cup hook” and gently screw it into the end of a bamboo garden stake. You may need to wind tissue paper around the threads to get a tight fit. Let it dry completely before hanging your lantern!

**AND NOW
YOU'RE ALL
READY TO
JOIN THE
LANTERN
PARADE!**



THIS LANTERN TAKES APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES TO CONSTRUCT AND 4-5 HOURS TO DRY, DEPENDING ON HUMIDITY. DECORATING CAN TAKE AS LITTLE – OR AS MUCH – TIME AS YOU LIKE!

Stratford *Lantern Parade*

How to make a **PLASTIC BOTTLE LANTERN**:

SUPPLIES:

- straight-sided, clear plastic bottle (2 c → 2 l)
- Goo-Gone or equivalent
- marker
- knife
- LED light source
- paper
- colourful tape
- permanent markers
- hole punch
- string or cord
- 2 pony beads
- bamboo garden stake
- cup hook

METHOD:

Rinse your bottle and remove the label. Use hot water, dish soap, a plastic scrubber or an adhesive remover like Goo Gone to dissolve any remaining glue.

Cut the top off your bottle. You can use a marker to create a cutting line that indicates the height of your finished lantern. A serrated bread knife works well for cutting through the plastic.

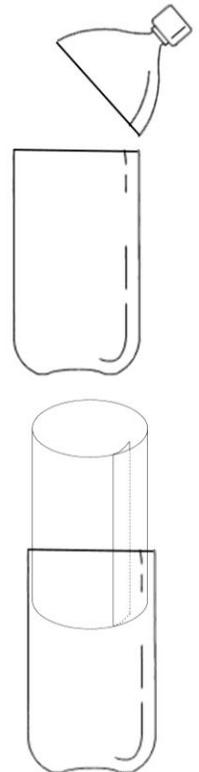
The next step depends on which decorating method you'll be using:

- If you're decorating your lantern "freehand" you may want to line the bottle with white paper: this will make it easier to see your design as you colour. Roll the paper into a cylinder and insert it into the bottle. Cut the paper down, if necessary, so it doesn't overlap on itself too much: otherwise, you'll have a shadow down the side of your lantern.
- If you're using a printed template to create your design, roll that and insert it into the bottle.
- If you're using glue and tissue paper to decorate your bottle you can skip this step altogether!

Decorate your plastic bottle with permanent markers: when used on the plastic bottle these are permanent and waterproof! Either draw your own design freehand, or follow the outline of your printed template.

Note: The more of the bottle's surface that you colour, the more impact your lantern will have!

If you're using tissue paper papier-maché to decorate your bottle it's best to glue the pieces on the inside. Mix school glue and water 50/50 and use a sponge brush to apply to the inside of the bottle. Add darker-coloured tissue pieces first to create your design. Finish with a layer of white (or other pale colour) behind your design to make the colours POP!



Stratford *Lantern Parade*

TO FINISH THE LANTERN:

LINING YOUR LANTERN:

Your tissue papier-maché lantern won't need a lining paper. But if you've used markers to decorate your lantern you'll need to add a paper lining in place inside the bottle. Remove the printed template (if you used one) and replace it with plain white paper (or tissue paper).

Secure the paper cylinder with a bit of decorative tape folded over the top edge of the bottle. You may want to apply the tape edge even if you used the tissue papier-maché method: it makes the top of the bottle less sharp and it looks cool.

ADD A HANGING LOOP:

Punch a hole in either side of the top of the lantern (just below the tape edge).

Cut a length of string about 3x the width of the lantern opening. Tie a pony bead to one end of the string. Push the other end out through one of the holes in the lantern lip. Take the string up and over the lantern and push it back through the other hold, to the inside of the lantern. Secure this end of the string by tying on another pony bead. This will make a loop for hanging your lantern from its carry pole.

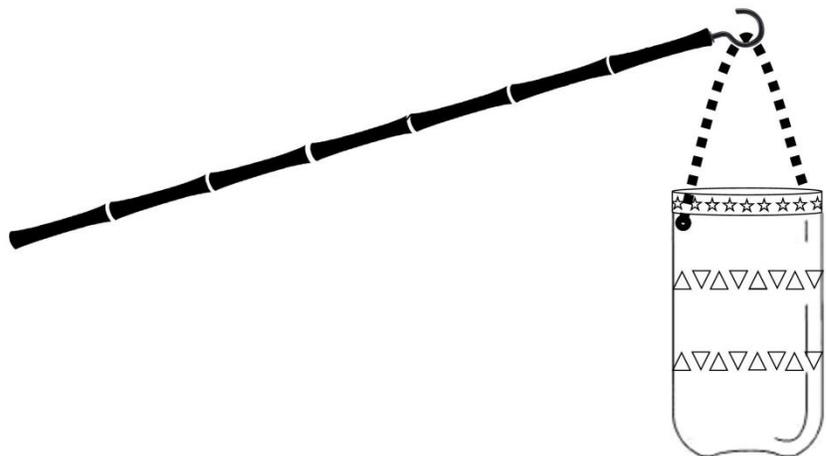
ADD A LIGHT:

Drop a battery tealight – or LED light string – into the lantern through the open top.

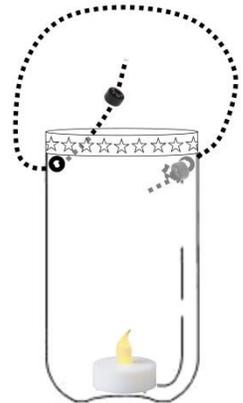
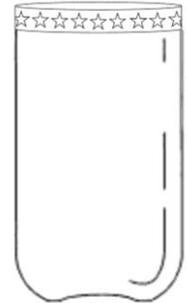
MAKE A CARRY POLE:

Add wood glue to the threads of a "cup hook" and gently screw it into the end of a bamboo garden stake. You may need to wind tissue paper around the threads to get a tight fit. Let it dry completely before hanging your lantern!

**AND NOW YOU'RE
ALL READY TO
JOIN THE
LANTERN
PARADE!**



THIS LANTERN CAN TAKE AS LITTLE AS ONE HOUR TO CONSTRUCT & DECORATE WITH PERMANENT MARKERS. IF TISSUE PAPER DECORATION IS APPLIED, AN ADDITIONAL HOUR OR TWO OF DRYING TIME MAY BE REQUIRED.



Stratford *Lantern Parade*

MORE IDEAS for DECORATING YOUR LANTERN:

Workshop participants will find lots of creative ways to decorate their lanterns! Anything that can be stuck to the lantern with glue (or stick to wet papier-maché before the lantern is dry) will work.

Remember that opaque decorations will create black silhouettes when the lantern is carried at night. Translucent decorations will let some colour shine through.

Depending on your budget you may want to supply some of the following.

- permanent markers
- paints & brushes . To get translucent colour, try:
 - water colour paints
 - school glue or mucilage coloured with food colouring
 - acrylic paint thinned with clear medium
- tissue paper bits in lots of different colours
- colourful string (or yarn or cord)
- paper ribbon (can be shredded when wet to make thinner strips)
- glitter
- glitter glue (check that it's thick and not going to slide down the surface of the lantern!)
- sequins
- punched paper bits
- dried leaves/flowers/grasses
- die cut shapes (self-adhesive or glued on)
- wood bits

... and many more!

HAVE FUN DECORATING YOUR LANTERN AND JOIN US FOR THE PARADE!