

Art & Craft Ideas

No special supplies required

STILL DAD

JUST PAPER

IDEA	DESCRIPTION	AGE RANGE
Origami	Fold paper into animals, boats, or planes. YouTube has beginner tutorials that work.	6 and up
Comic strips	Fold a page into panels and draw a story. Let them write the dialogue.	7 and up
Paper airplanes	Learn 3 different designs, test which flies farthest. Time it or measure it.	5 and up
Trace their hand	Trace hand shapes and turn them into animals, trees, or something weird.	3 and up
Paper city	Draw and cut out buildings, roads, and trees. Build a neighborhood on the floor.	5 and up

The messiest crafts make the best memories. Put down newspaper, accept that it will be a disaster, and leave the cleanup for after they're in bed.

PAPER + TAPE

IDEA	DESCRIPTION	AGE RANGE
Tape racetrack	Tape lanes on the floor with painter's tape. Race toy cars on it.	<i>3 and up</i>
Paper catapult	Tape a plastic spoon to a stack of pencils. Launch marshmallows or paper balls.	<i>7 and up</i>
Paper bag puppets	Decorate paper bags with markers and scraps. Put on a show.	<i>4 and up</i>
Paper chain decorations	Cut strips, loop and tape into a chain. Hang around the room.	<i>5 and up</i>
Tape maze on the floor	Create a maze with tape. Time yourself getting through it.	<i>4 and up</i>

CARDBOARD BOXES

IDEA	DESCRIPTION	AGE RANGE
Cardboard castle	Stack and tape boxes into towers, draw windows, cut out a drawbridge.	<i>5 and up</i>
Marble run	Cut channels in cardboard and tape at angles. Roll a marble through.	<i>7 and up</i>
Toy car garage	Cut ramps, floors, and a roof. Park all their toy cars inside.	<i>4 and up</i>
Puppet theater	Cut a window in a large box. Decorate it. Use it as a stage for puppet shows.	<i>4 and up</i>
Cardboard spaceship	Big box = cockpit. Draw controls, cut windows, add a cardboard antenna.	<i>4 and up</i>



KITCHEN / FOOD ITEMS

IDEA	DESCRIPTION	AGE RANGE
Pasta sculptures	Use uncooked pasta and marshmallows or clay to build structures.	5 and up
Veggie stamping	Cut a pepper or potato in half. Dip in paint (or food coloring) and stamp on paper.	3 and up
Homemade playdough	Flour, salt, water, oil, cream of tartar. Cook briefly, cool, play. Lasts weeks.	2 and up
Cereal necklaces	String Cheerios or Fruit Loops on yarn. Eat it or wear it.	4 and up
Sugar cookie decorating	Store-bought dough + tubes of icing. They decorate, you eat.	4 and up
