

Diwali Art & Craft Ideas

Bring a burst of colour into the classroom and celebrate the festival of Diwali through the fun of 'making'. Explore our collection of children's Diwali arts and crafts activities written with easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions.



Diwali Folded Paper Diyas Garland

What You Will Need:

- [A4 Coloured Paper/Light Weight Card](#)
- [Holographic Card Flowers Assorted](#)
- [Single Hole Punch](#)
- [Cotton String](#)



How To Make:

Step 1

Choose the colours of paper to make the Diyas and cut to size. These were L21cm x W14cm which means you can make 2 x Diya's from 1 piece of A4 paper. These can be made larger for bigger classroom displays!



Step 2

Take your first piece of paper and (on one end only) punch holes in the corners of the paper. Next, accordion fold the paper working your way down the full length of the sheet.



Step 3

Fold in half, open out and using clear tape stick two of the ends together. Make sure that the punched holes are on the outside as these will be used to thread the Diya's onto string.



Step 4

Open out the Diyas shaping if needed and thread the string down through one end of your first Diya (trapping the string at the back of the fold to keep it neat) and up through the second hole, repeat to make your colourful Diwali paper garland.



Step 5

Add a candle wick using coloured card plus any further decoration to complete your Diya lamp wall decoration. (I've used holographic circles from the flower pack listed from which there may be further shapes that can be added to the Diwali garland).



Hanging Tealight Diwali Card Decorations

What You Will Need:

- [Coloured Card](#)
- [Metallic Card Assorted](#)
- [Holographic Card Stars](#)
- [TTS Metallic Pens](#)
- [Mirror Backed Gems](#)
- [TTS Glue Sticks](#)
- Battery Tealights



How To Make:

Step 1

Decide on your colour range for each decoration you will need: 2 strips of card: 1 x L29.5cm x W5cm, 1 x 29.5cm x W3cm and 1 x glitter paper strip L29.5cm x W1cm.



Step 2

Taking your widest strip of card add decoration on one side using metallic pens, use PVA to add further sparking decoration adding gems, sequins etc. Decide which side will be the 'front' and colour a gold line along the edge of the card. Put aside to dry.



Step 3

Stick the strip of glitter paper down the middle of the 2nd piece of coloured card. Allow to dry, then cut approx. 3cm off one end of the strip (to create the inner teardrop shape which holds the battery tealight).



Step 4

Take the shorter strip, bend and hold together at the top to form a tear drop shape, make sure the glitter paper is on the inside of the shape as this is to reflect the light from the tealight! Next take the wider piece of card and place on the outside of the first shape joining at the top (being careful to center the inner card strip). Staple/glue all layers together forming a double tear drop shape.



Step 5

Stick a length of thread or string at the top of the Diwali decoration so it can be hung up. Finish with an acrylic gem and/or holographic card stars.



Step 6

Place a battery operated tealight on the inside of the decoration and hang up!



Painted Diwali Paper Diya Decorations

If folding paper accurately is too difficult for your children, this is an easy Diwali children's craft for you! Create the effect of folded paper by printing with paint enabling children to explore mark making using a 'tool' instead. Combine with some shimmering holographic pre-cut shapes so children can personalise their own colourful hanging garland.



What You Will Need:

- [TTS Ready Mixed Paint](#)
- [Coloured Card](#)
- [Lolly Sticks](#)
- [Holographic Card Flowers Assorted](#)
- [Glitter Paper Assorted](#)



How To Make:

Step 1

Choose the coloured card you want the paper/card Diwali Diyas to be made from, next choose a contrasting colour of ready-mixed paint so the lines of paint will stand out when printed.

Step 2

On a sheet of 'practice' paper print a semi-circle of lines by dipping the edge of a lolly stick (full length) into ready mix paint. Always starting from the same position print in a 'fan' shape keeping the spacing 'equal-ish' between each line.



Step 3

On a sheet of 'practice' paper print a semi-circle of lines by dipping the edge of a lolly stick (full length) into ready mix paint. Always starting from the same position print in a 'fan' shape keeping the spacing 'equal-ish' between each line.



Step 4

Create a flame shape for each Diya layering coloured card for a more decorative effect. Holographic shapes or glitter paper adds that extra special touch!

Create a second 'tier' for your decoration using the same size Diyas or smaller and precut holographic shapes as the made example illustrates.

Step 5

Children can now use their creative flair and imagination to draw, colour and cut out Lotus flowers to add to the decoration or used precut shapes in the Holographic Card Flower Pack (I stuck some of the shapes together to make lotus flowers). Using string or coloured embroidery threads in bright colours assemble the garland sticking the Diyas to the threads with clear tape on the back.



Paper Diya Tealight Table Decorations

What You Will Need:

- [Glitter Paper Mixed Shapes](#)
- [Coloured Card](#)
- [Bioglitter](#)
- [TTS PVA Glue](#)
- [Mirror Backed Gems](#)
- [TTS Metallic Pens Assorted](#)
- Battery Tealights



How To Make:

Step 1

Cut a strip of coloured card to wrap around the middle of a battery operated tealight, approx. L13cm x H2.5cm.

Step 2

Create a template to make each petal. Draw the shape onto paper pointed like a petal at the top, square at the bottom. From point to bottom mine is approx. H6cm, W3cm. Cut out the petal shape and draw onto a variety of coloured card. Cut out the shapes. You will need approx. 5 for each tealight.



Step 3

Decorate each petal (only the top half) using metallic pens, mirror backed gems, glitter shapes, holographic card shapes etc.



Step 4

Wrap the strip of card around the middle of the tealight and tape in place, next take each decorated petal and stick onto this card using clear tape on both sides of the bottom of the petal.

Step 5

Use glitter to cover up the clear tape around the tealight. Paint PVA onto the tape then sprinkle with glitter. To add extra sparkle, add a little PVA and glitter around the edge of the card inside the decoration (not all the way down as this will prevent the tealight being able to be removed/added).

Step 6

Add a tealight and enjoy the decorative glow!



Rangoli Stained Glass Effect Light Catcher

What You Will Need:

- [Tissue Paper Assorted](#)
- [Clear Sticky Back Film](#)
- [Permanent Black Markers](#)



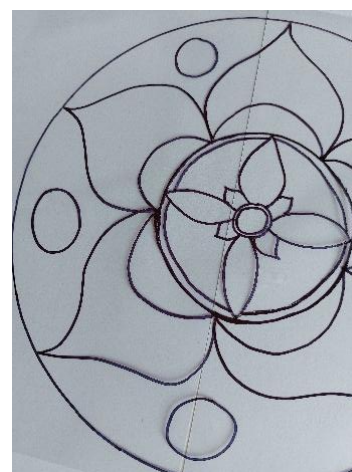
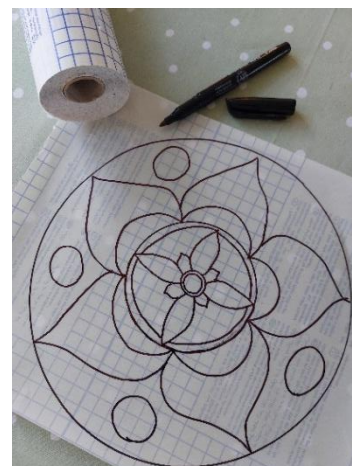
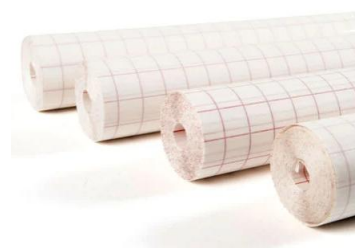
How To Make:

Step 1

Take a piece of clear film (still with its backing sheet on) and use a piece of adhesive tack in each corner to secure on the table. Using a permanent marker pen draw a Rangoli inspired design onto the surface of the self-adhesive clear film. This could be done free hand or a design traced from a printed sheet (the clear film with its backing is still semi-transparent enabling a tracing to be made). Choose or create a design that matches your children's skill level – the simplest can often be the most effective!

Step 2

Next remove the backing from the self-adhesive film, put the film sticky side up and use adhesive tack to hold the design in position on a tabletop making it easier to work on and preventing the sticky film from rolling up. NB. This could also be fun tacked on a window so children could see the sun lit colours as they add the tissue paper.



Step 3

Decide on the colours to enhance the design of the Rangoli pattern, tear up pieces of coloured tissue paper and press onto the sticky surface filling in the pattern. NB. This technique doesn't have to be perfect and the overlapping of tissue paper, whether it's the same colour or different, still creates a beautiful stained-glass effect.



Step 4

Once the design is fully covered in tissue paper put the non-stick backing back over the design – it will stick around the edge where no tissue has been placed (This makes it easier to cut around the edge of the circle). Leave approx. 1cm of the undecorated clear film on the edge of the Rangoli design as this will be used to stick the suncatcher to the window.



Step 5

Peel off the backing and stick to the window, stand back and enjoy the beautiful stained-glass artwork that's been created.



Diwali Window Tealight Decoration

What You Will Need:

- [A4 Coloured Card](#)
- [Coloured Cellophane](#)
- [Metallic Pens](#)
- [TTS Glue Sticks](#)



How To Make:

Step 1

Take an A4 piece of card and turn the sheet so it's landscape. Next fold the sheet equally into four like a concertina.



Step 2

Keeping the 'open' side of the folded concertina to the left cut shapes into the right 2 folds. (There are 3 in total). When the sheet is finally opened out, you'll see that these create the 'outside' designs within the stained glass decoration. NB. Practice on 'waste' paper first so that children can experiment with shapes they can cut & create).



Step 3

In the one remaining fold (which will be on the opposite side of the folded sheet to the ones that have just been cut) cut more designs, these will create the decorative effect in the centre of the decoration.



Step 4

Whilst still folded cut both sides of the top card to create a more interesting, shaped top. Open out your card to see the design that's been created.



Step 5

Choose which is going to be the back of the decoration and, using larger pieces of cellophane than the areas to be covered, glue the cellophane over the 'holes' to create a stained-glass window effect when viewed from the front.



Step 6

Add further shimmering decoration using metallic pens on the front of the decoration.



Step 7

Either place by a window to light the decoration with natural light or place on a table and add two tealights at the back to bring out the jewel colours of the cellophane.



Diwali Light Up Wall Hanging Decoration

What You Will Need:

- [Whites Paper Plates](#)
- [TTS Ready Mixed Paint](#)
- [Metallic Card](#)
- [Coloured Card Assorted](#)
- [Giant Mirrored Backed Acrylic Gems](#)
- [TTS PVA Glue](#)
- Battery Operated Tealights



How To Make:

Step 1

Fold a paper plate in half and cut petal shapes into the edge of the plate.



Step 2

Open out the plate and paint it with pink ready mixed paint (I've used a mix of white and red to create the tone I wanted).



Step 3

Cut four large leaf shapes from coloured card to attach to the bottom of the flower, two on each side. Fold the leaves down the middle to create a 3D shape.



Step 4

The tealight needs to be raised up in the decoration so you can see the light lighting up the flower's petals. To do this create the 'cradle' that holds the tealight in place made from a strip of coloured card. This cradle of card also forms the 'U' shape of the flower. Cut a strip of card approx. 2cm x 7cm and stick halfway up the inside of the flower. Stick the card leaves onto the bottom of the flower, two on each side.



Step 5

Make a decorative tassel using brightly coloured embroidery threads/yarn. Cut lengths of the threads, fold in two and put a thread around the loop forming the hanging thread. Tie the tassel threads together at the top and add a decorative bead. Finish off with mirror backed gems sandwiching the thread between 2 gems.



Step 6

Hang up using a length of contrasting coloured card and using a single hole punch add 2 holes one on each end. Feed the this underneath the card 'cradle', make sure it's equal in length and stick to the underneath of the card forming a 'hanger'. Hang it up, add a battery tealight and bring it to life!



Decorative Rangoli Patterns & Suncatcher

Whether creating a Rangoli pattern from a paper plate or coloured paper/card the technique is similar. Once cut out they can then be turned into colourful suncatchers to brighten up a classroom window or used as stencils for drawing and painting activities. You decide!

What You Will Need:

- [White Paper Plates](#)
- [Coloured Card Assorted](#)
- [Tissue Paper Assorted](#)
- [TTS Conical Markers](#)
- [Chroma Metallic Acrylics](#)
- [TTS PVA Glue](#)



How To Make - Suncatcher:

Step 1

Fold a paper plate into four and then half again. Cut shapes into the folds and also on the edge to create the decorative Rangoli inspired design. As the plate has been folded there are quite a few layers to cut through so the simpler the design the better.



Step 2

Turn the plate over and using PVA stick coloured tissue behind the mini 'window's you've created (you could also try coloured cellophane too – or combine for a mixture of transparent and semi opaque finishes).



Step 3

Once all the holes have been covered further decoration could be added using metallic pens and paint. I've added gold metallic acrylic paint around the edge to highlight the pattern.



Step 4

Place on a window and watch the colour shine through.

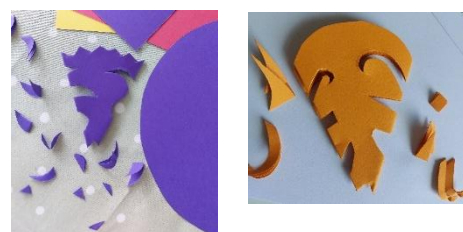


Rangoli Paper/Card Patterns

If a paper plate is too difficult for little hands to cut, use coloured paper or thin card. Remember the more you fold the thicker (therefore harder) it is to cut through layers. These could then also be turned into suncatchers following the steps above or used to explore shapes & patterns.

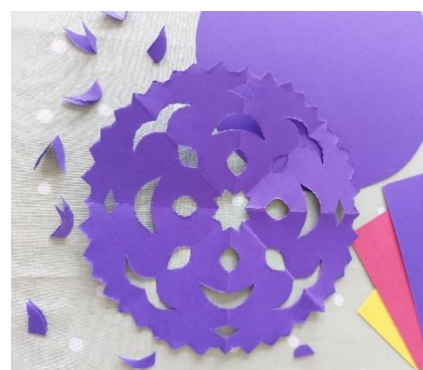
Step 1

Draw a circle onto a piece of card/paper and cut out.



Step 2

Fold in half, then a quarter, then in half again. Cut out shapes in the folded sides and top edge.



Step 3

Unfold and decide how to use it! Use it as a stencil. Place over paper and dab ready mixed paint over the cut shapes or use coloured felt pens to create patterns.



Diwali Decorative Urli Bowl

With this simple Diwali craft children can create a festive decoration that will bring colour, pattern, light and positivity into their environment whilst beginning to form an understanding of another culture.

What You Will Need:

- [White Paper Plates](#)
- [Chroma Metallic Acrylic Paints](#)
- [Dried Flowers Natural Collage Pack](#)
- [Coloured Iridescent Foil Rolls](#)
- [Plastic Mirror Mosaic Tiles](#)
- Battery Tealights



How To Make:

Step 1

Take a paper plate, fold in half and fold again (dividing the plate into eight). Once folded cut a petal shape into the rim of the plate. Once done, unfold and flatten out the 'bowl'.

Step 2

Paint a thin layer of gold acrylic paint over the surface and leave to dry (acrylic is quite fast drying so won't take long!), paint a second layer to create a flat, bold metallic colour.

Step 3

Cut a circular piece of iridescent foil for the base of the 'bowl' to look like water. Arrange dried flowers, mirror tiles and battery tealights on top to complete the bowl. Cut a banana leaf shape from coloured paper, add vein detail using paint sticks, then place the bowl on top to add to the display.



Giant Diwali Diya Window Decoration

This easy to remove technique to create window decoration will bring beautiful festive colour and design into the classroom as the days get darker. Perfect as a group activity children can work together to create any Diwali inspired designs they wish to celebrate this colourful Hindu festival of lights.

What You Will Need:

- [TTS Ready Mixed Paint](#)
- [Non-Spill Paint Pots](#)
- [Blu Tack](#)
- Washing Up Liquid
- Low Tack Masking Tape



How To Make:

Step 1

Make sure the area of glass you're going to decorate is clean and free from grease and dirt. Firstly, decide on the size of Diya decoration you're going to make and cut it out of paper. Using Blu Tack stick it in place on the window as a guide when creating the outline of the shape in low tack tape. Once the outline is created remove the paper template. Decide on the pattern you want to create then use the tape to make it. **NB.** Make sure the tape is fully stuck to the surface to keep the lines crisp.



Step 2

Choose your colours, then prepare the window paint mixture. In each paint pot (one for each colour) add a good squirt of the paint, then some white ready mix (to make the overall colour more opaque), followed by a squirt of washing up liquid (to help it stick to the surface and make it easier to remove!). Mix well then they are ready to use. Fill in the masked areas painting right up to the edges of the tape.



Step 3

Once the paint has been left to dry, carefully peel off the low tack painting tape to reveal the beautiful, colourful design that's left.

Step 4

Either freehand paint or 'mask' the shape of a lit candle wick for the flame to complete the design. Finally, step back and admire the window decoration you've created. Simply wipe off with water when the festival celebrations are over.



Printed Diwali Decorations

What You Will Need:

- [TTS Ready Mixed Paint](#)
- [Craft Pom Poms](#)
- [Heavy Weight Cartridge Paper 170gsm](#)
- [Chroma Metallic Acrylic Paints](#)
- [Bioglitter](#)
- [Recycled Cardboard Rolls](#)
- [Craft Beads Assorted](#)
- [Pipe Cleaners Assorted](#)



How To Make – Pom Pom & Marigold Inspired Printed Garlands:

Step 1

Print lengths of colourful 'dots' using medium/large sized pom poms dipped in assorted ready mixed paint. Add an extra metallic shimmer using gold acrylic paint sprinkled with a little Bioglitter for extra sparkle! Leave to Dry.



Step 2

Next create Lotus flower decorations to add to the garland using a cardboard roll 'pinched' on one end to make a tear drop shape. Dip into paint and print onto paper moving the cardboard roll around, layering the tear drop shape to form a Lotus flower design. Add a sprinkle of glitter, leave to dry.



Step 3

Cut out the shapes neatly ready for decoration and assembly.



Step 4

Add extra dimension, practice pattern making, threading skills and create extra decoration for the top and bottom of the garland using beads and pipe cleaners. Choose your favourite beads, thread them carefully onto the pipe cleaners leaving space for the Lotus flower decorations to be added. Using clear tape/low melt glue gun add the printed flowers to the pipe cleaner.



Step 5

Attach the decorated pipe cleaner to the bottom of the printed garland using tape or low melt glue. Add a 'loop' of pipe cleaner to the top of the garland to use as a hanger. Hang up and enjoy!



How To Make - Printed Diya Decorations:

What You Will Need:

- [TTS Ready Mixed Paint](#)
- [Glitter Paper](#)
- [Large Wooden Lolly Sticks](#)
- [Coloured Card](#)
- [Heavy Weight Cartridge Paper 170gsm](#)



Step 1

Choose a couple of ready mixed paint colours and squeeze a line of each on to a paint tray around the length of a large wooden lolly stick. Dip the length of the lolly stick into the paint lines mingling the colours, place on the paper holding both ends. Keep one end still whilst dragging the other end side to side to transfer the paint onto the paper creating a colourful semi-circle – making the ‘bowl’ of the Diya.



Step 2

Add extra pattern by dipping the lolly stick into the paint and printing lines down from the middle of the bowl.



Step 3

Using a mixture of plain yellow card and glitter paper cut out shapes and layer to create the glowing flame.



Step 4

Use clear tape on the back of the printed shapes to attach to colourful cotton string. Alternate Lotus flowers and Diya shapes to make beautiful festive bunting!

