

Holiday Helps

Ideas for Elementary Classrooms

Father's Day. Picnics. Adventures. Summertime! Go outdoors and gather some twigs. Then make a gift or desk accessory that will help others (and you) remember all the fun!

"God Is My Strength" Pencil Holder

What You'll Need

- empty soup, fruit, or vegetable can
- unsharpened pencil
- markers
- ruler
- construction paper
- 2 wide rubber bands
- scissors
- thin twigs (cut $\frac{1}{2}$ " taller than height of can)
- pruning shears (adult use only)
- craft glue
- wax paper
- twine
- stickers (optional)

What to Do

1. Gather and cut thin twigs $\frac{1}{2}$ " taller than the height of your can. (You will need 20-25 twigs, depending on the circumference of the can.) Measure and cut a strip of construction paper the width of the can's height and long enough to wrap around the can. Glue the paper around the can. Secure with two wide rubber bands.
2. Cover your table surface with wax paper. Apply glue to twigs, one at a time. Slip each twig between the rubber bands and the construction paper, gluing twigs around the side of the can. Be sure not to glue all the way to the top of the twig.
3. Cut two pieces of twine, each long enough to wrap several times around the can. Wrap and tie the twine over the rubber bands. Cut a thin strip of construction paper and write a message on it. Glue the strip around the can. Make a flag, using construction paper and an unsharpened pencil. Decorate the flag and sides of the can with stickers, as desired. Give the pencil holder to Dad, or use it as a reminder of the strength God gives you each day.

Another Idea!

Encourage kids to decorate extra cans. Use these around the classroom to hold scissors, pencils, and markers. Write a different Bible verse on the paper strip wrapped around each can. Challenge kids to say and learn the verses as they use the various classroom supplies.

