

Gingerbread House

Lesson plan prepared by Laura Carmichael for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Suggested Grade/Age Levels


Grades 4+ with adult assistance

Introduction and rationale

For over 15 years the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia has hosted Gingerbread Sunday. For many families, this event kicks off the holiday season. Normally, we would welcome hundreds of visitors to our studios where they would be greeted by a team of volunteers with all the building supplies to create and decorate their own Gingerbread house.

This year we invite you to create your own Gingerbread House at home and share a picture of it by tagging the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia @ArtGalleryNS on social media so others can see it as well.

Materials

- Half of a two-liter milk carton
 - Cardboard or sturdy plastic for the base
 - Tin foil to cover the base
 - Graham Cracker wafers
 - Royal Icing (available in powder form at Bulk food stores)
 - Candy to decorate, i.e; jellybeans, candy canes, jujubes, licorice, spearmint trees
 - Food to decorate, i.e; marshmallows, pretzels, cereal (rectangle and round), coconut
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Process



- Have an adult cut a clean 2L milk carton in half.
- Cover the base with tinfoil.
- Using the icing, attach the milk carton to the base.
- To cut the graham cracker wafers, gently score crackers and snap apart.
- Using the icing, attach the crackers to the carton.



- Now the fun part!
 - When you're decorating think about things like; pattern, texture and shapes.
 - Create a repeated pattern by using colours or shapes.
 - Think of different textures like soft snow or bumpy shingles and explore making square windows or rectangular pathways with pretzels and play around with candies to do patterns all over the yard and surface of your house.
 - Tip: Coconut makes great snow!

