

Holiday Helps

Ideas for Elementary Classrooms

Count your blessings! Make a colorful Chain of Thanks. Then make matching napkin rings and decorate a table everyone will be thankful for.

Chain of Thanks

What You'll Need

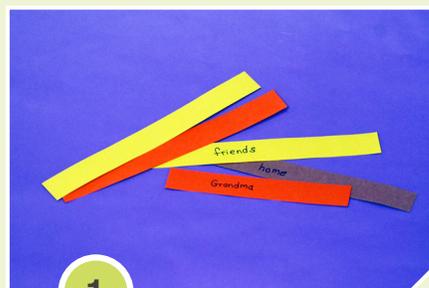
- construction paper in autumn colors (brown, yellow, red, orange)
- scissors
- tape
- markers
- autumn stickers
- napkins (optional)

What to Do

1. Using colorful construction paper, cut 1" x 8½" strips of paper. (Make plenty of strips so you can keep adding to the chain.) On each strip of paper, print the name of someone or something for which you are thankful.
2. Alternating colors, tape together the ends of the strips and create a colorful paper chain. Add stickers to decorate the links. Start making the chain early in September. See how long the chain is by the end of November. Use the paper chain to decorate a Thanksgiving table.
3. To make matching napkin rings, cut 1" by 6" strips of paper. On each strip, print the name of someone who will be with you for Thanksgiving dinner. Tape together the ends of the strips to form napkin rings. Then roll and slip dinner napkins inside the rings. Use the prepared napkins to mark where each person should sit. Thank God for each person seated at the table.

Another Idea!

Don't forget Grandparents Day (celebrated in the United States and Canada on the first Sunday after Labor Day)! Create "Links of Love" to give to a grandparent or an older person who is important to you. On each strip of paper, print a quality you admire about the person (kind, loving, patient, etc.). Tape together the ends of the strips and create a chain. Attach a note to the chain that reads: "All these little things make up one wonderful you. Happy Grandparents Day!" Deliver the paper chain, accompanied by hugs and kisses.



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