

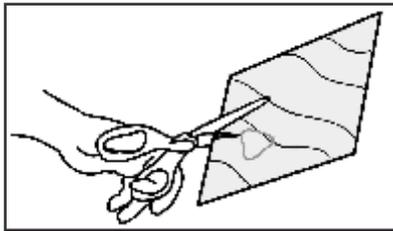
No. 52093

Stained Glass Lantern

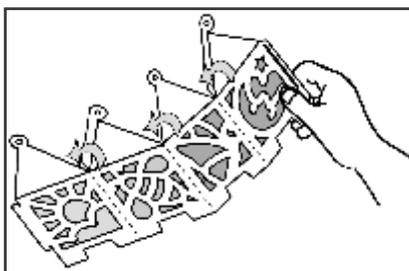
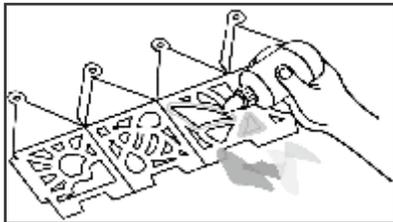
Create luminous lanterns to string up in your classroom or send home as great gifts! The 3D lanterns are cleverly designed to make assembly easy for little hands. Lanterns are a wonderful example of a cultural and historical artifact that you can discuss at your next social studies class.

As your students make their designs on the lanterns, ask them why lanterns were, and still are, important in various cultures throughout the world. Ask them to consider their answers from a multicultural point of view; in many cases, lanterns aren't only used for their ability to spread light around, like a portable, electric-free flashlight. Some areas of the world consider lanterns to be important symbolic objects, or objects that carry a hidden meaning. Some lanterns are even labeled with special names to signify that they are important.

Lay out the blank Stained Glass Lanterns onto a flat surface. Use crayons or markers to color in the lanterns. Think about the purpose of the craft. Is your class planning to string them up across the walls or decorate by hanging them from the classroom ceiling? Or are you planning to send the craft home with students for a special occasion, such as Mother's Day? Tailor your color schemes to suit either project. If you are planning to do a classroom decoration, think about whether or not you would like to coordinate the colors or model them off cultural lanterns, such as red Chinese lanterns.



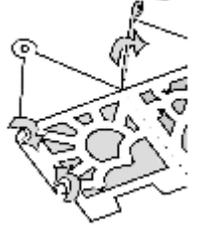
Each of the lanterns features 4 sky-themed designs. Each design is made to look like a stained glass window. The illustrations include a sun, moon, butterfly and bee. Cut out sections of colored tissue paper or R15275 Stained Glass Paper to glue under the designs. You can use different colors for parts of one illustration. For instance, paste white tissue paper pieces over the bee's wings. Alternate and paste yellow and black tissue paper pieces across the separate sections of the bee's body.



Fold in the lantern along the pre-scored creases to make the lantern three dimensional. The open edges of the lantern will allow you to properly secure them together with a tab and slot to make the lantern hold up on its own. Fold the tab in toward the



enclosed center of the lantern. You'll notice that its side edges are slightly smaller than the rest of the tab. These side tabs will help hook the tab in place when you insert it into the slot. Gently open the slot to loosen it up. Insert the tab into the slot by edging in first one side tab then the other.



Finally, fold in all four tabs on the sides of the triangular roof flaps. Gather all four sides of the roof by the circular tabs at the top. Align the points together. Pass a length of fishing line, yarn or string through the holes of all four roof tabs and tie a knot at the top to secure. Now you can hang your lantern along a length of string with other lanterns in sequence or you can hang the lantern directly from the ceiling.

Celebrate Chinese New Year or the start of spring by stringing up the lanterns. You can also send the beautiful lanterns home as Mother's Day gifts or for any other special event. Note: Our lanterns do not have a candle holder. We do not encourage the use of candles with this or any paper craft.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

- Develop fine motor skills
- Explore creativity
- Discover lantern and stained glass history
- Practice cutting and gluing skills
- Use basic design techniques to develop ideas
- Learn about Chinese and Japanese lanterns
- Discover cultural influences through art
- Combine social studies with arts and crafts
- Use multiple media to create a multi-use craft

Lanterns are still popular for decorating backyard patios or campground trailers on warm summer nights. Often times, people spend as much time as they can outside when it's warm and will string up little lanterns or night lights all around deck railings so that they can see a bit of the area when it's dark. Lanterns also give off a soft golden glow that make people feel calm and relaxed. Lanterns nowadays are split between two types: electric lanterns and candle lanterns.

Back when lanterns were first being used in North America, their primary purpose was to provide portable or stationary light for anyone walking in the dark. Lanterns were first introduced to light up North American streets around the 1700s... even though European and Asian countries had using lanterns for a longer time than that! These early "streetlamps" were tended by nightwatchmen who would make sure the lanterns stayed lit throughout the night. Many households had their own portable lanterns to help the residents see at night.

The first lanterns were lit with knots of pine wood. The innermost wood of the pine, or "heartwood," is rich with a special sap-like material called terpene. This chemical develops over time throughout the interior of the pine tree. It is highly **flammable** which means that it will easily catch on fire and burn for a long time. This special kind of wood was placed in little piles in the center of the lantern base and then lit on fire. The nightwatchmen would then close the latch to seal in the light.

However, pine knots weren't always easy to come by and didn't always burn so brightly. After a while, people realized that many types of oil could be used for burning, particularly whale oil or whale blubber. Some scientists tried using camphene, a very dangerous and flammable substance that is a mixture of alcohol and turpentine. It gave off a beautiful bright light but too many terrible fires were started with this substance, so inventors started thinking of other ways to make lanterns burn brightly while making them safe to use.

Eventually, gas-powered lighting came around. Since gas could be distributed through pipe lines, it became easier to organize ways of providing light to an entire city. A simple twist of a knob from a pipeline connected to a gas-powered lamp could have a room in a house lit up in no time.

In modern times, we have progressed to using incandescent, halogen and fluorescent lights, which are a variety of tungsten and mercury-based lights that produce bright and long-lasting effects.

Besides lighting up dark areas, lanterns are used for decoration and for celebrating special events. The most common special events that the lanterns are used to celebrate are the Chinese New Year or "Spring Festival" and Diwali, or the "Festival of Lights" in India.

In India, Diwali is celebrated for five consecutive days. These are celebrated somewhere from either mid-October to mid-December. The dates are different every year. It is a celebration of the triumph of good over evil. As long as there is a bright light, the badness of the year stays away. Therefore, everyone takes part in putting up lanterns and lights everywhere. Diwali is a huge festival that spans across several different countries around India too! There are many colors and types of lanterns that are displayed.

The red round lanterns of Chinese celebrations are well-known for their striking appearance. The Chinese New Year is celebrated from February 3rd to February 18 on the Western calendar. Why is the Chinese New Year celebrated so late in the year? In China, the calendar moves differently than the calendar used in North America and Europe.

The calendar used in North America, Europe and many other parts of the world is called the Gregorian calendar. This calendar was put together by a Catholic Pope called Gregory XIII who decided that the previous Roman or Julian calendar had too many inconsistencies. Since it wasn't timed right, this calendar would often end up adding too many days to the year over time, so that, for instance, an event that should have happened in December somehow ended up happening in March in the next year! As a result, Pope Gregory XIII decided it was time for a switch. He fixed the timing of the calendar so that it would only be off by a few hours every year. He also tackled the discrepancy by adding a leap day every four years. This would allow all the accumulated minutes to form a full day so that the actual time would be allowed to catch up.

The calendar in China is called the **lunisolar** calendar which means that it follows the changes in season according to the sun

and moon phases. Although many parts of the world, including China use the Gregorian calendar, the historical and cultural calendars are often referred to for celebrating special events like the "Spring Festival" or New Year! In China, spring is the first season of the year, so it is celebrated simultaneously with the Chinese New Year.

Hanging paper lanterns is part of an elaborate ritual for this festival and many others. Often times, lanterns are decorated with exotic prints and colors and can come in a variety of shapes. In China, there are five main types of lanterns. They are called Baby's Bottom, Rolling Paper, Big Red, Crystal Magic and Buddha's Gastronomy.

Despite the wacky names, these lanterns actually do have some significance! A Baby's Bottom lantern is a very small round lantern that is usually strung in a sequence with other similar lanterns. These lanterns come in many bright and fresh colors like lime, pink, sunshine yellow and red. These are used like Christmas lights to string around or across something.

A Rolling Paper lantern is a tall, cylindrical lantern. It has many vertical slits in it to allow it to "sit" slightly so that the edges fold outward. This is often made as a craft out of construction paper.

Crystal Magic lanterns look like three-dimensional geometric shapes.

The Big Red lanterns are well-known for their popularity during the Chinese New Year. These are the lanterns that look like giant round tomatoes. Now you know how these lanterns got that name!

The Buddha's Gastronomy lanterns are any extra large lanterns that are hung from the edge of a temple roof or hung inside the temple. They are usually gold in color and very elaborately designed.

In Japan, the tradition of using lanterns to decorate buildings and rooftops is very popular. It passed from China, or the mainland, to Japan through Buddhist pilgrimages. Japanese lanterns don't always have to be hung from somewhere, however. Often times, lanterns are used in Japan to decorate gardens. That's because these special lanterns are made out of stone! These are called Ishi-Doro, or "stone lanterns." These lanterns are long and rectangular, and look a bit like miniature pagodas with their sloped roofs. They have been used to light the grounds of important religious establishments, such as temples and monastery grounds for centuries. When an Ishi-Doro is lit, it is said that the light represents the teachings of Buddha.

Tsuri-Doro lanterns are hung from the corners of temple roofs. They are usually made of a strong metal such as bronze or iron.

Andon lanterns are made of a shallow square basin and a paper covering. These lanterns burn oil and are usually placed on the ground.

Bombori lanterns are hexagonal in shape and are made for portable use. A pole is attached to the top of the wooden or metal frame to make it easier for the carrier to hold onto.

Chochin lanterns are long, oval paper lanterns with accordion-style folding. They are collapsible, which means they can be flattened down to allow the candle to be replaced or lit at the base. Often these lanterns are labeled in paint with the names of important businesses such as restaurants, bath houses, etc. Chochin lanterns come in a variety of shapes and colors.

Our stained glass lanterns look a lot like the Andon and Crystal Magic lanterns in Japan in China, respectively. But your students can color in the lanterns to look like anyone of the lanterns we have described above. Research on the internet for picture examples. Reference the colors in the photos to make your lanterns coordinate if you plan to string them up as a classroom decoration.

Adding stained glass to a lantern is a recent trend of turning a practical or useful lamp into a pretty and decorative piece of art. Stained glass is nothing new, however. Stained glass art has existed for 2000 years. Archaeologists claim to have discovered stained glass pieces buried at the site of the famous Roman city of Pompeii. A large volcano had exploded in 79 A.D., causing the luxurious city to be buried under a mound of ash and hot mud. Many of the artifacts from that era were preserved underneath the ash, which allows us to get a glimpse into the kind of materials that people of ancient times used.

The most common places to see stained glass panels nowadays is in churches, cathedrals and chapels where scenes from stories in the Bible are represented with the colorful glass. In the 1880s, a young interior designer named Louis Comfort Tiffany, son of the famous jeweler Charles Tiffany of Tiffany & Co., decided to start up his own stained glass making company. His business replaced lampshades with stained glass, which is why many people decided to replace the glass on lantern panels with stained glass panels instead. The suncatcher effect works well for outdoors during the day when the sun's out and at night when the candles are lit.

Purchase a selection of battery-powered LED lights to place beneath the lanterns if you do not plan to hang them up. These will make great Mother's Day gifts for students to take home.