

# The GROWN-UP'S GUIDE to CRAFTING WITH KIDS

25+ FUN AND EASY CRAFT PROJECTS TO INSPIRE YOU AND THE LITTLE ONES IN YOUR LIFE



Free Project  
Inside

★ Vicki Manning ★



## STEP-BY-STEP PROJECT

### SUN-PRINTED BANNER

The photographic process of making a sun print, or cyanotype, uses chemicals and the sun to create beautiful prints. Here I will show you how you can get similar results using just acrylic paint!

Do this activity on a bright, calm day—the more sun, the better. When choosing your natural materials for printing, try to find leaves and flowers that feature interesting patterns and textures. You will get the best results from plants with softer leaves and flowers with defined petals.

#### TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Natural items, such as leaves and flowers
- Dish towel
- Acrylic paints (dark colors work best)
- Water
- Bowl
- Paintbrush
- Paper towel
- Iron
- 2 round dowels or thin sticks
- Fusible web
- Yarn



#### STEP 1

Collect your leaves and flowers; then thoroughly wet the dish towel and spread it flat on the plastic sheet or tray.

Mix 1 part acrylic paint with 2 parts water. (You can use one color or several, as we did.) Then, using a paintbrush, thoroughly cover the fabric with the paint mixture.



#### STEP 2

Place the flowers and leaves on the fabric and smooth them down with a paintbrush. Leave the fabric in a sunny spot for at least two hours, until the fabric is dry.





## STEP 3

Remove the leaves and flowers and admire the beautiful marks they've made!

## STEP 5

You're now ready to make the banner! Choose your favorite area of the print and cut a rectangle of about 10" x 15".



## STEP 4

Ironing is for grown-ups only! Place the piece of fabric between two sheets of paper towel. With your iron on medium heat, iron the fabric for 3 to 4 minutes to set the color. Then rinse the fabric in cold water and hang to dry.

## STEP 6

Wrap the shorter end of the fabric around one of the dowels, creating a hem with the fusible web inside; then iron over the area with medium heat to set. Repeat with the other end of the fabric.





## STEP 7

Tie yarn to each end of one of the sticks and hang your banner. If you'd like to add tassels, see pages 125-127 to discover how.

