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THE MYSTERY ON THE ICE

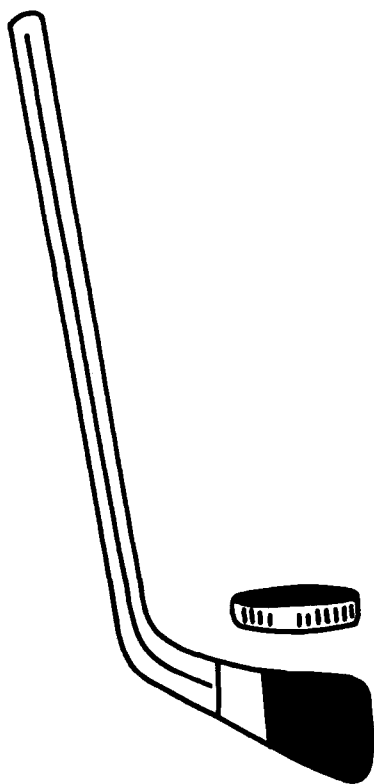
created by
GERTRUDE CHANDLER WARNER

Illustrated by Charles Tang

ALBERT WHITMAN & Company
Morton Grove, Illinois

Great Things to Make and Do!

When the Alden children lived alone in the boxcar, they made everything by themselves. A tin can and a spoon made a fine dinner bell. A burned stick became a pencil. A bundle of sticks worked well as a broom. You can make terrific things, too. Here's how!



Winter Wonderland Snow Globe

Make it snow all year long!

You will need:

one small glass jar
aluminum foil
a small evergreen branch
water
liquid dishwashing detergent
scissors



Here's what you do:

1. Remove the labels from your jar.
2. Cut the aluminum foil into teeny-tiny pieces. They will be your snowflakes. You will need enough pieces to cover the bottom of the jar.
3. Put the foil pieces in the jar.
4. Place the evergreen branch in the jar.
5. Fill the jar to the top with water.
6. Add one drop of dishwashing detergent to the water (it will keep the flakes from floating).
7. Tightly screw on the lid.

To make it snow, turn your globe upside down and right side up again.



Super Sponge Print Wrapping Paper

This homemade wrapping paper is just right for holiday time — or any time! (Helpful hint: This can get pretty messy so wear a smock or old clothes and cover the floor around you with newspaper or a dropcloth.)

You will need:

one thick sponge
one saucer
three colors of tempera paint
plain white wrapping paper
a knife or scissors

Here's what you do:

1. Ask an adult to cut your sponge in any shape you'd like. Stars and snowflakes are good winter shapes.
2. Pour one color of tempera paint into the saucer.
3. Dip one side of your sponge into the paint.
4. Blot the painted side of the sponge onto the wrapping paper.
5. When you are finished with one color, wash the sponge and the saucer clean. Then start again with the next color.
6. Allow your wrapping paper to dry completely before wrapping gifts with it.

❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ **Special #3** ❄️ ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

THE MYSTERY AT SNOWFLAKE INN

created by
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ALBERT WHITMAN & Company
Morton Grove, Illinois

Great Things to Make and Do!

The Boxcar Children are very creative. They can make great gifts from things you find around the house. Here are some of their best holiday gift-giving ideas!

The Happy Bird-Day Bird Feeder

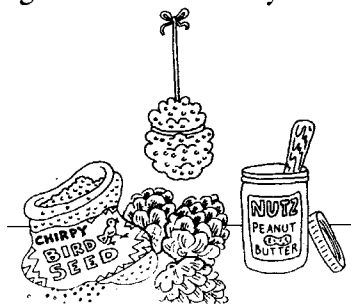
Food is the best gift you can give the birds during the long, cold winter.

You will need:

1 large pinecone
1 piece of cord, 12 inches long
a spoon
peanut butter
birdseed

Here's what you do:

1. Tie the cord around the center of the pinecone.
2. Use a spoon to fill the pinecone with peanut butter.
3. Coat the peanut butter with birdseed.
4. Hang the feeder from a tree branch. The birds will fly right over for a tasty treat!



Let It Snow Paintings

A sparkly snow painting will melt anyone's heart.

You will need:

Tempera paint (in many colors)
construction paper or oaktag
a paintbrush
salt

Here's what you do:

1. Paint a picture using your paintbrush and paints.
2. Before the paint dries, sprinkle some salt over the parts of the painting you want to glisten. When the paint dries, your picture will sparkle wherever the salt has fallen.

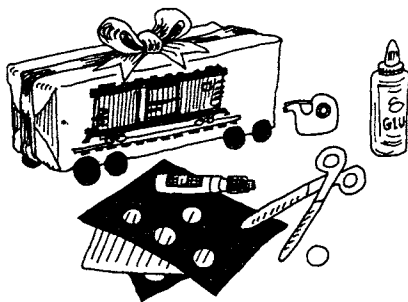


A Boxcar Box!

No matter how great life is at Grandfather's house, the Alden children will always love the little red boxcar where they once lived. Here's how you can wrap your holiday gifts in their very own boxcar.

You will need:

a shoebox
tape
red wrapping paper
black construction paper
scissors
glue
a black marker



Here's what you do:

1. Place your gift inside the shoebox.
2. Tape the lid shut tight.
3. Wrap the shoebox in the red wrapping paper.
4. Cut four black circles from construction paper. These will be the wheels of the boxcar.
5. Glue the wheels to the front and the back of your boxcar.
6. Look at the little red boxcar on the front cover of this book. Use your marker to draw the lines that you see there.

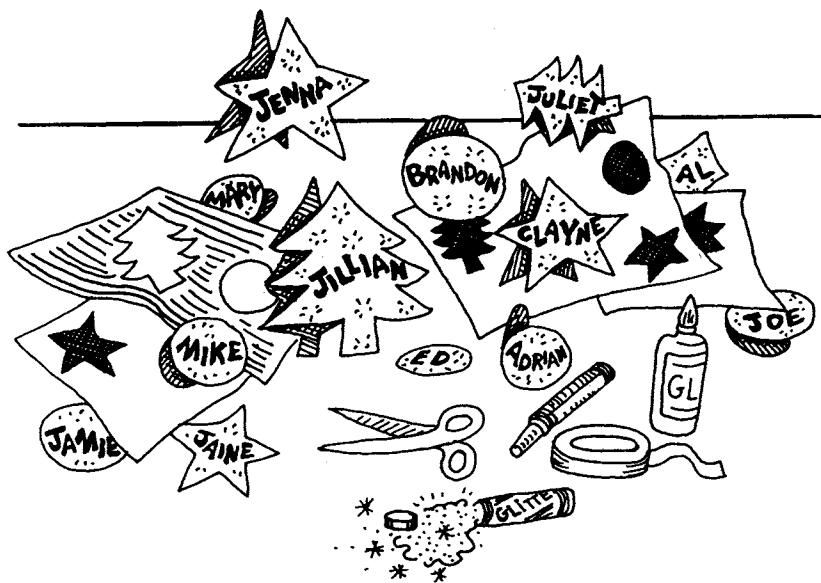
Now your gift looks like a boxcar!

The Case of the Forgotten Present

Whose gift is this? These great gift tags will solve that mystery!

You will need:

1 sheet of oaktag
felt
markers
glitter
a pencil
scissors
glue
masking tape
newspaper



Here's what you do:

1. Decide what shape you would like your gift tag to be. Keep it simple—a star, a tree, a circle, or a rectangle all work well.
2. Use the pencil to draw your shape on the oaktag.
3. Cut the shape from the oaktag. This will be your stencil.
4. Tape the oaktag stencil to a piece of felt. Cut around the oaktag. You'll end up with a piece of felt the same shape as your stencil.
5. Remove the tape and the stencil from the felt.
6. Use your marker to write the name of the person who is receiving the gift onto the felt gift tag.
7. Place your gift tag on the newspaper.
8. Dab a little bit of glue onto the felt wherever you would like the glitter to stick.
9. Pour glitter onto your gift tag.
10. Lift up the gift tag and dump the extra glitter onto the newspaper.
11. When the glue is dry, tape or glue your gift tag to a wrapped gift.

Now you're sure to avoid the Great Gift Mix-Up!

THE MYSTERY AT THE FAIR

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ALBERT WHITMAN & Company
Morton Grove, Illinois

Flowery Fun

Violet is a wonderful artist. Her favorite things to paint are flowers. And not just violets, either. Her paintings are filled with roses, pansies, lilies, and tulips, too.

You can color a flowery picture. Add up the numbers in each section. Then, use your crayons and follow the code.

Color the sections that add up to 5, pink.

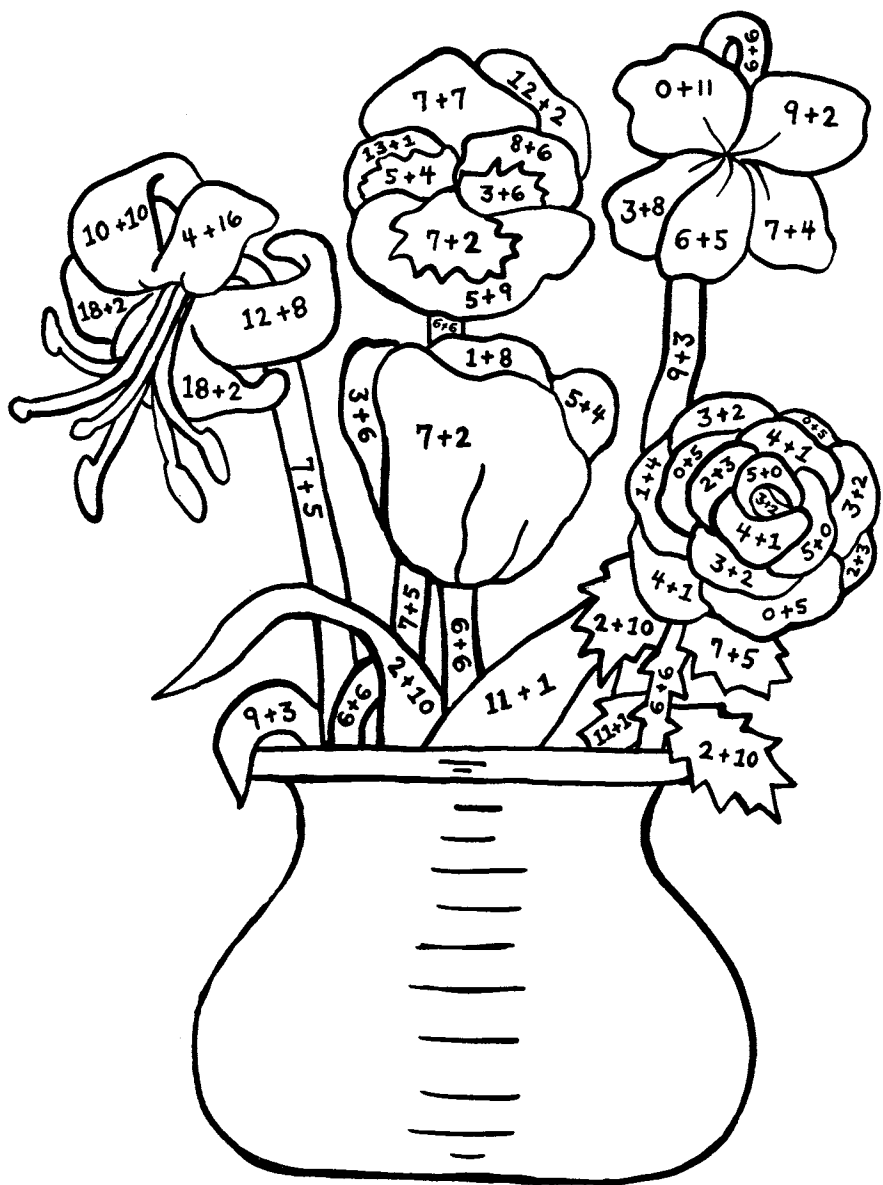
Color the sections that add up to 12, green.

Color the sections that add up to 9, yellow.

Color the sections that add up to 14, red.

Color the sections that add up to 11, purple.

Color the sections that add up to 20, white.



THE PET SHOP MYSTERY
created by
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Illustrated by Charles Tang

ALBERT WHITMAN & Company
Morton Grove, Illinois

AMAZING ANIMAL CRAFTS!

When the Boxcar Children were living in their little red boxcar, they had very little money. Anything they needed, they had to make for themselves. Even though Henry, Violet, Jessie, and Benny are now living with their grandfather, they still like to make things, only now it's just for fun. Here are two of their favorite craft ideas.

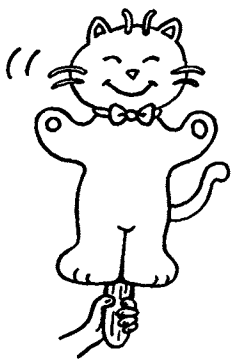
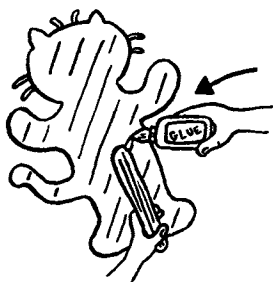
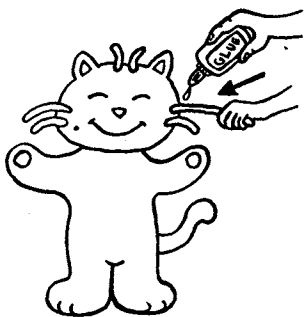
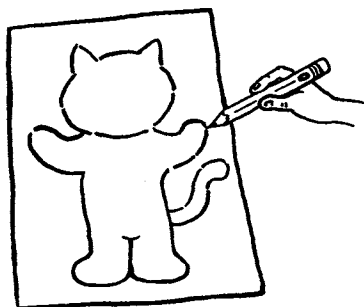
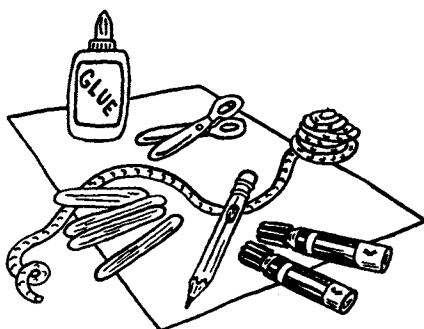
Popsicle Pet Shop Puppets

They are meow-wow!

You will need: Popsicle sticks, pencils, poster board, scissors, markers, glue, yarn.

Here's what you do:

1. Use your pencil to lightly sketch a dog, cat, bunny, or bird on a piece of poster board.
2. Cut the poster board along the pencil lines.
3. Use your markers to draw in the animal's eyes, nose, and mouth.
4. Glue pieces of yarn to the poster board to make fur.
5. Glue a Popsicle stick to the back of each of your puppets to use as a handle.



Make a Puppy Pencil Holder

The pet place for your pencils!

You will need: a small, clean frozen orange juice can with one end open, construction paper, scissors, markers, glue.



Here's what you do:

1. Glue a piece of construction paper to the outside of the can. Make sure you hold the paper until the glue dries.
2. Cut out a circle for the puppy's face. Draw eyes, a nose, and a mouth on the face. Glue the face to the can.
3. Cut out two long puppy ears. Glue one to either side of the puppy's face.
4. Cut out a long construction paper tail. Glue it to the back of the puppy.
5. Use your markers to draw the front and back paws on the bottom of the puppy's body.
6. When all the glue has dried, fill your puppy pencil holder with pencils, pens, markers, and crayons!



**THE MYSTERY IN THE
OLD ATTIC**

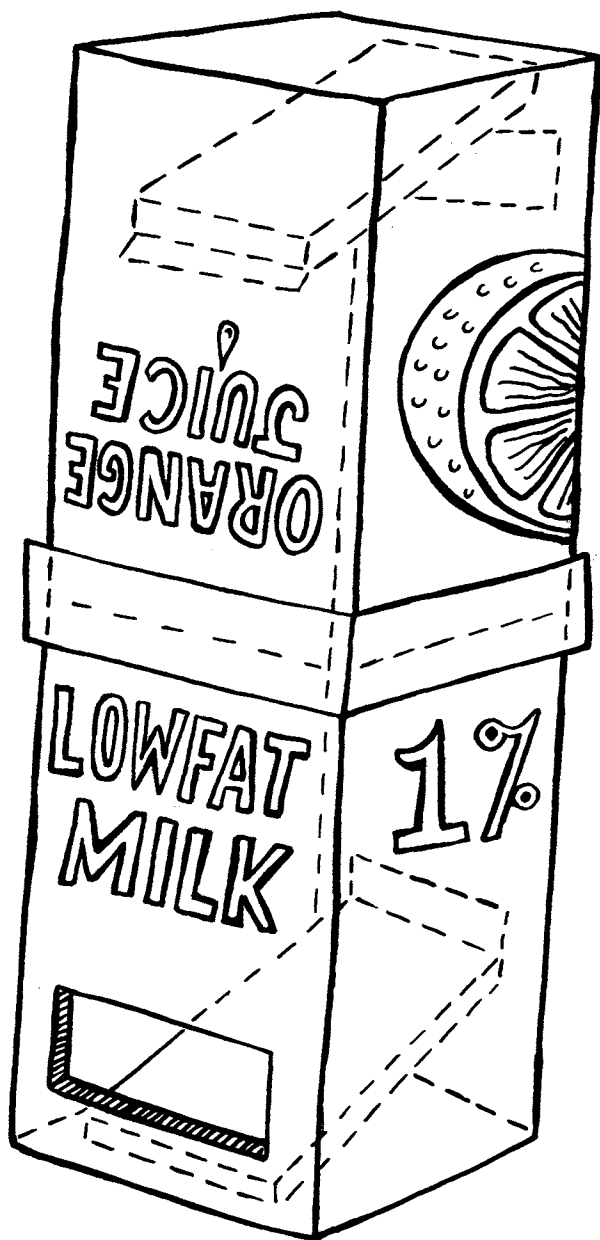
Paper Periscope

The Boxcar Children sometimes spy on people to solve their mysteries. One of their best spy tools is this periscope. It allows the Aldens to see things that are not in their direct line of vision.

You will need: 2 half-gallon milk or juice cartons, scissors, 2 small mirrors, masking tape.

Here's what you do:

1. Ask an adult to help you cut the tops off of the milk or juice cartons.
2. Ask the same adult to help you cut a viewing square two inches wide and one inch high, one inch from the bottom of each carton. Cut only one viewing hole in each carton.
3. Tape the mirrors to the bottom and side of each carton at a 45° angle. (See drawing.)
4. Use the masking tape to connect the cartons together at their open ends. Tape the cartons so that the viewing holes are at opposite ends and opposite sides of the periscope.
5. Now you are ready to spy! Stand near something that is taller than you but low enough so the top of your periscope sticks up over it. (A fence is a good object to stand behind.) Look through the bottom opening of your periscope, and you will see what's going on over the fence!



**THE MYSTERY OF THE
BLACK RAVEN**
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ALBERT WHITMAN & Company



Terrific Two-Sided Photo Puzzle

Violet took a lot of photos when she was in Alaska. One of her favorite photos was of the icebergs. Another was of Benny panning for gold. She had wanted to make her most special photo into a jigsaw puzzle. But she couldn't choose between the two. So she decided to make a two-sided puzzle. Here's how she did it.

You will need: Two photographs that are the same size, thin cardboard, scissors, white glue, and pencils.

Here's what you do:

1. Trim the cardboard so that it is the same size as the photographs.
2. Glue one photo to the front of the cardboard and one photo to the back of the cardboard.
3. Use the pencil to lightly draw the shapes of puzzle pieces onto one of the pictures.
4. Cut the puzzle apart on the pencil lines.
5. Now put the puzzle together. Remember that each puzzle piece can be used for both sides.

