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# THE MYSTERY AT SNOWFLAKE INN

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## ***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***

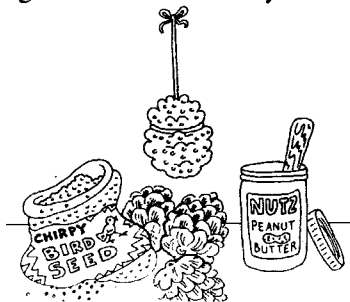
Food is the best gift you can give the birds during the long, cold winter.

#### **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.

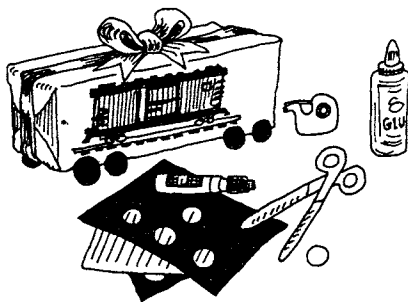


## *A Boxcar Box!*

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.

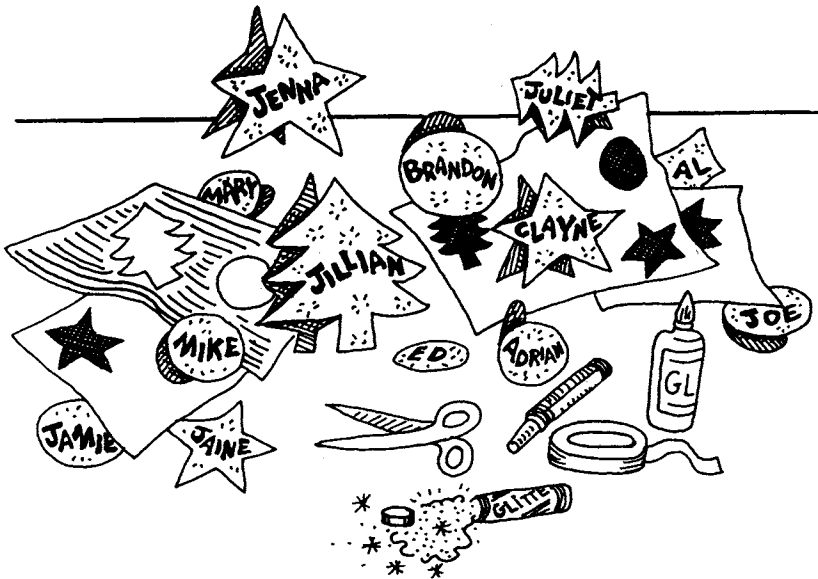
Now your gift looks like a boxcar!

## *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!