

Cover your table with the newspapers. Put small amounts of paint on your paper plate. Select a leaf, and gently cover one side with paint. Each side will give a slightly different effect. Once covered, gently lay the leaf paint-side down onto the poster board. Press down gently, making a print. Lift the leaf slowly, so you don't smear the wet print. Repeat as often as you like. Feel free to experiment with patterns and color mixing. Once your paint is dry, cover your placemat on both sides with the Contact paper, leaving a slight border around the edge, to protect it from food spills. This way you can use them year after year.



cutter into the paint, and use it as a stamp on the paper. Create your own patterns and free-form designs – there is no wrong way to do this. Once you are satisfied with your design, set it aside. If you'd like to make it a little extra special, sprinkle it with glitter while the paint is still wet. Once the paint is dry, your wrapping paper is ready to use. Variation(s): Use this cookie cutter printing idea to create placemats, using the techniques explained in Leaf Placemats. Make prints onto cardstock for homemade holiday cards or decorate plain gift bags. There are many possibilities.

Variation(s): Once the paint is dry, cut the poster board into strips 6 inches long and 2 inches wide. Cover the strips with Contact paper. Use clear packing tape to attach the ends of a strip. Voila! Now you have matching napkin rings! You can also use this technique on purchased fabric placemats with fantastic results.

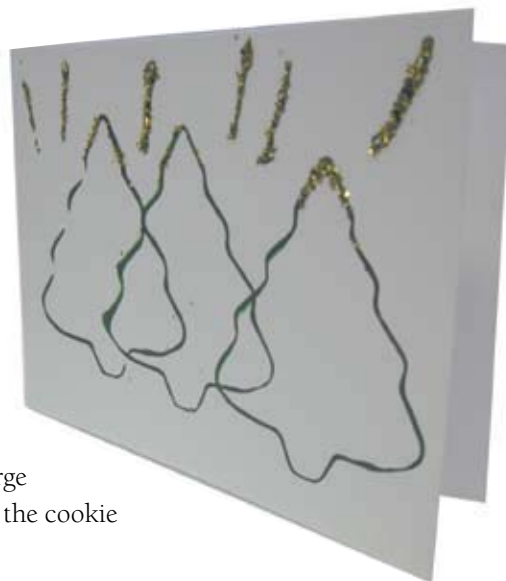
Holiday Wrapping Paper

for any age

YOU NEED:

- Large sheets or a roll of craft paper
- Cookie cutters in holiday shapes
- Craft acrylic paint
- Paper plates for use as paint palettes
- Glitter (optional)
- Old newspapers smocks to protect working area

Cover your working area with newspapers. Lay out a sheet of craft paper. Put a small amount of paint onto a paper plate. Tilt the plate so the paint spreads out into an area large enough for the cookie cutter to fit. Dip the cookie



Ginger-Graham Houses

for any age

YOU NEED:

- Graham crackers
- 8 oz cream cheese
- 2 Tbsp. confectioner's sugar
- ½ tsp. vanilla
- Ziploc bag (one for each person) & scissors
- Edible decorations – dry cereal, raisins, flaked coconut, chocolate chips, candies, etc.
- Tray or plate for building on

This simple variation of a classic is always fun, and can be enjoyed by all ages. Mix the cream cheese, sugar and vanilla with an electric mixer until well blended. This will make enough frosting for 3-4 small structures. Put mixture into the Ziploc bag(s), and snip off the corner. Use this to apply frosting to crackers, for less mess and waste. Younger children will need help assembling, but let older children build their own cracker creations, using the frosting as glue. Hint: if you have trouble getting your structure to stand,