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Opening extract from **Christmas Craft**

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CHRISTMAS TREE CARD

A homemade Christmas card is so much nicer to receive than a shop-bought one!

1 Using the template, draw a tree on the inside of the folded card (the left-hand side). Carefully use the point of the scissors to make a hole in the middle of the tree. Then cut out the tree shape, except for the trunk and pot.



2 Cut the sheet of green paper in half. Use the template to draw a tree shape on one half. Cut the other half into strips with straight, wavy or zigzag edges. Make small cuts along the edges for a fringed effect.



YOU WILL NEED:

- Christmas tree template from the back of the book
- A4 white card, folded in half
- Pencil
- Scissors
- A4 sheet of green paper
- Brown and red paper
- Glue stick
- Sticky tape
- Small piece of ribbon
- Stick-on gems
- Buttons
- Stickers
- 3 silver paper clips
- 4 colourful paper clips

4 Use the template to draw the pot shape on the red paper. Using tape, stick a piece of ribbon to the back of the pot and tie it in a bow at the front. Glue the pot onto the front of the white card.



5 Decorate the tree using sequins, buttons, stick-on gems and paper clips. Make a star by crossing two paper clips and using a third to hold them in place. Glue it to the top of the tree.



3 Cut a 1 cm strip of brown paper. Glue it over the trunk on the green paper. Glue the green strips above the trunk, so that they overlap and cover the tree shape. Stick the green paper face down inside the white card so it shows through.





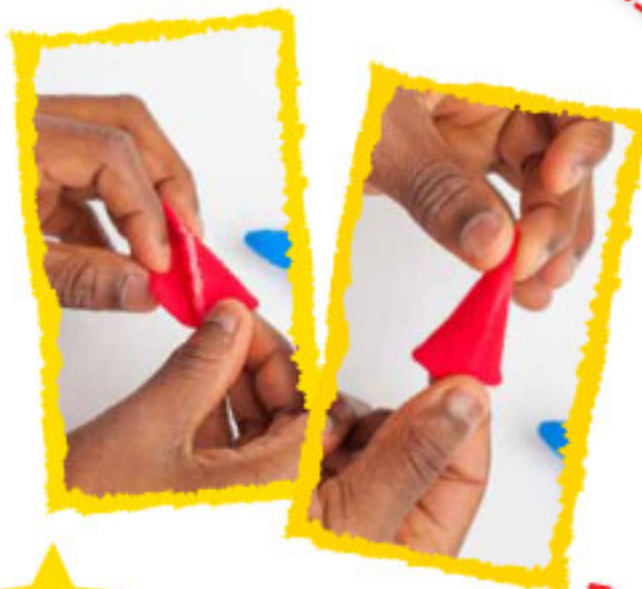
JINGLE BELL ELF

Collect pine cones in autumn – or buy them in a craft shop – and make this cheeky little decoration.

1 Dab some glue onto the ball and the top of the pine cone. Wait for a few seconds, until the glue is tacky, and then put the ball on top of the pine cone. Hold it in place for a few minutes while the glue dries.



2 Draw around the hat template onto red felt and cut it out. Put a line of PVA glue along one straight edge, wrap it around to form a cone shape and stick it down. Add some glue around the inside of the hat and stick it onto the wooden ball.



YOU WILL NEED:

- Elf hat template from the back of the book
- Small wooden ball
- Pine cone
- Red felt
- White felt
- Scissors
- Strong red thread
- Needle
- Small craft bell
- PVA glue
- Black felt-tip pen
- Red felt-tip pen

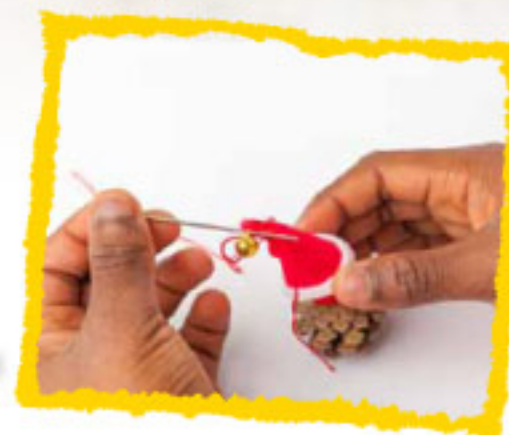
3 Cut a strip of red felt and a strip of white felt, each about 7 x 0.5 cm. Dab PVA glue onto the red felt and wrap it between the pine cone and the wooden ball to make a scarf. Glue the white felt to the bottom of the hat.



4 Thread the needle and pull it through the tip of the hat, from back to front, leaving 10 cm of thread at the back. Thread on the craft bell. Remove the needle and tie the two ends of thread together to form a loop.



5 Using felt tip-pens, draw a face onto the wooden ball. Finally, hang your elf from your Christmas tree, or dangle it anywhere you choose!



"Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way..."

