

Adult Crafternoons

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The following is a partial list of resources used and the projects that were successful for the Adult Crafternoons program series:

- ["Eco-Craft"](#) by Susan Wasinger
 - Painted bottle vases (p. 20) were made using paint from the library maintenance closet and "color mistakes," which are sold cheaply in paint stores.
 - Paper clay bowls (p. 30) were made from recycled phone books, novels and shredded paper. This project requires a blender. I would recommend purchasing an old one, which are easy to find.
 - Embellished terra cotta pots (pg. 34) are normally made by cutting twigs to make the wood chips. This turned out to be difficult, so we ended up purchasing wood chips online at a party décor site, which was a bit expensive.
 - Drawer dividers (p. 56) were made by affixing torn book pages and tissue on donated plastic containers using white glue or ModPodge.
 - Message on a bottle (pg. 64) was created using blackboard paint, which had been purchased for use in the library.
 - Rustic hangers (p. 66) were made using string that was found in the library storage closet.
 - Wrapping paper (p. 122) was a popular project right before the holidays.
- ["Everything Crafts Easy Projects"](#) by Courtney Nolan
 - We used the instructions on how to break dishes into mosaic pieces (pp. 6-7) and make mosaic frames (p. 92) to create trivets. This project was particularly popular, but the grouting had to be done at a second session.
 - Knit, crocheted or woven items made with yarn created from old t-shirts or "plarn" (yarn made of cut up disposable grocery bags) were also popular. For this project, the classes started with instructions on how to make [t-shirt yarn](#) or "[plarn](#)." There are many tutorials for making t-shirt yarn and "plarn" online and quite a few different projects on Pinterest that use both of these types of yarn.
- [Craftsy.com](#)
 - [Nail polish flower hair clips and jewelry](#) were fun and easy to make, once everyone got the technique. You can buy nail polish at the dollar store or have the students bring their own. There are many varieties of projects using this technique on Pinterest. When we did this project, I used very inexpensive floral wire that I found at a dollar store or craft store.

- "[Pretty Little Pincushions](#)" edited by Susan Brill
 - We made a few samples from this book that use bottle caps and a cute little cactus from the internet, which was very popular.
 - We made refrigerator magnets out of clear glass tiles or clear glass stones, which are sold by the bag in the floral section of the dollar or craft store. The students cut words out of old dictionaries or images out of magazines and maps with a circle punch. They then glued that to the bottom of the glass. Once that dried, they glued a magnet (store-bought or recycled magnetic business cards) to the back to create custom magnet sets. These could be given as a gift, presented either in a small metal tin or on washers glued to cardstock.

In addition to these crafts, our library consortium adult services group purchased some more costly equipment, which are [shared as kits](#) by member libraries to do craft projects. Examples of the available kits include:

- [Makey Makey arduino boards](#): These boards make objects into a keyboard using [Scratch.com](#), which the adults find interesting.
- [Silhouette Cameo](#): This is a computer cutter, which can be used on paper and vinyl to create patterns for greeting cards and scrapbooking. I used the Silhouette Cameo to cut a mask out of vinyl to create etched glass vases. This is a very popular tool, but the glass etching cream is expensive. However, the machine offers very impressive and professional results.
- Sewing machines: Using the sewing machine is very popular since many never learned to sew using a machine before. Basic sewing machine instruction is given at the start of each of the sewing classes.
- Button maker: This is another popular tool. For these programs, the library provides interesting magazines and books to make buttons with.
- [Comb binder](#): Our comb binder is used to make a greeting card organizer.