

YALS TEEN PROGRAMMING IDEAS

PROGRAM TITLE: Craft-N-Chill

BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: Teens create fun crafts afterschool in an area of the library where conversing is allowed and encouraged.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Every week there is a different craft. Some of our most popular crafts have been friendship bracelets, Fimo pens, and recycled bookmarks. For the bracelets, you need embroidery floss and tape. The Fimo pens you need some sort of clay that hardens when baked on a low temperature in the stove and pens where the ink portion can be removed. Recycled bookmarks can honestly be made out of any material. I have been using card paper, magazine cut-outs, beads/embroidery floss for the tassel. Do not forget glue sticks!

COST: The most expensive portion is the Fimo clay, but a little goes a long way. I believe the clay is about 3-5 dollars per single package. A large bag of embroidery floss is about 11 dollars. Recycled bookmarks are just made with anything lying around, thus essentially free!

PROGRAM PROCEDURE:

I always make an example of the craft for the week ahead of time. I set everything up in the middle of the youth department and recruit teenage patrons in the library to partake in the activity. I explain, while showing, each step to the teenagers. I walk around and offer help if needed.

USEFUL PLANNING RESOURCES FOR LIBRARIANS:

(Books, websites etc)

Craft books and craft websites are fabulous. Since I gear this program toward middle school students and older, you can also use adult craft books. Typically I modify any activity.

<http://hbern.atSPACE.com/> is an excellent website for friendship bracelet patterns.

Organic crafts: 75 Earth-friendly art activities, by Kimberly Monaghan is a fantastic book for using recycled or organic crafts.

RELATED MATERIALS FOR DISPLAY /RESOURCE LIST FOR TEENS:

(Websites, books, periodicals, etc. For program participants)

N/A

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

(Include duration of program, suggested number of participants)

Craft-N-Chill lasts for an hour. The suggested number of participants depends on the craft. If you are doing friendship bracelets and none of your participants has ever made a friendship bracelet before, then I suggest at most 7 individuals. But, for a craft like Fimo pens, you can have 20+ kids participating.

CONTACT INFORMATION OF LIBRARIAN SUBMITTING PROGRAM:

(Name, library, e-mail address, library phone number)

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AmeriCorps *VISTA

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