

Storytelling and Crafts



THE LORAX

Lesson and Truffula Trees Craft

Preparation:

Provide materials to make truffula trees (directions below). Thick yellow pipe stem cleaners, straws, or thin dowels would be good for the trunks; polyester fiberfill or cotton balls can be used for the tufts (they can be colored with markers or pastel chalks). These could be stuck into a base of plasticene to make a forest.

Lesson:

The interdependent web of life. We all are responsible for the caring of the environment.

Introductory Questions:

Did you ever play in a park?

What would happen if someone came into the park and cut down all the trees?

What would happen if they left trash from their picnics just sitting on the tables?

Story Discussion:

What happened to the Brown Bar-ba-loots after the Once-lers cut down the truffula trees?

To the Humming-fish? The Swomee-Swans? One thing leads to another.

Why did the Lorax leave a pile of rocks with the word “UNLESS”?

What can be done?

What do you do to help take care of the world we live in?

Litter and recycling are topics the children are familiar with – clean water and clean air may be others.

Activity:

Make the Truffula Trees. Perhaps make a pretty park with them.

Truffula Trees Lorax Craft Materials

- 1 yellow and black striped pipe cleaner or animal striped pipe cleaners
- 4 multi colored pompoms (to be true to *The Lorax*, use yellow, red/pink, purple and orange)
- square of tissue paper for the base
- glue
- green PlayDough or make your own dough (below)

Directions:

- Clip the pipe cleaner into 4 segments, any length will do, and they don't have to be even.
- Pour out some glue and let the kids dip one end of the pipe cleaner into the glue, getting a good sized drop on top:
- Stuff the glued end of the pipe cleaner into a pompom (a hot glue gun is the easiest) but even just regular Elmer's Glue or craft glue is fine.
- Repeat for the next three pompoms and pipe cleaner segments, making four Truffula Trees.
- Slap the green play dough onto the tissue paper and push the sides down a little to make it look like a hill.
- Stick the four Truffula Trees into your green hill.

Basic non-edible dough

- 1 cup flour
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 T cooking oil
- 1 cup water
- food coloring

Mix the flour, cream of tartar, and salt in a pan. Mix the food coloring with water, and add with oil to dry mixture. Cook over medium heat until thick. A package of Kool-Aid or any other powdered unsweetened drink mix can be substituted for the food coloring and will make the PlayDough smell good.