

## **Tips for Hosting a Virtual Craft Session**

### **1. PICK A PLATFORM**

Decide if you are going to host your virtual craft party on Zoom, or Google Hangouts or FaceTime or some other digital platform.

### **2. CHOOSE A PROJECT TO MAKE FOR YOUR VIRTUAL CRAFT SESSION**

When choosing the project you have 3 strategies to pick from:

- Choose a project using supplies that everyone already has at home. Options include things like stuffed animals made from socks, string art, yarn wrapped cardboard letters, a wreath or even a cactus garden made from rocks!
- Choose a simple project and send the supplies to everyone.
- Choose a pre-made craft kit and send the same one to each person attending your virtual craft party. Super fun options I found include: mosaic stepping stones, decorative paper bowls, beaded bracelet kit.

### **3. PICK A DATE AND TIME FOR YOUR VIRTUAL CRAFT SESSION AND SEND OUT INVITES**

Make sure your invitation includes:

- Date and time
- Virtual location including URL and any relevant passwords or logins needed.
- What the craft project will be.
- Whether or not you are sending any supplies.
- A list of any supplies or tools families need to gather before the session. This might include things like scissors, a ruler, a pencil, tape, newspaper to cover the table etc.

## **TIPS & TRICKS FOR A SUCCESSFUL VIRTUAL CRAFT PARTY**

Try the project out beforehand. Not only will you have an example to show what the finished project should look like, but you will be able to see if there are additional supplies needed or any tricky parts that need explanation.

Pick a craft project that is not too complicated. Make sure the project is easy enough that there is time to chat!

Consider a theme. Maybe ask everyone to wear a funny hat. Anything to keep it lighthearted and add to the bonding will work!

Minimize background noise.

Make sure the room you will be in has good lighting that works with your camera.

Virtual backgrounds are fun but to do crafts together you need to be able to see things people hold up or what their hands are doing, and virtual backgrounds can do weird things like cut off your arm if you turn the wrong way.

Set an end time.