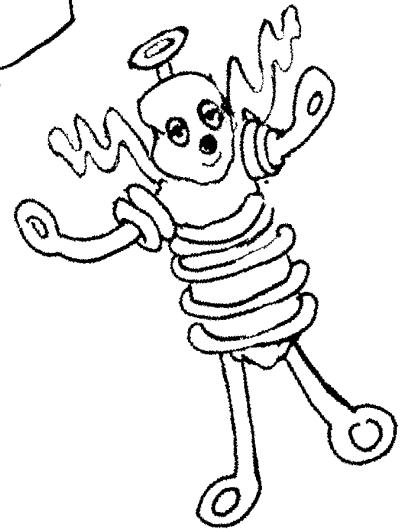
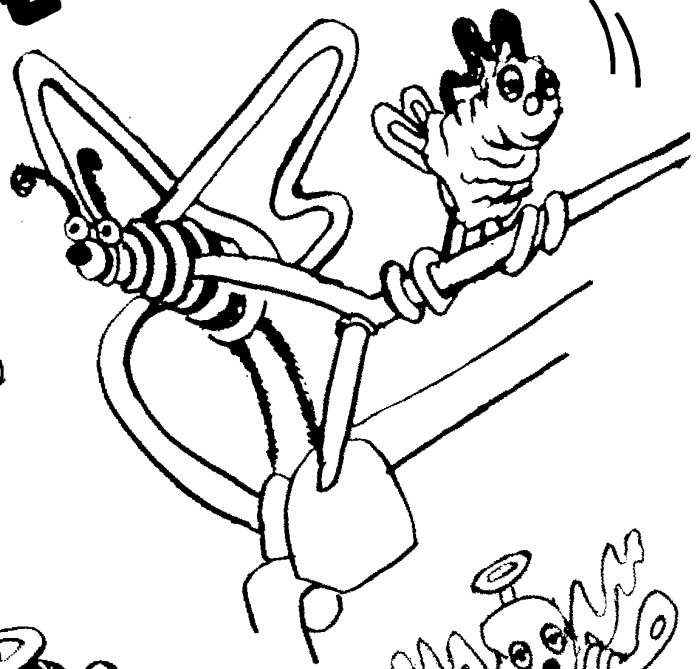
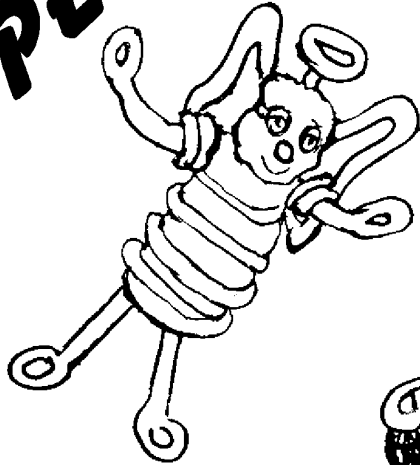


PIPE CLEANER TWISTING



Pipe Cleaners Gone Crazy

A complete Guide to Bending Fuzzy Sticks
by Laura Torres and Michael Sherman
A New Klutz Book

At an American Cancer Society Health Fair I worked, there was a group twisting pipe cleaners with children. When I got home that night, there were several letters telling me about the new Klutz book on pipe cleaners. I went out and bought it immediately. What fun!

How about these little creatures keeping watch over a patient's bed. The pipe cleaners twist around pencils, clip on lights, and hang from curtain rods. The Klutz book will tell you the basics on how to make the chicken and butterfly above, along with other creations: dog, tiger, lion, muscle man, penguin, mice, duck, flowers and a dinosaur. I added the wiggle eyes. The angels on this page are my creations.

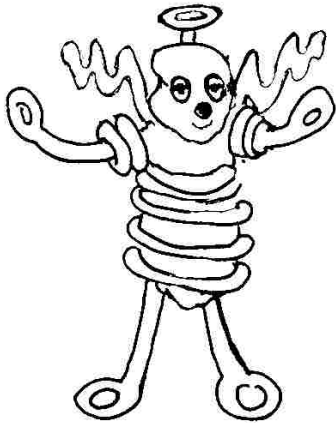
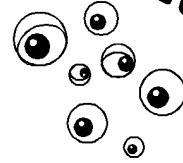
Fuzzy Sticks

Let's call them fuzzy sticks. I can't imagine saying to a child "Do you want a pipe cleaner animal?" A "fuzzy stick animal" sounds better. I also twist them around pom poms (available at craft stores (and Oriental Trading Co.). The Angels are multi-cultural. They can be made in brown, red, yellow and pink; or, in blue, purple or green. Klutz is coming out with "fat pipe cleaners" which they say are 1/3 inch by 18 inches. (They will cost \$8 for 50. If we like them, HCN may be able to do better on the price.) For now I twist two regular size pipe cleaners together for a "fat fuzzy stick."

Turn the page for instructions →

In the book, Klutz carries a warning that because of sharp edges these should not be given to children under eight years old. They also suggest clipping the pipe cleaner in half or thirds using a nail clipper. I used a craft pliers which also cuts wire. With the pliers, you can then bend the sharp ends over and tightly close them so they are no longer sharp. This also makes for easy, neat twisting. My set of fuzzy tools fits neatly into an old zipper notebook with the rings removed. You could also fit them comfortably in a pencil box.

HERE'S A LITTLE ANGEL TO WATCH OVER YOU.



These are not quite as colorful as balloons, but safer in the hospital environment and they don't pop. They will give you something interesting to do while you talk to a patient and give them something to keep. You can let the kids make them, but make sure you "child proof them first" by bending over the sharp ends. What could be better than a little guardian angel? Maybe a guardian angel with a flower or a teddy bear!

There is a glue called "Quick Grab." You'll never use another glue in crafts. It sticks in 40 seconds. It is safer than super glue, which can stick your fingers together.

I've also used the little decorative tooth picks and party sticks with glitter ends (like the kind they used in food services). You can then stick them in a planter.

You can also staple the feet to a glass cardboard coaster so it will stand on its own, or hang it with a piece of ribbon from the curtain rod like an ornament.

This is just to get us started, I can hardly wait to see what you all come up with. We clowns are such a creative lot.

Oriental Trading Company

P.O. Box 3407, Omaha, Nebraska

Free catalog 1-800-228-2269

¼ - ½ Plastic Wiggle eyes - assorted (140 pcs. per unit) \$2.95

¼ - ½" Plastic Wiggle eyes with Lashes - assorted colors and sizes (150 pcs per unit) \$3.25

¼ - 2" Pom-Poms Assorted colors and sizes (100 pcs. per unit) - \$3.60

12" Chenille stems (regular pipe cleaners) Assorted colors (100 pcs) \$2.75

The Klutz Book is available from most book stores for \$12.95.

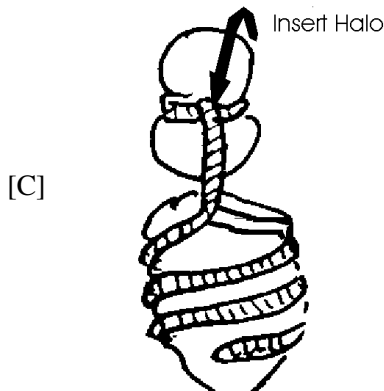
2003 Note: Most of these craft items are available at Michaels, WalMart and your local crafts stores.

[A] Below is a Back View



To make this little angel, I've used pink for skin (you could use brown, yellow, red or even blue), white for the dress and puff sleeves, and yellow for the halo and wings. I added wiggle eyes with lids and lashes.

Take a pink fuzzy stick and bend a tiny bit of the ends and pinch tightly to eliminate the sharp ends. Tightly twist it around a ½ inch pink pom-pom. [See A] This gives the illusion of a head band.



For the body, twist the above ends around a large (one inch) pink pom-pom [See B]

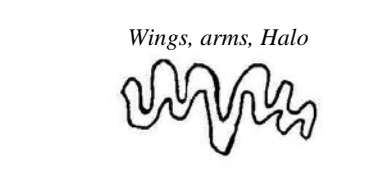
Here I will take a white fuzzy and coil it loosely around my thumb or another appropriate shape. This becomes the dress. It is not shown to the left, but can be seen on the finished figure.



For the legs fold another pick fuzzy in half and twist as shown in C. Bend the ends around to form the feet. Push this up into the body fuzzy. [See C]

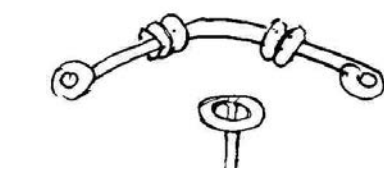


Make the arms with one pink fuzzy. For the puff sleeves take a 1/3 piece white fuzzy and coil it around a pencil. Put these on the arms before bending the ends for hands. [See E] Wrap the arms around the neck.



Wings, arms, Halo

Make wings with a yellow fuzzy as shown [See D] then push behind neck.. Make halo out of a yellow fuzzy scrap and push behind headband. [See B]



For the face, use wiggle eyes available in craft departments. To cut the "stare" put a line across with a sharpie for a lid, or order them from Oriental Trading Company (see below) already with lashes and lids.