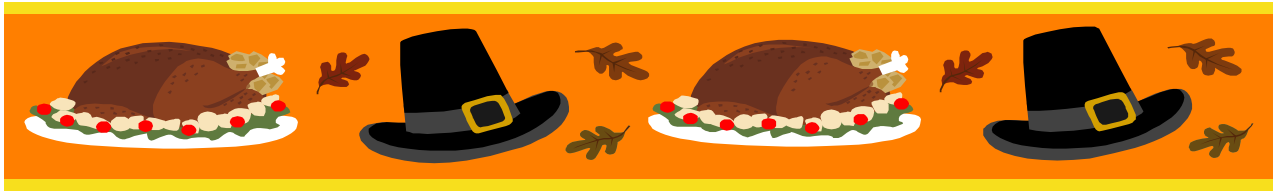


New Millennium Girls' Holiday Crafts and Recipe Book



By Jan May





Chocolate Marshmallow Pilgrim Hats



Four Easy Ingredients

- 1 12 oz bag of chocolate chips
- 1 package chocolate striped cookies
- 1 bag of marshmallows
- 1 tube of yellow decorator's frosting





Pour the chocolate chips into a microwave safe bowl and microwave on high for 1-2 minutes until melted. Stir 1 teaspoon of cooking oil in to help it spread.



Flip the striped cookies over onto their chocolate side onto wax papered cookie sheet



Top each cookie with a marshmallow and stick a toothpick into each one.





Spoon the chocolate over the entire marshmallow.



Place the marshmallow in the center of a cookie. Use a dull knife to hold it steady as you pull off the toothpick.

Place the tray of hats in the freezer for 15 minutes or until chocolate is solid.



Using yellow decorators frosting, make a square buckle in the center of the hat.

Turkey Gobbler Cupcakes



Purchase a bag of candy corn and pumpkins and decorator's tiny round sprinkles for eyes

Bake cupcakes in flavor of your choice

Frost with chocolate frosting

Use a candy pumpkin for the head and attach it with a dab of frosting

Frost the candy pumpkin

Add decorator's round white sprinkle for eyes; carefully add a green one on top the eye with a tiny dab of frosting- use a tooth pick

Cut the bottom off a candy corn; carefully stick on pumpkin head for beak

Stick in candy corn across the back in two rows for feathers -this part is great for preschoolers!



Thanksgiving Native American Teepees



Isabel makes these for a special Native American Friend in the book Isabel's Secret.



Gather Your Materials



Smooth Peanut butter

16 oz bag chocolate chips

Candy corn and pumpkins

Pretzel sticks-small bag

12 pointy ice-cream cones

Toothpicks



Pour the chocolate chips into a microwave safe

bowel and microwave on high for 1-2 minutes until melted.



With a butter knife, coat the inside **thickly** with peanut butter.



With a spoon, drizzle a layer of melted chocolate over the peanut butter inside the cone.



With scissors cut off 1 ½ inches of the top of the cone. Hold the cone on its side and be careful not to let the chocolate drip out.



Hold the cone on its side and push 3 pretzel sticks in the top.



Lay the teepees on their sides on a tray lined with wax paper and put into the freezer for 15-20 minutes or until the chocolate is solid.



With the remainder of the melted chocolate coat the bottom with a line of chocolate and use that as “glue” for candy corns.



For something different, you can cut up the candy corns with a knife to place on top of the chocolate



Place a candy corn in the middle the same way or use your own designs.



Thanksgiving Placemats



This is a wonderful holiday craft for kids to make for themselves or as gifts-grandparents and cousins love them! Their colorful festiveness will add fun to your Thanksgiving Feast. I love to encourage creativity in children. It promotes industry and problem solving skills. This craft uses mostly things you have around your house like magazines, construction paper, fall scrapbooking papers and stickers. It's fun to recycle!



Gather Your Materials

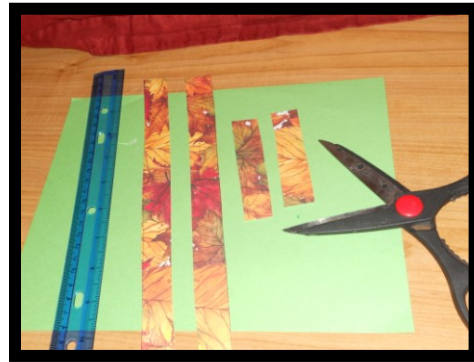
- 1-Large 11x 18 construction paper in fall colors
- Cut out pictures from magazines of fall leaves, pumpkins, etc
- Cut out pictures from magazines of favorite things of the person you are making the placemat for
- Use decorated fall scrapbook papers to write special Thanksgiving Greeting
- Large fun stickers or wall art stickers in flowers, animals, dinosaurs and fall shapes
- Photo of the person who gets to keep the placemat in the middle.
- Thanksgiving greeting cards or paper plates of turkeys-come in packs-optiona



Cut out pictures from magazines that the person would like. Include any fall pictures of Thanksgiving, pumpkins, etc. Set aside. Cut four 2 inch x 2 inch triangles and glue them in the 4 corners of the construction paper.



Measure 2 strips of fall scrapbooking paper 10 inch x 1 inch strips. Measure 2 smaller 2 x 2 inch strips



Glue the strips inbetween the triangles to make a frame.

With yellow construction paper (the marbled kind looks great here!), write a thanksgiving greeting in the middle using the person's name. Glue the photo of the person in the middle. You could even glue one of both of you together to make it extra special. Grandparents love this! Arrange all the magazine pictures around the photograph before gluing them down. They should touch and can overlap.



Try to add larger items in the four corners for symmetry and work your way inward covering all the space with magazine pictures. Use the stickers to fill in the gaps. Try to cover up all the empty space. An office supply or teacher's store can laminate them for a few dollars so you can use them for years to come.



Thanksgiving Pinecone-Turkey

Place Card Holders



Take an orange pipe cleaner and bend it in a little W shape. This will be the three toes and feet of the turkey. Cross the ends over and twist them together from the cross over to the top-this is the legs.



Close the gap on the toes together and bend the tall part of the legs down and twist again until you get feet like in the photo below.

Turn the pinecone over and hot glue the feet inside the cone. Be very careful!



Take a red pipe cleaner and bend it in half. Bend that in half again. Make a small loop at the bent end. Leaving a small hole in that end, twist the rest all the way to the end. This will be the neck. The hole will be the head.



Cut an inch piece of orange pipe cleaner and bend it in half. This will be the beak. Dot the center of the head, where there is a

hole with liquid glue-not hot glue- and insert the beak. Hot glue the neck in the middle of the pine cone near the front. Make eyes with black puff paint or use any color you have and when it dries, use a black magic marker and color the eyes black.



Cut a yellow piece of construction paper in half long wise. Measure and cut one -one inch strip of orange construction paper 10 inches long. Cut another one in red the same size but use scrapbooking scissors to get a jagged edge across one long side. Using a glue stick, glue the red strip near the bottom onto the yellow piece and the orange one near the top leaving, yellow stripes in between.



With a tube of glitter paint, make curly cues on all the yellow parts. Take a napkin and blot the glitter and spread it around a bit.



After the glitter paint dries, fold the end about one inch and bend it back and forth making an accordion fold.



Gather the ends of the accordion tail and staple the end near the red stripe. Using a hot glue gun, glue it onto the back of the pinecone. Lay the tail flat on the work space, add hot glue to it first and press the turkey on top of it. Stand the turkey upright and reinforce the tail with hot glue again.



Take 4 inches of red pipe cleaner and shape it like a hook for the wattle. Bend the piece up an inch to make the bottom a little thicker than the top. Twist it together. Hook and glue it around the beak. Measure 2 x 4 inch pieces of yellow or orange construction paper. Write the name of your guest across the top, and then slip it into the back of the pinecone. (See picture at beginning of craft.) Use for place cards for Thanksgiving Dinner.





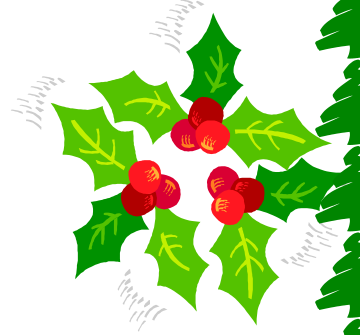
Chocolate- Cherry

Christmas Mice



Four Simple Ingredients:

- 1 Jar of Maraschino Cherries-for bodies
- 1 bag Hershey's Hugs and Kisses-for heads
- 1 8oz bag chocolate chips-to coat cherries
- 1 small bag almond slivers for ears



Drain the cherries in a colander and pat them dry with a paper towel. Unwrap the Hershey's Hugs and put them in a bowl. Melt the chocolate chips in a microwave safe bowl for about 1 minute 30 seconds until totally melted. Stir.



Dip

Dip a cherry into the chocolate and place it on a wax paper lined cookie sheet. Quickly add the Hershey Hug to it to form the head. Dip the almond sliver in the chocolate on one end and use that as a glue to hold the ears in place between the cherry and the Hugs. Gently push them together. Dip a toothpick into the chocolate and dot it on the head for eyes and the tip for a nose. Place them in the freezer to set for about 20 minutes.





Take them out of the freezer and place them on a cookie tray to serve or store them in the refrigerator until you want to use them. They look adorable in tins and make great gifts!



Christmas Ornaments

Up-cycle Wrapping Paper & Greeting Cards

These are fun for preschooler's hands as well as older children



Now you can use those small scraps of wrapping paper and old greeting cards by turning them into something truly beautiful. It's a great way to save money and make a holiday memory at the same time.

Kids love cutting these out and decorating them with glitter, sequins, and puff paint. I always have them sign their names on the backs and date them. It's become a Christmas tradition in our family to make new ones each year.



Gather Your Materials

- Holiday Trim -Brick Brack, gold ribbons, red and green ribbon, gold, red, or green braid
- Puff paints especially in holiday colors
- Glitter puff paint in holiday colors
- Cardstock-green or white
- Cotton balls for snowmen
- Scrapbooking scissors
- Hole punch or holiday sticker for the backs
- Thin string for loop hangers



Choose a picture from the wrapping paper that would make a nice ornament. Glue it to a piece of sturdy cardstock then cut out the image.



On the back, glue a 7 inch piece of ribbon for a hanger. Place a holiday sticker over it after the dries. Have the children sign their names and date them. It's also nice to add a warm greeting if it is used for a gift



Glue a small cotton ball on hats, coats, or around the edges of sleeves.
Use puff paint and decorate the image. Follow the lines.



Add another larger cotton ball for a snowball. Outline the entire image in puff paint. If there is an open space on the image, you can write a name on it in puff paint as well. We made one for our dog Toby. ☺ Set aside and let dry for about 20 minutes.



Bear Angel Christmas Card Ornament

Gather Your Materials



- Christmas cards, used or new
- Red, green, or gold ribbon
- Gold, red, or green trim, braid, or brick brack
- Glue gun, liquid glue
- Glitter glue or glitter paint in tube
- Scrapbooking zig zag scissors
- Cardstock for backing



Cut and Paste

Cut out the image on the card that you want to make into an ornament. Glue it to a piece of cardstock and cut it out.



Using hot or liquid glue, choose a piece of braid or ribbon to glue across the bottom of dress. Choose another kind of braid to glue across the head for headband



Hot glue a tiny ornament or gift package like the bear is holding it. Use the glitter paint and dot it on the dress making a design. To make it look like the dress is glittery, dot with glitter paint, then dab with a napkin. Fill in the wings with glitter paint.



You can add a tiny bow to the headband for the finishing touch with liquid glue. Let it dry for 20-30 minutes. Hang on the tree!



Christmas Card Placemats With Holiday Poem



Now you have a creative way to use all those adorable Christmas cards you receive each year. Most of them have wonderful words of Christ's birth on them and are rich in theology for little ones to learn. Making a special placemat to use at meal times can reinforce the true meaning of Christmas.





Gather Your Materials



- New or used Christmas cards
- A 12 x 18 inch piece of red, green, or yellow construction paper for each place mat
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- 12 x 18 inch piece of Christmas wrapping paper for each place mat—red and green checks are great
- 5 x 7 inch colored paper or Christmas stationery
- When you are finished, an office supply or teacher store will laminate them for just a few dollars each.



Measure and cut a piece of wrapping paper to fit on top of the construction paper, leaving an inch all around of the construction paper showing. It should be about 11 x 17 inches. Using a glue stick, glue it on top of the construction paper, centering it. Clip off the four corners of the construction paper (about 2 inches long). Cut the wrapping paper corners off, too.



This is a great way to remember relatives or special friends that sent cards. Meal time is often a time when little ones learn to pray. This is a great way to go a step further and pray for the needs of loved ones as well and the placemat is a good reminder for this.





Cut the picture and words from the cards that you want to use. Arrange them around the edges of the construction paper where you like and glue them on. A glue stick works fine here, because you will laminate them later. Leave a 5 x 7 inch space in the middle for the poem or for younger children you can leave the poem out and put another card there.

I laminate mine at an office supply or teacher store for \$2.00-\$4.00 each. It's a great way to start the holiday season by bringing them out each year. They also make great gifts for grandparents, teachers, and friends.



Directions for Christmas Sensory Poem to Place in the Middle of Your Placemat

Take a 5 x 7 inch piece of colored paper or holiday stationery and write the poem in your neatest writing and glue it in the middle of your placemat. Use a glue stick, it doesn't bead up.

Use your five senses. For example:

1. Christmas *looks* like a bright star, leading three wise men on a wonderful journey.
2. Christmas *smells* like a freshly cut pine tree standing near the fireplace.
3. Christmas *tastes* like Grandma's sweet sugar cookies baking in the oven.
4. Christmas *sounds* like Holly singing in the play at church.
5. Christmas *feels* like the best day of the year!

Now you try! Fill in the blanks:

Christmas looks like _____ (where) _____

Christmas smells like _____ (where) _____

Christmas tastes like _____ (where) _____

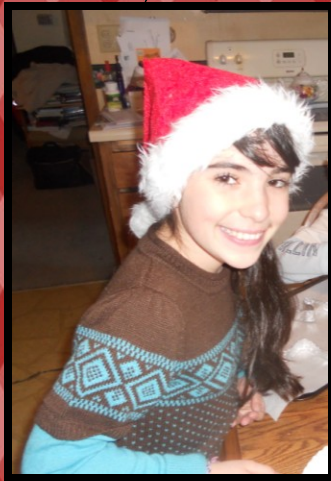
Christmas sounds like _____ (where) _____

Christmas feels like _____ (where) _____



Holly's Famous Chocolate -Confetti

Christmas Tree





This cool recipe is from the Chapter
Book for tweens,

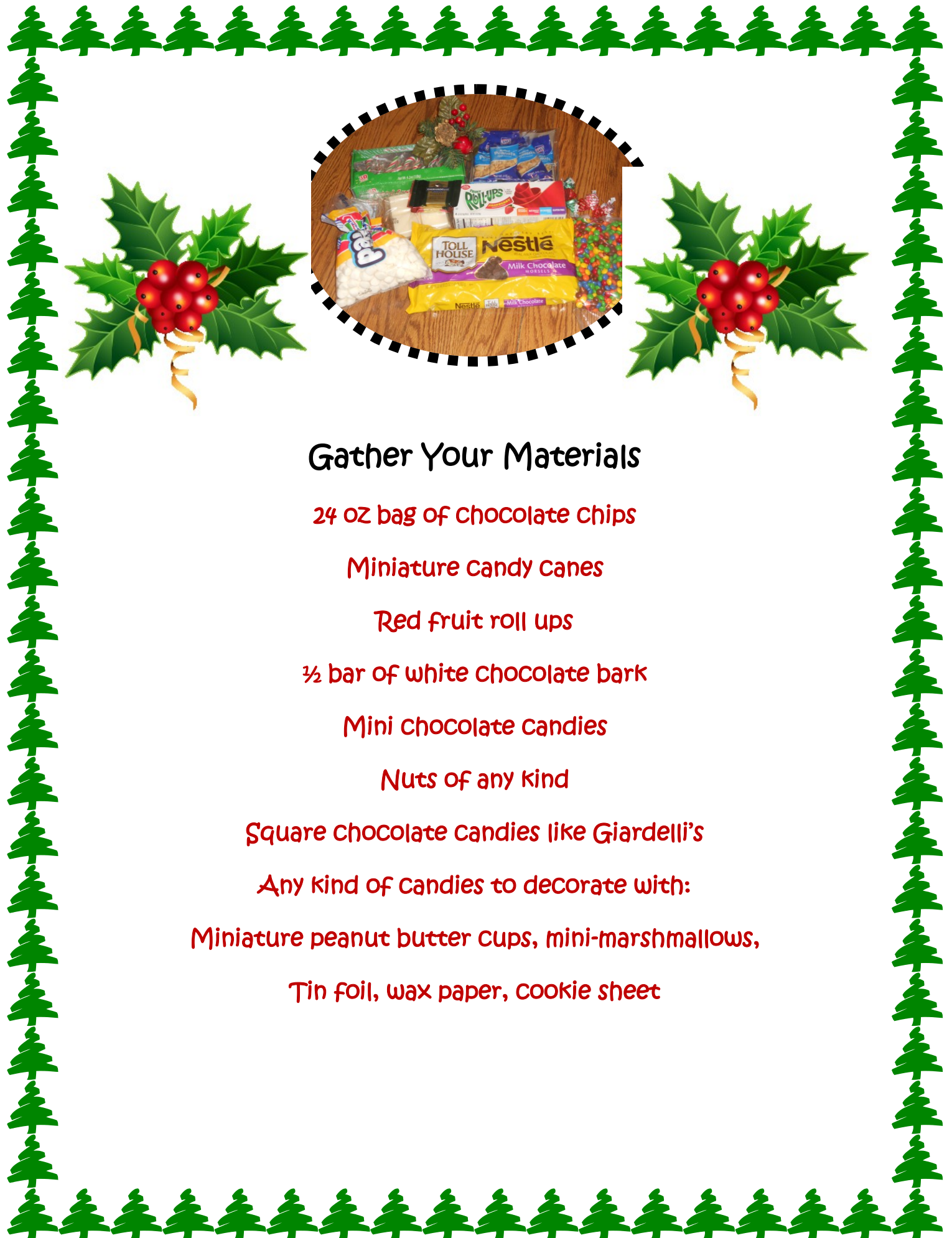
Isabel's Secret by Jan May

You can order a copy at

www.NewMillenniumGirlBooks.com

or Amazon Kindle





Gather Your Materials

24 oz bag of chocolate chips

Miniature candy canes

Red fruit roll ups

½ bar of white chocolate bark

Mini chocolate candies

Nuts of any kind

Square chocolate candies like Giardelli's

Any kind of candies to decorate with:

Miniature peanut butter cups, mini-marshmallows,

Tin foil, wax paper, cookie sheet

Make a Christmas tree mold out of a sheet of tin foil about 18 inches long. Roll it up inch by inch until you have one long strip. Shape it into a tree form.



If you need it to be longer, roll up another piece of tin foil, fold it over the end of the existing one and tape it on the outside with scotch tape. Move it to a parchment paper covered cookie sheet.



Put all the candies and nuts you will use to decorate the tree with on a single plate. Unwrap any kisses, etc. Then, make presents to go under the tree by cutting fruit roll-ups into strips and wrapping them around the chocolate squares like ribbon. Place a candy in the middle for a bow.



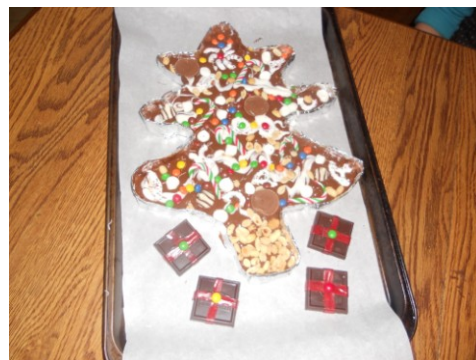
Using a microwave safe bowl, melt the chocolate chips on high for about 1 minute and 30 sec. Stir. Heat again in 30 second intervals if not all the way melted. Use an oven mitt if the bowl is hot. Spray butter around the inside of the foil mold-this will help the foil to come off more easily. Have a helper hold the foil mold down against the cookies sheet as you pour the melted chocolate in.



Spread out the chocolate into the corner of the tree so the chocolate covers the entire inside of the mold. In another bowl melt the white chocolate bark and drizzle it over the tree in a wavy line across the top, middle, and bottom of the tree. Use a knife in wavy motions in the white chocolate –it will appear like lines of snow.



Decorate the tree now with the candies. Use the multi-colored mini candies for garland-press the mini Candy Canes in firmly. Use the chocolate kisses, marshmallows, pretzels, nuts and other candies as ornaments. Place in freezer for quick setting.



Peel off tin foil from around the edges. If any sticks, use a knife to scrape off.



Display on platter as dessert for your favorite Christmas parties. Guests may break off pieces as they desire. Enjoy!



Cake Ball Christmas Tree



This is a great baking project for kids that is so easy to make and wonderfully delicious-to eat, that they will keep coming back for more!

I used yellow cake mix in the recipe with chocolate frosting and chocolate candy melts but any combination will be fabulous. I thought carrot or spice cake would be wonderful with cream cheese frosting. Add mini chocolate chips or nuts for extra crunch.

Bon Apatite!

Jan☺

Gather Your Materials

- 1 Yellow cake mix*
- 1 can of chocolate frosting*
- Sprinkles in holiday colors*
- 1 bag chocolate candy melts*
- 1 bag green candy melts*
- 1-2 Tablespoons of Oil*



Make cake as directed on package, set aside after baked and cool

Cut cake into fours, pick up two sections at a time, rubbing them together and crumble them into a bowl. Make sure it is nice and crumbled fine. Take out any lumps that won't crumble.



Mix and Form

Mix 2/3 of the can of frosting into the crumieux cure using a metal spoon. Plastic spoons don't work as well! Mix until it all sticks together.



Spread mixture evenly on a cookie sheet lined with wax paper and put into the freezer for about 30 minutes or until firm. Take out and form into golf ball size balls and place on cookie sheet lined with wax paper.



Place the candy melts into a microwave safe bowl and microwave on high for 1 minute and stir, if not melted enough, put it back for 30 seconds and stir until smooth. Add 1 TB of cooking oil to thin out melted candy



With a sturdy fork pick up a cake ball and dip into melted candy, tap on the sides to let any extra drain off. Place on a wax papered cookie sheet. IMMEDIATELY sprinkle with candy topping-they dry fast!



After they dry, you can stack the brown ones in a circle on bottom using 7 balls, and then stack five green ones on top in a circle, then a layer of three balls, then one ball on top to form a Christmas tree. Use toothpicks to make them stay in place if necessary. Pack single cake balls into decorative boxes, tins, and bags for yummy gifts.



Jesus was the greatest gift of all.



Cake Ball Snowmen



Gather Your Materials

1 yellow cake baked and cooled

1 Bag white chocolate melting pieces

1 tub chocolate frosting

Mikes Ikes candies for noses

Mini peanut butter cups for hats

Devils food cake cookies for hats

Mini chocolate chips for eyes

Multi colored mini chocolate candies



Bake cake as directed on the box. Crumble cooled cake and add $\frac{3}{4}$ tub of frosting and mix well. Freeze for 20 minutes



Use a snowman cutout and fill it with the cake mixture. Pat it down tight.



Carefully lift the cutout, pushing gently from the top.



Melt the white chocolate melts in the microwave for about 1-2 minutes until melted. Add a teaspoon of oil to help it spread easier. Spoon it over the snowman forms. Wait a minute or two if the chocolate is warm before adding mini chocolate chips for eyes and mouth or they will melt! Add an orange Mike Ikes candy for a nose. Cut a devils food cookie in half for the bottom part of the hat and attach it to his head. Cut a peanut butter cup in half for the top part of his hat and attach. With the mini colored candies, make buttons and scarves.



Trim extra white chocolate from around the snowman if desired. Freeze when finished for about 15 minutes, until the white chocolate is hard.



Try other fun forms like candy canes or stars. These are great for gift giving and parties.



*Frosted Snowman
Treats*



White Chocolate Dipped Pretzel Snowmen





*I found this adorable recipe in the
Taste of Home magazine.*

*I put it to work in my kid's test kitchen
to see if it was really kid-friendly.*

Even younger children loved making this!

It turned out so cute, I had to share it!

*We found out a few things you would
want to know.*





Gather your Materials

1 bag of long pretzel rods

Mini chocolate chips for eyes

Mini multi-colored candies for buttons and nose

Red fruit roll ups for scarf

Jelly fruit rings for hat brim

Ju ju gummy candy for hat top

White almond bark-1 ½ package



Break the white bark into chunks and melt in a microwave for about 1 min 30 seconds. I use a clean empty spaghetti jar; it keeps the chocolate deep for dipping. The jar can get hot, so use a mitten when handling it. Stir it together until it all has melted. If it's too hot, let it cool down for 5 -10 minutes or so- test it so no one gets burned or the candy melts once you put them on.



Dump out the candies you will decorate with onto a plate for easy use. Cut the fruit roll-ups into 1/8 inch strips for scarves. Have an older child do this, as scissors can be sharp!



Dip the pretzel rods into the melted chocolate 2/3 of the way up. Sometimes it works well to tip the jar to ensure a good coating. First apply the jelly ring around the top of the pretzel for the hat brim and use a little extra chocolate to a ju ju and put it on top of the head making the top of the hat.



Work your way down using the chocolate mini chips for eyes and a mini-colored chip for a nose. Apply the scarf by going around the snowman in the back like you are going to wrap a present with ribbon and crossing it in front. This works best with two people, one holding the pretzel snowman and one applying it. Add the buttons at the end below the scarf.





Place the finished snowmen on a wax paper covered cookie sheet and put into the freezer for quick drying. You can place them into fun holiday cups to serve at a party or in bags or tins for gifts.



About Jan

Jan May is a freelance writer and author of the *New Millennium Girls* chapter books and writing curriculum for girls. Being a homeschool veteran and creative writing teacher, she also hosts a website for homeschoolers with free resources, projects, and kid friendly recipes. Come visit us!



fun

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