

No. 52089

My Garden: Stained Glass Frames



Plant the seeds of creativity with garden-themed stained glass frames! The 8 stained glass designs include: bee, dragonfly, butterfly, spider web and flowers! Decorate your classroom with beautiful stained glass for the spring and summer season and develop an appreciation for botany and ecological systems through related science lesson plans.



Learn about the various stained glass frame designs: how do bees, dragonflies, butterflies, spiders and flowers contribute to their ecosystems? Look for fun facts about the insects, spider and flowers later on in the guide. Use resources to help children understand important facts while creating fun projects.

Make the stained glass frames by using simple steps that help younger students develop their skills in cutting and pasting. Paper cutting helps children to develop their fine motor muscles. Children can cut out sections of tissue paper to fill in each of the black border openings. The thick black borders and simple artistic designs make these large-size stained glass frames easy to decorate!



Tip: Lay the stained glass frame down onto tissue paper or our beautiful, translucent R15257 Stained Glass Craft Paper. Trace inside of each stained glass frame section onto the paper. Keep the frame in the same position and trace around it to make an outside border. When you remove the stained glass frame, you will have an exact tracing of the design on your paper.



Students can cut between the outside and inside lines to create the perfect-sized overlays for the stained glass frame borders. Flip over and glue on the pieces of tissue paper or

Stained Glass paper. Fill each of the sections with different colors. Tip: Younger children can cut out one large piece of tissue paper and place it on top of the entire frame. Glue down the tissue paper by spreading a bit of glue onto the edge of the stained glass frame border.



Thread string through the hole at the top and hang it from the ceiling or in front of a window. The frames arrange to make beautiful seasonal displays or use as suncatchers to decorate large classroom windows!

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

- Learn about flowers and bugs
- Develop fine motor skills with scissor work
- Experiment with colors
- Illuminate stained glass frames with natural sunlight
- Explore the history of suncatchers and stained glass
- Combine materials to make projects
- Match cutouts to sections of stained glass frames
- Apply knowledge of processes and techniques to make colorful displays

Stained glass art captures sunlight and filter it in interesting ways. Stained glass is made when special types of minerals (such as silica sand and oxides) and a variety of precious metals are melted together to make clear hardened transparent sheets of glass. The minerals have to be melted at a super-high heat to form a liquid. After that, the liquid is poured into a heat-resistant container called a crucible. The crucible holds the molten glass while it is solidifying.

There are several different ways to shape cooling glass. The most common way is to pour it into a mold and let it sit until cool. The mold can be any shape from a large rectangular prism to a small glass bowl. This is an ancient technique.

Another way to shape glass is to force air into the center of the glass. This causes the glass to expand into a bubble shape. The glassmaker uses other tools to shape the glass even more. This technique is known as "glass-blowing." Since they are handmade, the bowls, vases, table lamps and decorative pieces that are made using this technique are often considered more valuable than regular mold-set glass.



How glass is cooled can affect the way that the glass reacts if it is shattered. Annealed glass means that the glass cooled at a steady pace. This is the most common way to cool molten glass. When it cools in this way, it allows the glass to reduce its internal pressure so that it doesn't crack as it dries. Once it's

dry, however, it is very easy to smash annealed glass. The danger of this is that it can break into jagged shards that can cause injury.

Another type of glass is called tempered glass. This means that it is tougher than regular glass. It is made by pouring molten glass into a mold, then blasting cold air at the surface until it hardens. This causes pressure on the inside to balance with the pressure on the outside. Tempered glass often has a different kind of molten mixture, with extra chemicals added to make it stronger and more resistant to damage.

Depending on how many chemicals are added, or how effective the treatment is, tempered glass should withstand the impact of soft objects. Anything that is blunt, such as a hammer, can cause the tempered glass to break after a few strikes. But unlike annealed glass, tempered glass will resist the first few blows. If it breaks, it doesn't shatter into jagged pieces, but instead, breaks into tiny square bits that cause less injury. Tempered glass is mostly used for glass doors, patio doors and vehicle windshields.

Stained glass has existed since ancient Roman times, long before they were used to fill window frames in cathedrals or churches. Stained glass was originally used to ornament pots, mosaic tiles, jewelry and armor. The molten metals were forged into small beads that were used for a variety of decorative purposes.

Around the 12th century, cathedrals and churches were built all over Europe. The walls of these churches were extremely tall, and as a result, the windows were long and tall. This didn't look very appealing at first sight. To add a nicer look to the windows, glass-makers added colors to the glass.

Stained glass windows became forms of art. Glass-makers welded metal borders into the windows. The borders were designed to show pictures of landscapes and people. These pictures were often inspired by Biblical stories. When the glass was poured into sections of the borders, they cooled to make a colorful illustration, much like paint-by-numbers artwork! The stained glass windows caught many peoples' attentions over the years. The most important function of the stained glass windows is that they cast colorful light. Sunlight shines through the colored glass, and casts onto the floor and walls in an array of beautiful colors.

Discuss the relevance of My Garden Stained Glass Frames. Each of the designs depicts a fun feature of a garden's ecosystem. Take the class for a trip to a local park or creek. Ask students to observe insects in the area. What plants can they find? Note: Do not pick any of the plants or flowers! Teach students the importance of leaving behind "nothing but footprints." When students observe the ecosystem, they will gain an appreciation for all the important processes that keep the environment healthy.

Research fun facts about the images in the stained glass frame designs! Learn about butterflies, insects, spiders and flowers and how they all contribute to the environment.

Hang the My Garden Stained Glass Frames in front of a

classroom window. Sunlight will beam through the colored sections of the stained glass frame and cast a beautiful light into the room!



Alternatively, use tape to adhere the frame to the classroom window. Group similar designs together. Use dry-erase markers or window paint to illustrate scenery surrounding the frames.

USE MY GARDEN STAINED GLASS FRAMES WITH THESE PRODUCTS:

Use R15272 Frosted Glass Craft Paper to fill in the sections of the stained glass frame. The decorative paper is printed with patterns on semi-transparent paper to add interesting effects to your artwork. Layer the semi-transparent sheets together to make new color combinations!

Our R15213 Color Diffusing Paper is perfect to add more process to stained glass artwork. Use paint pipettes to decorate the sheets of paper with watercolor paint while developing fine motor control.



You can use markers instead of paint to add color to the sheets. After coloring, spray the sheet with warm water from a spray bottle. The colors will blend and spread outwards to fill the entire page! Watch this effect happen in real time. Children can observe the colors blending and describe how new colors are created. Leave the sheet to dry. When fully dried, cut the sheet into sections that fit the My Garden Stained Glass Frames. Glue the edges down.

Visit us at LittleFingersBigArt.com for more crafty ideas!

Make great stained glass effects using crayon shavings! Fill sections of the R52089 My



Garden Stained Glass Frames with the crayon shavings. To make the stained glass, collect the bits and pieces of used crayons in your classroom supply. Combine the colors together on a sheet of wax paper. Place a cloth onto the wax paper to keep it from melting completely. Pass an iron on 'low' setting over the cloth to heat up the crayon shavings and create a wonderful wax melt design! Visit our blog Little Fingers Big Art for instructions on how to make stained glass designs! Visit the crayon shaving stained glass page at <http://littlefingersbigart.com/2013/01/11/crayon-shaving-stained-glass/>.