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Playful: Fun Projects To Make With + For Kids



Synopsis

Perfect for after school or a rainy Sunday, Playful is a charming collection of 26 unique, modern projects for adults to make with and for young children. Divided into five categories—Playful Dress Up, Playful Toys, Playful Paper Crafts, Playful Repurposing, and Playful Art—the low-skill, high-style, low-cost projects include a tiger piñata, a parade of paper puppets, and a dollhouse made out of cardboard and bright duct tape. Sweet and straightforward, this enchanting book is sure to inspire many happy, colorful hours of making—and make-believe—among adults and the children they love.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“A piñata, like this bright design from Merrilee Liddiard’s new book *Playful: Fun Projects to Make With + For Kids*, just says Party! (Redbook) “I certainly recommend this book if you are looking for fun activities to do with your kids at home.” (Dominique’s Desk) “Merrilee’s book offers billions of ideas that are surprisingly doable, and in a world where we frown upon play and elevate productivity, I admire her bravery to put down the phone and make something with her kids.” (Design for MiniKind) “Everything about it is scrumptious. Every project, every photo, all the little details. Buy it so you can make fun, imaginative, totally doable projects with your kids. And buy it because the attention to detail will inspire you!” (Design Mom) “Thankfully, books and supply kits that encourage children to truly create are also available these days. The best of the

books—like Merilee Liddiard's new release, *Playful*—may provide instructions for creating a dollhouse or a cardboard-and-paint menagerie, but they also promote open-ended arts-making by encouraging parents to keep found objects and recycled materials on hand for kids to use when the mood and inspiration strike. (Working Mother)

Merrilee Liddiard is the creator of Mermagblog.com, which was named "Best for Kids" by Babble in 2012 and voted into Babble's top 100 blogs in 2013. In addition to heading up kids crafting weekends for GAP Kids, Liddiard has contributed to *Family Fun*, *Parent & Child*, and *La Petite* magazines, among others. She has illustrated 30-plus middle-grade novels, children's picture books, commercials, toys, and games.

First, the book is just gorgeous, with beautiful photographs that are impeccably styled. Second, the projects have a nice variety that includes lets you use crafts, paint, sewing, even hand tools. But all seem very doable and inspirational, where you can take a method and adapt it to something else (like the adorable animal puppets, I could change it to my child's favorite animal). What was a wonderful surprise was all of the rad TEMPLATES and PATTERNS included in the book! That are real size, ready-to-use. I don't have to run to my nearest photocopy place and resize anything, these are actual patterns that you can use immediately. Very impressed, hope this isn't the last book from this team, I'd love a holiday one too!

This book is extremely beautiful I, well written & filled with very inspiring ideas and pictures. Project instructions are clear and easy to follow. However, many of the projects are highly impractical, requiring power tools and other specialty items that many don't own or have the knowledge to use. I'd say this is a book more about making things for your kids to use rather than projects that can easily dig into with you. The templates in the back are difficult to photocopy & use. The page number and some unnecessary wording is on these templates which are an eyesore when you are copying at 200% for a painting page that will be on your child's wall. It would be nice if the author allowed buyers access to digital downloads of these templates. If you are confident with saws, drills and other tools & enjoy making your child's toys, this book is for you! If you are looking for something to create alongside your child, I'd look elsewhere.

great activities for kids to do alone and great activities that you can do together. Some take one afternoon and some you work on for a weekend or so. I want to make the table tent/castle for a

birthday party! While I make that I will have my kiddos collect and make paper crafts from the book. I also think it's lots of fun how the kids can hunt for boxes in recycling and twigs from our yard to make these crafts with. Loads of fun and different types of skill and time for each one so we can go through the book and plan our summer days or do impromptu crafting together or as an individual! Love the pictures and the book is magical!

great ideas I was mightily inspired. showed this book to all of my friends who have young children. I plan on making items from this book for them. the book is also beautifully graphically designed so it's a pleasure just to look through. recommend it !

Beautiful book, and beautiful projects, my little girl and I have already done 5 projects from the book, they are clearly written (english is our second language) and the result have been beautiful, similar to the pictures in the book but with a little of our own personal twist. Awesome book for children and grown-ups alike.

Very visually pleasing. Made one project so far, my kids loved helping me make it (duct tape file folder thingy). But they haven't used them since we played with them. It's a very cute book just some of the projects are things I would probably not make. But others are super clever and creative. All the projects are unique and very cute. Worth a buy if you like to do crafts with and for your kids.

I am a total sucker for these kinds of books & honestly a lot of them, while beautiful, don't seem very original anymore. This book is beautiful, too, & while it might recycle some ideas, there is enough re-work to make them feel more original. Full disclosure: I haven't made any of the projects yet, so I can't speak to ease, but looking at the templates & patterns, they appear to be full size. (A huge plus for me because if it says "Copy 200%" or something, that's probably just not going to happen.)

Adorable book with lots of great ideas for how to create with your children! Merrilee does a beautiful job capturing the innocence of children and their need to create! The pictures are amazing as well!

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