

Valentine's Day Story Crafts

• Creative Crafts •

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More Valentine Story Craft Ideas

"I Made My Dog A Valentine" in *It's Valentine's Day* by Jack Prelutsky. William Morrow & Co., 1996. (K-4)

Summary: A young boy wonders if it's really worth making valentines for his pets since they don't seem to appreciate the cards very much!

Introduction: What kind of valentine would you make for an animal? For example, what kind of shape or picture might a dog like on his valentine?

Craft Idea: If your school or library has a pet animal, make valentines for it. Make valentines for pets at home. Assign animals from each letter of the alphabet and have each student make a valentine for his or her assigned animal; arrange the finished valentines alphabetically on a bulletin board.



***Love and Kisses, Kitty: A Lift-the-Flap Valentine* by Max Haynes. Penguin Putnam, 1999. (Toddler-K)**

Summary: Kitty delivers valentines to each of her friends. The reader lifts the flap of each valentine to discover who receives it.

Introduction: Kitty makes valentines for her friends Bee, Dog, Duck, Squirrel, Bear and Rabbit. If you were making a valentine for one of Kitty's friends, what would it look like?

Craft Idea: Provide animal-shaped paper cutouts or animal stickers, paper hearts, glue sticks, crayons and markers for the children to make valentines for one of Kitty's animal friends or for Kitty.

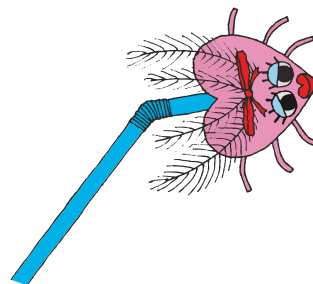


***Love Bugs: A Pop-up Book* by David A. Carter. Simon & Schuster, 1994. (Preschool-Grade 2)**

Summary: The author shows readers a variety of mythical valentine "bugs."

Introduction: What do you think a "Love Bug" would look like? What do you think it would do? Would it make people fall in love? Would it go around kissing everyone?

Craft Idea: Cut out colored card stock or construction paper hearts and tape them securely to the bent ends of brightly colored "bendy straws." Provide feathers, sequins, giant google eyes, paper, pipe cleaners, markers, crayons, glue sticks and safety scissors for your students to make a "Love Bug" stick puppet.



Creative Crafts

“Mail Myself to You” by Woody Guthrie.
Available on the following recordings:
***Mail Myself To You* by John McCutcheon**
(Rounder Records, 1992); *This Land Is Your*
***Land* by Woody and Arlo Guthrie (Rounder**
Records, 1997). (K–4)

Summary: In the song “Mail Myself to You,” the singer mails himself to a friend!

Introduction: We can’t really send ourselves through the mail in real life, but we can send people letters and cards to let them know that we love them.

Craft Idea: Have the children draw a picture of themselves on heavy paper, or decorate a pre-cut child cutout to look like



themselves. Have the children fold their self-portraits and put them in envelopes. Address the envelopes to the child’s home(s) and mail to their parents/caregivers. Keep in mind that children with multiple residences may want or need to make multiple copies of the craft.

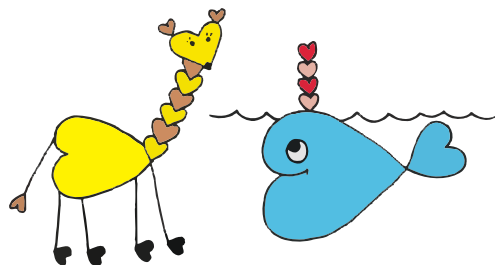
***Our Valentine’s Day Book* by Jane Belk Moncure. *The Child’s World*, 1987. (K–4 for the craft)**

Summary: A child describes the kindergarten’s activities as they prepare for Valentine’s Day. In one segment, the students make a “Valentine Animal Park,” creating a Leopartine, Lionatine, Elephantine, Giraffetine and Whaletine among other valentine animals.

Introduction: What would an animal look like if it was made entirely out of hearts? It would be an “animal valentine,” or maybe an “animaltine.”

Craft Idea: Provide your students with lots of multi-size heart shapes or have them cut hearts out on their own. Then try creating your own

“Valentine Zoo” using the heart shapes to make each animal. Paste the shapes down onto paper, then add features with markers or crayons. Older children can try partially slitting the valentine shapes so that they will fit together and make stand-up three-dimensional animals. Please note that the valentine shapes must be cut from sturdy paper such as card stock for the stand-up animals.



***Valentine’s Day At the Zoo: A Pop-Up Book* by Nadine Bernard Westcott. *Simon & Schuster*, 2002. (Toddler–Grade 1)**

Summary: The zoo animals bring various craft supplies to make a valentine for the reader.

Introduction: If the animals at the zoo were making you a valentine, what do you think it would look like?

Craft Idea: Provide the children with the same craft materials that the animals in the story bring to make their valentine for the reader: red and yellow paper, glue sticks, crayons and white paper doilies. Consider pre-cutting the paper and doilies into hearts or animal shapes for very young crafters.

