

Ben Franklin *Crafts*

IDEAS & INSPIRATION

FREE
Project
Sheet



Graduation Bear Centerpiece

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Supplies:

4" x 4" x 7 1/4" Clear Acrylic Box #7723 7669
5" Styrofoam Ball #7760 3324
2 – 2" Styrofoam Balls #7760 3282
3 – 1 1/2" Styrofoam Balls #7760 3274
2 – Brown Chenille stems #
3/4" Wood Ball #7761 2952
2 – 25mm Moving Eyes #7767 6247
12" x 28" Broadcloth – gown color
7-1/2" x 8" broadcloth – gown color
3" Doll Needle #7733 4540 or similar
Acrylic Paint – Mocha Brown #7762 6390
Acrylic Paint – Ivory #7762 4999
Acrylic Paint – Black #7762 4890
1" Foam Brush #7752 7499
2 - 14" of 7/8" White Single Face Stain ribbon #3002 3009
1" x 8-1/2" Foamie – Cap color
4-1/2" x 4-1/2" Foamie – Cap color
DMC Floss – Tassel Color
Small button (approx. 1/2") for cap
Crochet Thread
Low Temp Glue Gun & Glue Sticks
4" x 4" white Copy Paper for Diploma
6" of 1/4" Satin Ribbon for Diploma
Floral wire – any gauge
Optional: Poly Rose 6 pack or pre-made lei



Directions:

Using the foam brush, paint the 5", two 2" and two 1-1/2" styrofoam balls with the Mocha Brown acrylic paint. Let dry.

Using the floral wire, slice the last 1-1/2" Styrofoam ball in half. Press the edges of the Styrofoam ball in slightly to round the edges. Paint the two halves with the Ivory acrylic paint. Let dry.

Paint the 3/4" wood ball with the Black acrylic paint. Let dry.

Fold the 12" x 28" broadcloth in half to find the middle, make a light crease. Open fabric up. Lay each of the 7/8" white satin ribbons on either side of the crease, leaving an inch extension on the top and bottom. Glue the ribbons down. Fold the excess over and glue to the back on the top and bottom. This is the center front of your gown.

On the wrong side of the gown, fold up 1/2" along the 28" length on one edge. Fold over one more time and glue down for the hem. Fold the fabric in half, right sides together, matching the 12" edges. Glue edges together, forming a seam. Thread your doll needle with about 24" of crochet thread. Double it up on the needle. On the top raw edge of the gown, sew a loose running stitch around the whole length. When you reach the end, pull the threads to gather the fabric. Tie threads together

securely. Cut off excess thread. Turn gown right side out and spread gathers evenly.

Place a lot of glue on the center top of the acrylic box cover. Place the gown over the box and glue the gathered area to the center top of the box. Make sure that the front ribbons are centered on one side.

Glue the 5" painted Styrofoam ball onto the center top of the gown for the head. Make sure you use enough glue to make it secure.

Take the 1" X 8-1/2" strip of foamie and bring the two ends together to form a circle. Overlap about 1/2" and glue ends together. Place in the center of the 4-1/2" x 4-1/2" foamie square. Glue to the square to make the grad cap. Position grad cap onto the bear's head and glue in place.

Next, slightly flatten one side of each of the 2" painted Styrofoam balls. Position on either side of the grad cap for the ears. Glue in place. Place the two 1-1/2" Ivory halves onto the lower front of the face for the muzzle and glue in place. Glue the Black 3/4" wooden ball onto the muzzle for the nose. Glue the two 25mm moving eyes above the muzzle.

For the sleeves and paws, take the 7-1/2" x 8" broadcloth pieces and fold up 1/2" on one of the 7-1/2" edges. Fold up another 1/2" and glue in place for the sleeve hem. Fold the sleeve in half with the right sides together, matching the raw edges. Glue the edges together to form a tube. Thread your doll needle with crochet thread and sew a loose running stitch around the raw edge of the tube. Slip a chenille stem about 2" into the tube from the raw edge. Pull thread to gather the fabric. Tie threads together tightly to secure. Cut off excess thread. Turn tube right side out to form the sleeve. The chenille stem should be in the sleeve with a little sticking out on the top. Fold the stem up on the gathered end of the sleeve. Position the sleeves onto either side of the bear below the head. Glue in place. Fold the chenille stems up on the bottom of the sleeves. Glue the 1-1/2" styrofoam balls onto each end for the paws.

Roll the piece of copy paper into a tube and tie with the 1/4" ribbon for the diploma. Glue to one of the paws.

For the tassel – Wind floss around a 1-1/2" piece of cardboard about 10 times. Cut 3 pieces of embroidery floss 12" long. Fold the 3 lengths of floss in half and slip onto one end of the wound up floss. Gather floss and knot at the top. Slip floss off the cardboard. Take another piece of floss and tie around the bundle floss about 1/4" from the knot. Divide the long floss up into 3 pairs of floss and braid together. Knot the end of the braid. Cut the loops free on the end of the tassel and trim neatly. Place the knotted end of the braid on the center top of the cap and glue in place. Glue a small button over the knot.

For a lei – you can use a ready-made lei by cutting it shorter and adding a bow. Or you can twist the ends of the six bunches of poly rose together to make a garland type lei. Add a bow and place around the bear's neck.

Fill the AMAC box with treats and use as a graduation gift or party centerpiece!