



A Winter Gift



Some suggestions on how to decorate

How you decorate is very much up to you! But here are some ideas you may want to use. The important thing to remember is that the boxes will be on display outdoors and they need to be rain resistant.

Decorate the cube sides BEFORE you finally attach it all together. You may want to put it together, draw out overall plan and then take it apart. It means you can have more children working on a side at a time or give different sides to different classes/groups.

Remember to use imagery from all the cultures that are represented in your class. It is a winter gift, not necessarily a Christmas gift, as not all cultures celebrate Christmas.

You might want to have a big ribbon to look like it is tied up. If you do this make sure you are not going to cover up a child's work with the ribbon! Planning is key! Wire in the ribbon will help it hold a shape!

If you are painting don't use water based paint! (Ready mix will run if it rains!) Acrylic paint is always best, but bright coloured 'bathroom' paint from DIY store would work! (Cheap small colours might be donated!) Make sure that your children wear protection - acrylic doesn't wash out of clothes!

Please have giant gift tag! It should say the name of the school and possibly who was involved in the creation of the artwork! It would be good if it was laminated.

If you are painting the box, use a standard white emulsion first. It will bring out the colours better (think about how much brighter colours are on white paper rather than brown paper) - make sure the white is totally dry before doing anything!

Collage is a good idea in this project! There is a whole separate info sheet with collage ideas!

Stripes are big and bold! Spotty dots are fun - each child could contribute with a stripe or a dot

If you want you can drill into the box to help with the decorating. - it's yours to do whatever you think works best. If you drilled lots of random holes over the whole surface of the box it would make a wonderful 'threading' project. Lots of coloured wools or raffia would look amazing. ... Or how about poking battery operated lights through the holes?

Always make sure that paint/varnish and other materials you use have been risk assessed and the COSH documentation has been checked.

