



Gingerbread Girl Activity

Family Friendly Activity for Members



Get inspired by the reading of The Gingerbread Girl, authored by museum docent Lisa Campbell-Ernst and create your own Gingerbread Friends to decorate your home.

We'll be using materials we have on hand and our own creativity and imagination. Let's get started!

You will need:

Paper: brown paper bag, construction paper or copy paper

Collage Materials (whatever you have on hand): construction paper, patterned paper, magazine pages, fabric scraps, buttons, ribbon, stickers, glitter

Drawing Tools: crayons, colored pencils, markers, gel pens

Other Tools: glue, tape, scissors

Template: download to print from home or draw your own template

Feel free to use what can be found around the home – no need to run out and buy supplies!



Gingerbread Girl Decorative Paper Chain - How-to:

1. Print out the Gingerbread Girl template page and cut out the Gingerbread Girls. You can also create your own Gingerbread Girl shape instead.
2. Cut a long strip from a brown paper bag, measuring 6" x 18".
Tip: If using copy paper, fold paper in half lengthwise and cut on the fold creating a 4 ¼" x 11" strip.
3. Fold the strip in half, then half again creating an accordion fold with 4 sections, being sure to match up the edges.
4. Trace the Gingerbread Girl template that fits onto the folded paper, making sure the arms extend to the folded edges of the paper.
5. Holding paper together, carefully cut out the Gingerbread Girl through all the layers. Be sure you do not cut where the arms touch the folds. (There are no mistakes in art -- a little tape can fix any accidental separation)
6. Unfold and decorate with drawing and collage. Add patterns, shapes, and color to give our Gingerbread Friends tons of personality.



Tip:

If you want to make a longer Gingerbread Girl chain, repeat steps 1-6 and tape the separate chains together.

Want a single Gingerbread Girl? Just trace the larger Gingerbread Girl template on a sheet of copy paper (or a section of a brown paper bag) and then decorate with drawing and collage.



Be sure to share your Gingerbread Girls with the Nelson-Atkins! Email images to membership@nelson-atkins.org or have your favorite adult post pictures on social media – your Gingerbread Girl may wind up as a Museum feature!

