

Germany

In this Bag:

- 1 sheet brown construction paper
- 1 piece of red cording
- Recipe for Traditional Ginger Bread Heart Cookies (Lebkuchenherzen)

What you Need at Home:



- Scissors
- Hole puncher
- Markers, colored pencils or crayons



Learn about Germany and craft with us by following the instructional video on our virtual hub:
<http://www.creativeartsguild.org/events/annual-events/festival1/childrens-hill>

Fun Facts about Germany:

- The name for Germany in the German language is Deutschland.
- The population of Germany was around 82 million in 2010.
- The capital of Germany is Berlin, it is also the largest city.
- Other major cities include Munich, Hamburg, Cologne, Stuttgart and Frankfurt.
- Germany is a member of the European Union.
- Germany has had an unsettled history, including the Nazi regime and tension between East and West Germany (which were reunified in 1990).
- Countries that border Germany include Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, the Czech Republic, France, Luxembourg, Poland and Switzerland.
- Germany has the largest economy in Europe.
- Large German companies include BMW, Adidas, SAP, Mercedes-Benz, Nivea, Audi, Bayer, Volkswagen and Siemens.
- Germany has a number of important natural resources, including copper, nickel, natural gas, uranium and coal.
- Germany is in the process of phasing out nuclear power plants.
- There are many national parks in Germany include the Bavarian Forest National Park, Jasmund National Park, Harz National Park, and the Wadden Sea National Parks among others.
- Over 100 Germans have been awarded the Nobel prize in their field, including Albert Einstein, who was born in Germany.
- Germany has been home to famous composers such as Johann Bach, Ludwig van Beethoven and Richard Wagner.
- The German coat of arms features a black eagle against a yellow shield.
- Football (soccer) is the most popular sport in Germany.



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Highlights in German Arts and Culture:

- Germans have made tremendous contributions to classical music, and the traditions of famous German or Austrian composers such as Johann Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Ludwig van Beethoven, Johannes Brahms, Richard Wagner and Gustav Mahler.
- With their penchant for precision and engineering, it is not surprising that Germans have a strong tradition of printmaking by woodcut and engraving. There is also a strong representation of all phases of architecture — including Romanesque, Gothic, Classicist, Baroque, Rococo and Renaissance — represented in cathedrals, castles and public buildings. One well-known example of classic German art is the Brandenburg Gate, a former city gate that is now used to symbolize Berlin's unity.



Wassily Kandinsky was born in 1866 in Moscow. He was born into a family of well-to-do businessmen. He moved with his family to Odessa in 1871 where he spent his childhood. His passion as a child was music. He played the piano and the cello. As a young man he enrolled at the University of Moscow, where he studied economics and law. He didn't start to paint until he was thirty years old.

- Originating in Germany at the beginning of the 20th century, Expressionism is a modernist movement, initially in poetry and painting. Expressionism seeks to depict not objective reality but rather the subjective emotions and responses that objects and events arouse within a person.
- Germany celebrates many of the traditional Christian holidays, including Christmas and Easter. German Unification Day on October 3 marks the reuniting of East and West Germany and is the only federal holiday.
- The country's largest celebration is called "Oktoberfest," but it starts each year on a Saturday in September and ends 16 to 18 days later, on the first Sunday in October. The tradition started in 1810, with the wedding of Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen, according to the city of Munich.

- The lebkuchenherzen — the more specific name for the heart-shaped lebkuchen — have become a staple in German celebrations, especially around Christmas time. These are typically harder than other varieties and decorated with intricate icing designs and lettering. Having emerged into popularity during the 1980s, they are sold at all of the largest festivals and celebrations in Germany, most commonly sold at the Weihnachtsmärkten where they come with endearing or humorous messages. The cookies are typically heart-shaped and often as large as dinner plates. They are made with a variety of ingredients, and they come across a broad spectrum ranging from spicy to sweet. Common items included in the cookie are honey, aniseed, cardamom, cloves, ginger, and nuts.

