



Creative ideas for preschool children

For teachers, parents and grandparents



Theme of this edition:

Air **Blow painting and** **windmills**

Make creative pictures and colourful wind toys with air! Also: make air "visible" – fun experiments and games with air



FREE
to take away

Dear teachers, parents and grandparents,

Gaining their own new experiences in the form of creative activities is hugely important for children's development. Active exploration of their environment and experimentation through play with materials, shapes and colours sharpens the senses and promotes independent thinking. STAEDTLER's Playtime Magazines aim to provide creative ideas for activities at nursery school and at home. This year the focus is on the four themes of air, darkness, earth and water. And in this edition, we invite you to explore the vital element of air as you craft and colour with your children.

Let's go – and have fun!

Project workshop - Theme: Air

Introduce the topic of Air with a little guessing game: I am invisible and yet I am present everywhere in the world ... You can't touch me, but you can feel me ... Once the children have solved the riddle, they can do some research into air. This allows them to make their own observations and work out how air can become "visible". Creating a light-hearted and colourful picture and crafting a windmill and wind toys will enable your young explorers to take a creative approach to air. The finished airy creations are ideal for prompting further, even more ingenious, research out in the open later.



Making air "visible"

Give your group an understanding of the theme of Air with one or two entertaining research projects. Breathing exercises, for instance! The children breathe in and out gently initially and then more deeply. This gives them a feel for what air feels like. Then think about how air becomes "visible". The children are bound to think of things that they can try out straight away – such as blowing up balloons or bubble gum, or making bubbles.



Painting with air!

You will need



- large sheet of paper + underlay
- watercolours
- small balloon
- straw
- thick fibre-tip pens

Step 1 – balloon stamp



Dip the inflated balloon into the watercolours and make a large, round splotch on the paper. Repeat with different colours to create a multicoloured body.

Do the same thing in the opposite direction on the head to create antennae. Finally draw in a funny face with the fibre-tip pens and our colourful little critter is ready to crawl away!

Step 2 – blow painting with watercolours



Put a small splotch of colour on the edge of large splotches and blow it outwards using the straw. This creates lots of legs for your mythical beast.

Step 3 – create the head



Making windmills

You will need

- Paper plate
- hobby scissors
- coloured pencils or wax crayons
- wooden beads
- toothpick
- hot glue

Here's how it works... Step 1



First colour the plate however you like. The more colourful the better! Spiral and curly patterns look especially good.



IMPORTANT!
Please help children with steps 5 to 9 or do individual steps yourself if necessary.

Step 2



Make eight or ten cuts into the plate from the edge an equal distance apart.

Step 3



Fold the corners inwards about 90 degrees.

Step 4



Use the toothpick to pierce a hole in the centre of the plate.

Step 5



Fasten a wooden bead on using hot glue as shown.

Step 8



Then thread on one more bead and break off any of the toothpick that is sticking out at the front.

Step 7



Once the hot glue has dried, thread on the paper plate.

Step 6



Push the toothpick through the bead into the glue while it is still hot and thread on one more bead.

Step 9



Then place another dot of glue on the bead hole. And you're done!



Colourful butterflies

You will need

scissors, coloured pencils, glue, pipe cleaners, crepe paper tape, thread or nylon cord

Step 1 – colour in



Once every child has a copy of the template, they colour in the butterflies in their favourite vibrant colours. Then cut out along the dotted line.

Step 2 – add the details



Then tear several strips of crepe and cut the pipe cleaners to the desired length for antennae.

Step 3 – flight preparations

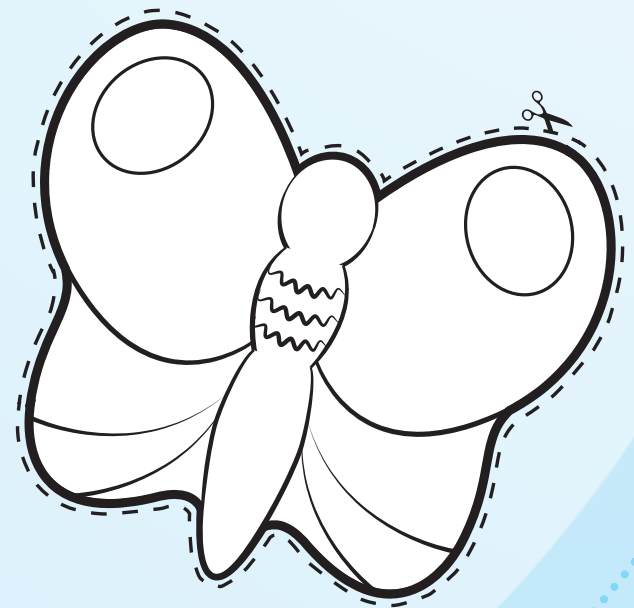
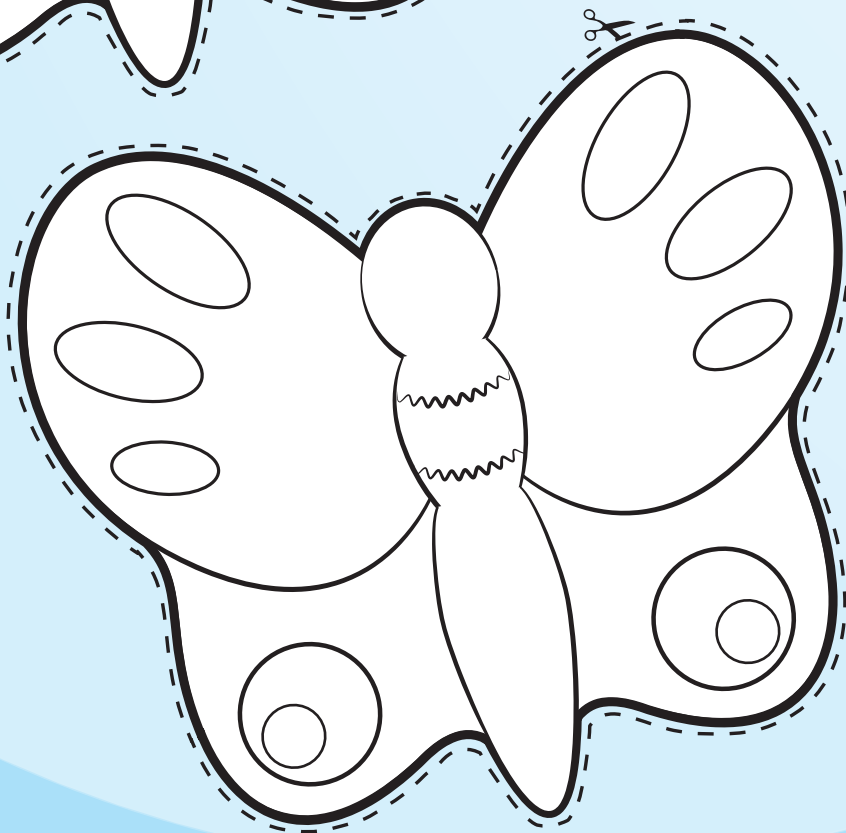
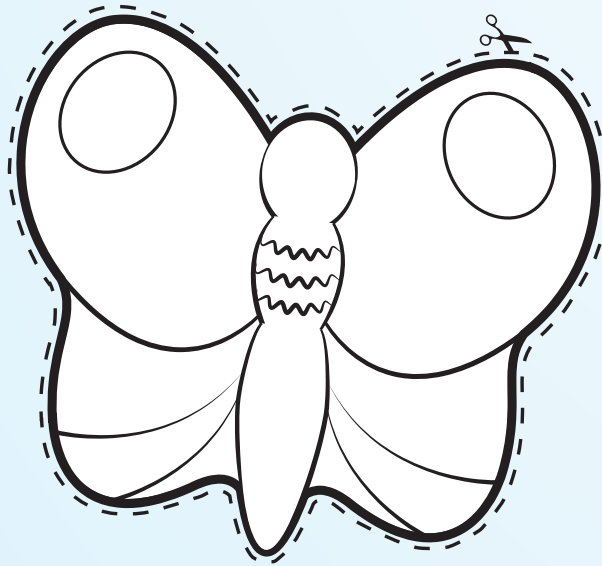
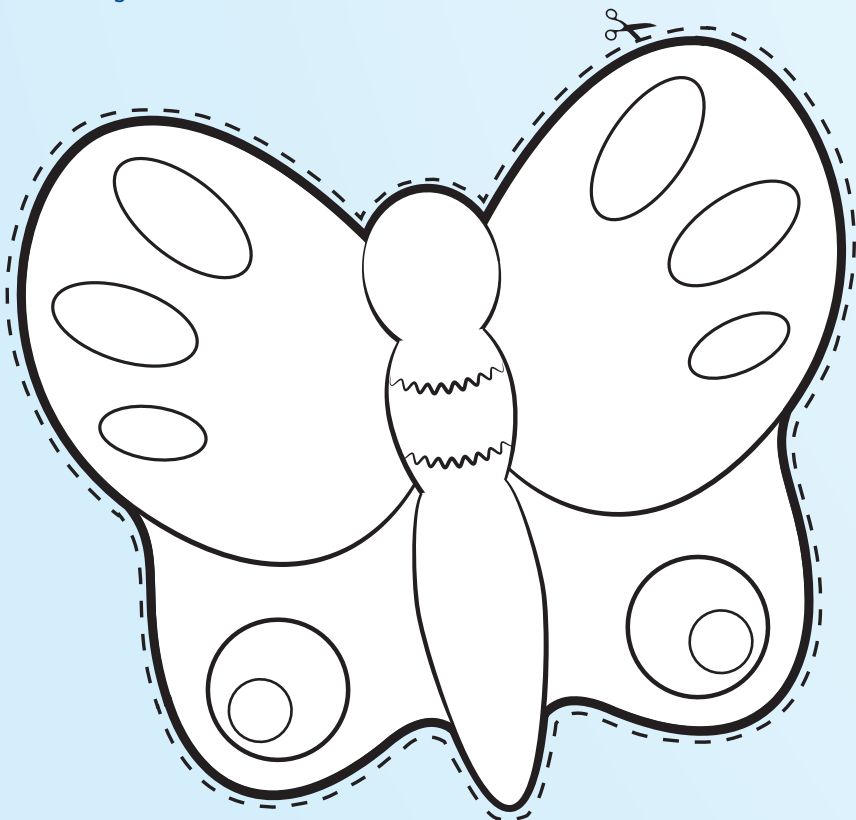


Stick everything to the underside of the butterfly and add a cord to hang it up with.

Step 4 – let it fly



Attach the second half of the butterfly and now they can flutter from the ceiling or in the wind. Have lots of fun!



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