



Glitter Postcard

Creative Ideas for the New Year

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On Hokkaido, a Japanese island, the snow festival “Sapporo Yuki Matsuri” is held every year in winter. For one week, artists from all over the world create giant sculptures from snow and ice in the capital Sapporo, with many visitors admiring their work.

Long ago people started to settle in this cold region in between Japan and Siberia, the Ainu. In order to shelter themselves from the harsh weather conditions they made jackets out of duck feathers. These are very difficult to restore, mainly because of the material, and there are only a few left, some of which you can have a closer look at in GRASSI Museum für Völkerkunde.

The Ainu's relationship to Japanese settlers was one of exclusion and displacement. Today, on Hokkaido there is a museum (National Ainu Museum), which fights for their rights and delivers their way of living which is less and less present in contemporary Hokkaido society.

Also here, in Germany, we have snowfall at this time of the year, snow figures are being built and the sleighs are taken from the basements in order to be used. For those uncomfortably wet and rainy days though we have written a manual for you to bring some nice snowfall to your home without getting your feet wet at all.

• Here's what you will need:

- Black, white and coloured paper
- One small transparent sheet protector
- Glitter and a jellylike liquid (e.g. transparent shampoo)
- Sticky tape
- Scissors
- paint sticks





Preparation

Cut the black and white paper into pieces twice the size you want the card to turn out in the end

Design a glitter bag by filling up the transparent sheet protector with the jellylike liquid and glitter.

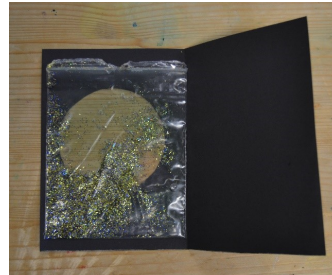
Make sure that it's not full to the brim and close it securely so that the liquid won't spill.

1:



Fold the black paper in the middle and draw a motive of your choice on the front. We drew a snow globe. Now, cut out the picture.

2:



After cutting out you can glue the glitter bag on the inside by using the sticky tape. Make sure it's central on one side of the card.

3:



Fold the white paper in the middle and stick both papers together flush with the glitter bag in between.

4:



Decorate your card with the paint sticks on the front (where you cut out the picture) the way you like.

5:



From coloured paper cut a motive of your choice to glue onto your card. We decided to make a snowflake.

6:



Glue it onto the back of your card.

Done!

Lotus Lights

A colourful Enlightenment

INSTRUCTION

The lotus flower is one of the most important symbols in central and south east Asia. This special plant most famous for its “lotus effect”, meaning water drops rolling off its leaves and taking with them any dirt. The ability to keep itself clean made this plant a symbol for purity and beauty. The flower embodies a new beginning, enlightenment and wisdom, too. In the religions Buddhism and Hinduism the lotus flower is closely linked to Buddha. He is often shown sitting in an opened lotus flower. In China, the plant is also known as a symbol for love and harmony in a marriage.

Lotus grows and thrives in lakes and ponds on muddy surfaces and blossoms very colourfully. It's known in many different colours. A blue flower, for instance, symbolizes stability and endurance while a red flower refers to empathy and a pure heart. In this manual you can make a lotus light, an ideal new year's present since it contains many good wishes.

You need:



- Cardboard (12 by 12 cm)*
- Tea light*
- A drinking glass
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Liquid glue
- A flower set* or self-made leaves from coloured paper (4 dark green, 4 light green, 12 coloured ones, each about 6 cm long)

1:



Draw a circle on cardboard and cut it out. You may use the glass as a pattern. Twirl up the end of the leaves (much like in the picture). In case you don't have a set of leaves cut come out of coloured paper, take the glue and stick the dark green ones to the cardboard bottom

2:



The pointy ends of the leaves face the outside - like a star. Now glue the light green leaves into the gaps in between the dark ones. Make sure the glue has properly dried before you proceed to the next step.

3:



Now you can glue on the rest of the leaves as you like. In the middle of the plant you can place the tea light, which, once lit up, will make your lotus flower a lotus light. Never leave it and only light it when a grown up is around. If you give to someone as a gift, make sure they know that too.

Done!



“Family time” – in another way!

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Here you have learned two creative ways, which are not only nice to look at but have a meaning too. Maybe one of the worksheets inspires you to make a gift to someone you like for New Year. Making each other gifts for New Year is a Roman tradition by the way, who hoped for luck in the year to come when making gifts to others. You can also just write a card with good wishes too, of course. Especially in times of Corona it's nice to share with your friends and family in another way.

Since many shops are closed at the moment, you can order some of the material (those marked with a star *) from us free of charge.**

Send an email with your postal address to sabine.wohlfahrt@skd.museum

**while stock lasts

We wish you a healthy start into the new year and do hope to be able to welcome you in the museum again soon!

