



## SERVICE LEARNING Projects for the Classroom

### Design 'Adopt Me' Bandanas for the Shelter Dogs & Cats

Wearing a colorful bandana is a wonderful way for shelter animals to get noticed by potential adopters, so you'll really be helping animals if you decide to donate them to a local shelter.

#### Materials Needed:

- Colored markers (fabric markers work the best, but don't use washable markers)
- Solid-color bandanas: The size will vary based on dog or cat. The bandana should be folded once in a triangle and must be able to tie completely around the dog's or cat's neck. You can also find special doggie-sized triangle bandanas online.



#### Instructions:

- Place the folded bandana on the table. Draw only on the side that faces up.
- Your goal is to get the animals who wear these bandanas noticed – and thereby get adopted – so your bandanas should be colorful and fun. It's a good idea to include some words or phrases on your bandanas. Some are listed below, or you can make up your own. Feel free to use stencils, iron-ons, be creative.

Some examples of phrases for your bandanas:

- Adopt Me!
- Running Partner
- Shelter Dogs are Cool! Or Shelter Cats are Cool!
- I'll be your best friend!
- One of a Kind!

### Make a Catnip Toy (no sew)

This toy is simple but could be really cute depending on the little socks you get.

#### Materials Needed:

- Infant or child's cotton sock – fun and colorful
- Cotton balls or another sock (or uncooked rice)
- Dried Catnip
- Construction paper
- Non-toxic permanent magic marker

#### Instructions:

- Start with your sock
- Make a funnel out of paper and insert it into the sock
- Pour in enough catnip to fill it halfway (can use added stuffing here) – pack tightly
- If sock is long enough you may want to tie it at the base of your stuffing, then turn it inside out and tie a knot at the other end – this would reinforce the toy by doubling the fabric around the catnip
- You can tie a piece of yarn or string around the tail OR just tie the sock in a tight knot.
- You can use the marker to add eyes and whiskers on the face.



## No-Sew Fleece Kitty Blanket

### Supplies:

- Scissors— sharp sewing or craft scissors to cut the fleece
- Ruler— even a little 6-inch ruler is fine to mark the "cut-to" line on the fleece.
- Tape— narrow, light-adhesive tape works well. Use inexpensive tape that doesn't have much stick, so you can easily remove it when you've finished tying the no-sew blanket.
- Fabric— you'll need two pieces of fleece the same size to make each no-sew blanket. For kitty blankets start with an 18-inch or 24-inch square. Kitties don't care about the colors or prints, although animal prints look really cute! You can use two different colors or prints, or even the same fabric for the front and the back. Fleece usually comes in 60-inch wide rolls.

### Instructions:

- Begin by laying out your two fabric pieces on a table or clean floor. The bottom piece should have the "good" side facing down, while the top piece should have the "good" side facing up. (The two "wrong" sides will be against each other in the middle.)
- Stick a piece of masking tape 4 inches in from each edge of the blanket. This will be your "cut" line. Each corner will end up with a square where the tape crosses. Cut that square out (through BOTH layers of fleece) and discard it. (Or save the squares and use them for kitty catnip toys. Fill the squares with cotton and catnip and sew shut.)
- Now, with the no-sew blanket still laying out flat, start cutting the fringe around the edges. Cuts should be 1 inch wide and cut up to the tape line. You don't have to be exact! No stress, just be as consistent as you can. Cut all the way around all four sides of your no-sew blanket.
- Next, starting at one corner of the no-sew blanket, gently lift the first set of fringe (you should be holding one of each color.) Tie together. Once you have all the tying completed on your new blanket, peel the tape guidelines off of the fleece.

