

## YOU'VE GOT MAIL!

Upcycle empty tissue boxes into cute critters that double as V-Day class mailboxes.

crafts by **CAYLIN HARRIS**

**LITTLE  
MONSTER**

**UNICORN  
LOVE**

**WHALE  
DONE**

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## Backpack Charms

Cut 15"-long pieces of heavy string or leather cord. Fold each length in half and loop it through itself onto a carabiner or a key ring. Thread 3 to 5 beads onto the double string, and tie a knot at the bottom; trim ends. Cut or punch heart shapes from cardstock and glue together. Use a hole punch to make a hole in the heart edge, then thread the card onto the ring.

## TIP!

For fast production, type and print out multiples of "Let's bead friends!" onto copy paper, cut them out, and use a glue stick to attach them.



## Sweet Spinners

Trace and cut out two different-size circles from contrasting cardstock using round objects like a CD and a food can for your circle templates. Cut a paper heart shape that's slightly smaller than the smaller circle. Use a glue stick to attach the heart and circles as shown, and add the "You make my heart spin!" message. A parent will need to cut a slit  $\frac{3}{4}$ " long in the center with an X-Acto knife. Push in a penny and spin!

## Bookmarks With Heart

Download the bookmark template from [parents.com/bookmarkheart](http://parents.com/bookmarkheart).

Print onto colored paper. Trim the bookmarks so they're about  $1\frac{1}{4}$ "x $7\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Cut scrapbook paper into 2"x8" strips. Use a glue stick to attach the scrapbook paper backing to each bookmark. Use a hole punch to punch the o's in the message.

## TIP!

Sharpen a hole punch by punching holes in tinfoil.



## Eye-Catching Cards

Cut an 8"x11" sheet of cardstock or paper into two pieces measuring  $8\frac{1}{2}$ "x $5\frac{1}{2}$ ". Fold each in half to make two cards. Cut a 3" heart shape from paper; then cut a slightly smaller heart from a double-sided adhesive sheet (Recollections Mounting Adhesive Sheets, \$6.50; [michaels.com](http://michaels.com)).

Attach the paper heart to the card with a glue stick. Peel the paper backing off one side of the adhesive-sheet heart and stick it onto the paper heart.

Peel the other backing off and stick on a variety of googly eyes. Type or write a message on a separate piece of paper, and use a glue stick to attach it to the card.



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## Little Monster

Glue colored paper to the sides and back of a rectangular tissue box.

**For the teeth**, cut a jagged edge into two 2"x8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " strips of white craft foam or paper; use double-sided tape to adhere them to the inside of the box's opening. **For the eyes**, cut or punch three large circles out of white craft foam or paper and three smaller circles out of black paper. Stick eye circles together, and attach to a piece of scrapbook paper with a glue stick. To create the eye piece, cut around the eyes, leaving a border; fold back the bottom edge and stick it onto the box. **For the antennae**, cut two heart shapes out of cardstock, bend a pipe cleaner to form a V, and stick the hearts to the pipe cleaner with hot glue. Attach the antennae to the box behind the eyes with more hot glue.

## Unicorn Love

Paint the sides and top of a square tissue box with white craft paint. Glue patterned scrapbook paper onto two sides. **Cut two ear shapes** out of white cardstock and two smaller shapes from glittery paper; glue together. **For the horn**, create a cone out of a 4"x3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " piece of cardstock and cover it with glittery washi tape (\$1.50 per roll; [papermart.com](http://papermart.com)).

**For the mane and tail**, use scissors to make spirals with curling ribbons and knot them into clumps. Poke a hole in the back of the box, and push a knotted ribbon cluster through for the tail. Stick on ears, horn, and mane pieces with dots of glue. **Draw eyelashes** with a black permanent marker.

## Whale Done

Glue pieces of blue paper to the top and sides of a rectangular tissue box. **For the eyes**,

cut or punch two large circles out of white paper and two smaller circles out of black paper. Cut or punch one large circle out of blue paper; cut it in half to form the eyelids. Glue cutouts together, then attach them to the box with a glue stick. **For the fin and tail**, cut pieces from patterned scrapbook paper, and attach with a glue stick. **Draw a smile** with a black marker.