

Colonial America Decorative Arts

Pennsylvania Dutch Designs



Christmas Stockings
Grades 2-3

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Tracers



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Colonial America Decorative Arts Pennsylvania Dutch Designs Christmas Stockings

Grades 2-3

This “Read and Follow Directions” activity will give your students practice for standardized tests, which typically have several items of this nature. They’ll also have a lovely Christmas stocking for your classroom. The activity has three parts— “Planning a Stocking”, making a stocking, and, if you wish, sewing two stockings together so they can actually be stuffed. Each part has a different worksheet so you can choose how far you wish to take the activity. (Since the colonists often decorated their clothing with these designs, a decorated stocking doesn’t have to represent Christmas!) You can use directions for individuals (pages 4 and 7) or print 11X17 sized posters (pages 5-6 and 8-9).

Objective: *Students will design a stocking using Pennsylvania Dutch motifs, that “speaks” a simple message. They will read and follow the directions to create a stocking using Pennsylvania Dutch designs.*

Preparation:

1. Print: page 2: 1 copy, single sided, on copy paper.

“Planning a Stocking” Worksheet—page 3: 1 copy/student, single sided, on copy paper.

Individual directions—pages 4 and 7: 1 copy/student on copy paper (or on cover stock if you want to reuse the directions). You may wish to laminate them for future (lifetime) use.

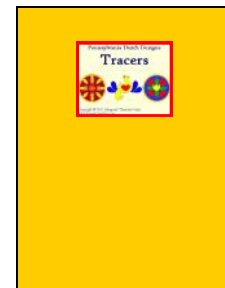
Class sized poster directions—pages 5-6 and 8-9: 1 copy, single sided, on cover stock; tape posters together on the back, laminate, and trim.

Stocking Tracer—page 10—10 copies, single sided, on cover stock. Cut out the tracers.

Motif Tracers—page 11—10 copies, on cover stock. Have volunteers cut them out for you.

2. Use the image (above left) to label a manila envelope to store the tracers.

3. Gather the materials and set them out in your classroom so they are easy to access.



Uses:

- If your students haven’t had much practice with this type of activity, read the directions together, discuss, and act them out as necessary to prepare students to work individually.
- Have students complete the worksheet, “Planning a Stocking”, if you wish.
- Have students to complete the craft by reading and following the directions— independently, or with guided practice.
- Allow students to share their stockings with the class. You may wish to have them “read” the meanings of the designs.
- Use the motif tracers for alphabetizing or sorting, sentence construction, or 20 questions games.
- This is also great material for a geometry lesson in symmetry, and flips, twists, and turns.





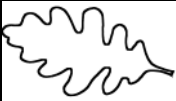

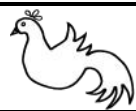





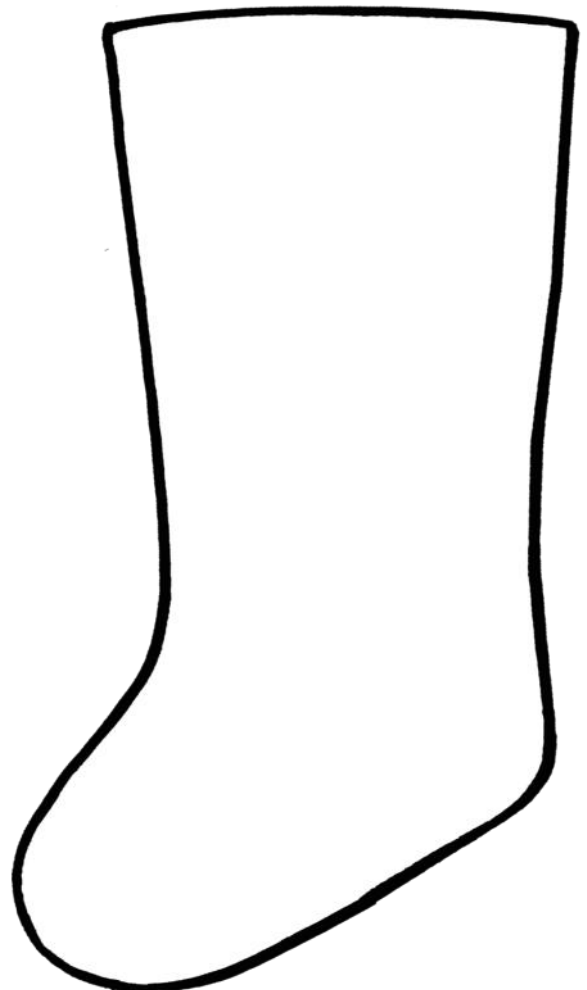
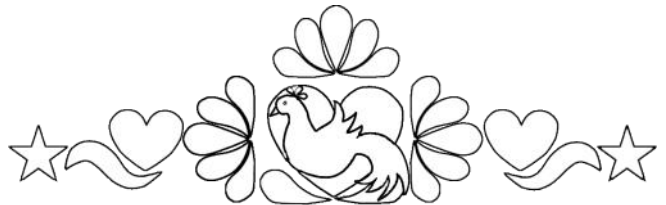
Planning a Stocking

The German settlers of Pennsylvania created a type of art called Pennsylvania Dutch. The motifs (moh TEEFS), or the designs, were simple objects of nature, colored with bright colors. Each motif and color had a special meaning, and each design was a “prayer” or “blessing”. Use this worksheet to help you create a stocking that “tells” a simple message. The message may be about you, something you wish for, or about the season. You can add a couple of your own motifs to the chart. Draw and name the design, and write in its meaning. Make sure it fits with the Pennsylvania Dutch style. Draw the shapes you want to use on the stocking, and then color them with colors that “tell” your message.

green = life, growth yellow = good health, God orange = success black = safety
 red = feelings, creative blue = peace and calm brown = earth, friends white = clean

Design Meanings

	star	good wishes be safe
	heart	love faith
	tulip	hope trust
	pineapple	share friends
	oak leaf	be strong
	scallops	smooth sailing
	bird	good luck be happy
	rain drops	raining blessings
	wheat	always have plenty
	sun	grow warm



Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

Christmas Stocking

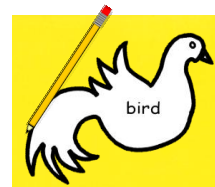
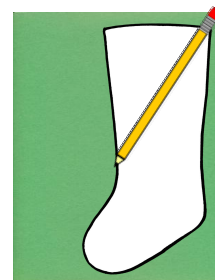
Materials

- tag board tracers in Pennsylvania Dutch motifs
- white, red, blue, yellow, brown, green, and orange construction paper
- stocking tracer
- Pennsylvania Dutch design tracers
- scissors
- paste or glue



Directions

1. Trace a stocking on a piece of 9"X12" construction paper. Cut it out.
2. Choose some Pennsylvania Dutch designs. Trace them onto construction paper and cut them out. Think about what the shapes and colors mean before you choose them.
3. Lay out the pieces on your stocking. When you like the design, glue the pieces down. Let it dry.
4. Clean up your mess.



Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

Christmas Stocking

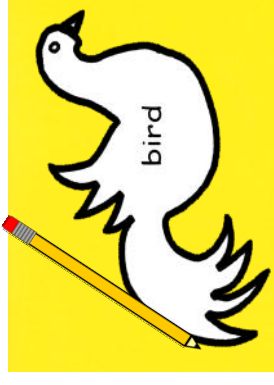
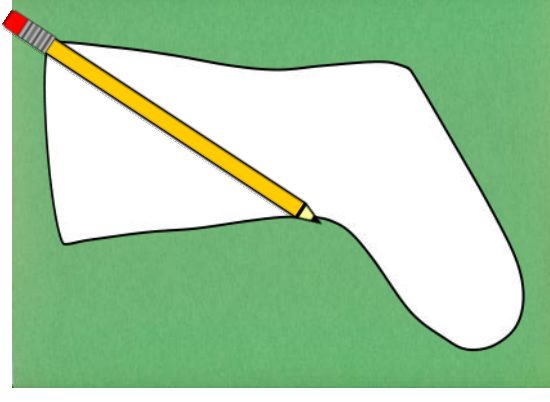
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Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

Materials

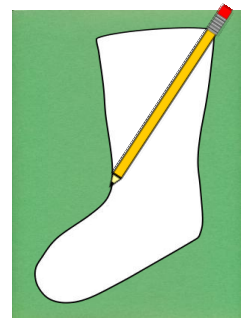
- decorated stocking
- paper clips (2 or 3)
- hole punch
- roving—about 36" per stocking



Directions

To make a two piece stocking, complete these directions.

1. Trace another stocking on a piece of 9"X12" construction paper. Cut it out.
2. Place it behind the stocking with the designs, and paper clip them together. Punch holes around the outside of the stocking. Make the holes about 1/2 inch apart and 1/2 inch from the outside edge of the stocking.
3. Sew the two stockings together with the roving. Wrap some tape around the end of the roving to make a needle, and take the paper clips off just before you reach them. Tie a knot in each end, and leave a loop on one side for hanging.
4. Clean up your mess. Be sure to pick up all your punched holes!



Pennsylvania Dutch Designs

Christmas Stocking

Materials

- decorated stocking
- paper clips (2 or 3)
- hole punch
- roving—about 36" per stocking
- tape



Directions

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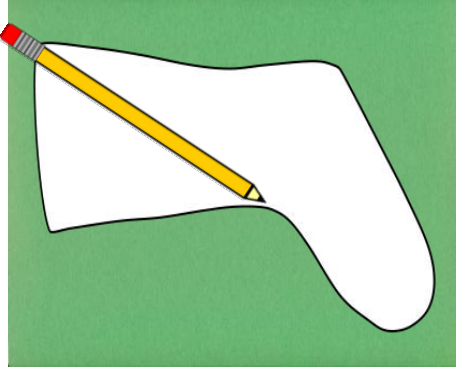


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4. Clean up, and be sure to pick up all your punched holes!



Christmas Stocking Tracer

Print onto 8.5X11 inch tag board or cover stock, and cut to make tracers. Make enough for the size of your group. (I usually make 1 tracer for every 3 children.) You can save the tracers and use them for years to come!

