HATS OFF TO AMERICA

Set up a crafting station where kids can turn plastic cups into custom caps, and creative sparks are sure to fly. Along with 18-ounce disposable cups, we put out sparkly pipe cleaners, pom-poms, card stock, glue dots, tacky glue, and tape.

To keep hats on heads, cut 18-inch lengths of elastic beading cord and knot the ends. Use duct tape to secure the ends, just below the knots, to the inside of the cups.

Cut out our brim template, then trace it onto a sheet of card stock. Cut it out and glue it to the rim of a disposable cup.
LADY LIBERTY CROWN

No glue is needed for our cleverly designed headpiece made from craft foam and a headband.

Just trace on a 12- by 18-inch sheet of green craft foam and cut it out. Make a slit at the base of each spike where noted on the template, then thread the spikes through the openings as shown. Slide the spikes onto a thin plastic headband.
Line up pages 1 and 2 and tape them together. Cut apart the crown templates and trace them, as shown below, onto a 12- by 18-inch sheet of green craft foam. Make slits at the base of each spike as shown, then cut the crowns from the foam.

Our template makes 2 crowns.
STRAW-SPANGLED WREATH

How to make it:

- For the center, print on card stock. Cut out the circle, then trace it twice on corrugated cardboard. Cut out both circles.
- Make several rings of tacky glue on one cardboard circle and attach striped paper straws, alternating red and blue and leaving 2 inches of space in the center. Thread a 1-inch straw piece onto a long length of fishing line or string and knot the ends. Attach the straw piece with tacky glue to the center of the cardboard circle.
- Add rings of glue over the straws and gently press on the other cardboard circle. Let the glue dry.
- With a glue stick, attach the card stock center. Trim the straws to different lengths as shown. Hang with the fishing line.
Cut out the circle. Trace it twice onto a piece of corrugated cardboard, then use it to embellish the assembled wreath.
Independence Day Eagle Craft

Instructions:
1. Print out eagle template provided.
2. Color and decorate eagle as desired. Cut out the eagle.
3. On colored paper or a corrugated box, trace hands with a pen or pencil. Cut out the hand tracings.
4. Glue the cut-out hand tracings on the back of the eagle template so it resembles wings on the eagle.