GLITTER HOUSES

A LITTLE HISTORY

These have many names - Glitter Houses, Cardboard Villages, Putz houses. The word Putz comes from the German word Putzen which means to decorate or adorn. In the 1800's Moravian families used to create elaborate village displays for the holidays. After Word War I, "Five and Dime" stores sold inexpensive cardboard houses decorated with glitter, trees, and paper windows for the holidays. Some even had a hole in the back to store candy! They continued to be made until the 1960's after which they faded away.

SUPPLIES:

- House cutout
- Paints
- Paintbrush
- Tacky Glue
- Glassine
- White glitter
- Fake Snow

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Fold along the scored edges.
2. Remove the top of the double sided tape and attach the ends.
3. Using a bead of tacky glue, secure the rest of the edges along the tabs
4. Cut rectangles of glassine to about 1/2 inch larger than the window holes on all sides, and glue them to the inside walls.
5. Decorate!
    - I'd recommend starting with a layer of white paint, this will give it a good base that's a little textured. Paint your house as you like. Many are brightly colored and pastel, but you can decorate yours to fit your style! Be careful around the windows to not paint the glassine.
    - Brush on glue, then with a spoon, sprinkle on the glitter!
    - Glue on the fake snow wherever you would like snow drifts.

The most important step is to make it your own!

CHECK OUT OUR VIDEO TUTORIAL ON THE STAYTON PUBLIC LIBRARY YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

INSPIRATION & RESOURCES

If you enjoyed making a glitter house and you want to learn more or improve your skills, explore the following online resources.

Looking for inspiration through photos and completed projects? OR maybe you're ready for more challenging builds? Howard L. Lamey's website is chock-full of all things putz.
www.littleglitterhouses.com

This resources not only has the history of glitter houses, or putz houses as they are traditionally known, there are detailed instructions and many other printable templates for you to use.
http://tinyurl.com/nk2x77u

This resource will lead you back to the ones above, plus provide a bit of history on putz houses as well as an abundance of printed paper resources
www.cardboardchristmas.com

There's always Martha! She provides a nice step-by-step process as well as templates for more houses. **http://www.marthastewart.com/269044/winter-village**

Share your completed project with us!

- **Text your photo to 503-877-9893**
- **Email us at staytonpl@ccrls.org**