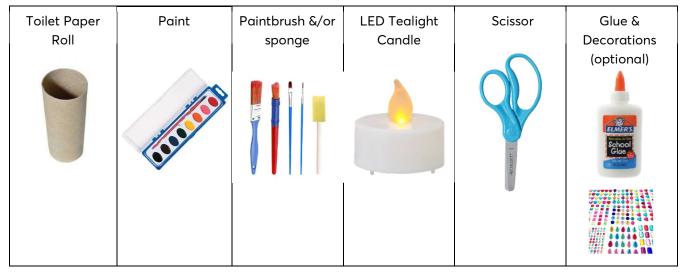
Diwali Flower Lamp



Many faith traditions from South Asia – including Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs – celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights. Various regions across India have different interpretations of the Diwali story. But this autumn festival is always a celebration of light over darkness, and goodness over evil. The dates of this festival change every year because it is based on the lunar calendar. Traditionally, Diwali is celebrated over five days and activities

include lighting diyas (clay oil lamps) and creating rangolis (colorful circle patterns) and bursting firecrackers. Diyas are used as lights to symbolize goodness and purity. Rangolis are representations of the liveliness and prosperity of a home. They are created to welcome divine spirits, guests, and joy into homes.

MATERIALS:



STEP ONE: Cut the cardboard tube in half, creating two shorter tubes.

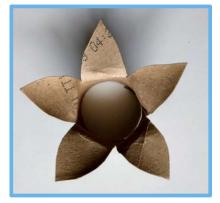


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STEP TWO: Choose one of the tube halves, and make five vertical cuts spaced around the tube, at about 1.25 inches deep. *Consider drawing the cut lines with a pencil first, to space them out evenly before cutting.*



STEP THREE: Fold down the five tabs created by the cuts, to form five petals. Cut each tab into your desired petal shape.



STEP FOUR: Paint the flower shaped cardboard lamp. *Optional:* Once dry, decorate the base of the lamp with rhinestones or ribbon, or add any other colorful, joyful decorations!



STEP FIVE: Turn on your LED tealight (& place it in the flower), brighten up your home with this decoration, and enjoy the festival of lights!



This flower lamp craft activity is courtesy of *The Joy of Sharing*.

