

Masterpiece Makers

God expects us to make a masterpiece of our lives.

Pick and choose which of these you want to do or do them spread out over more than one FHE.

Begin with a wonderful video:

President Uchtdorf shares a wonderful message entitled “Create”



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RhLlnq5yY7k>

Get thoughts on the movie from the family. Do we realize that every one of us has this capacity?

With God as our Father, we can do remarkable things.

Here is what Joseph B. Wirthlin has to say: (This is 16 minutes long. Choose just a few parts of it if you want, or read sections that you most enjoyed.)

Joseph B. Wirthlin “The Abundant Life” talk.

The abundant life is within our reach if only we will drink deeply of living water, fill our hearts with love, and create of our lives a masterpiece.



Harry de Leyer was late to the auction on that snowy day in 1956, and all of the good horses had already

<https://www.lds.org/general-conference/2006/04/the-abundant-life?lang=eng>

The third quality of those who live abundant lives is that they, with the help of their Heavenly Father, create a masterpiece of their lives.

No matter our age, circumstances, or abilities, each one of us can create something remarkable of his life.

David saw himself as a shepherd, but the Lord saw him as a king of Israel. Joseph of Egypt served as a slave, but the Lord saw him as a seer. Mormon wore the armor of a soldier, but the Lord saw him as a prophet.

We are sons and daughters of an immortal, loving, and all-powerful Father in Heaven. We are created as much from the dust of eternity as we are from the dust of the earth. Every one of us has potential we can scarcely imagine.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” [11](#)

Is not the Lord The Master of Masterpiece Makers?

Show some of these awesome things the Lord has made:

<http://www.fabulousnature.com/> beautiful pics of things in nature

<http://scriptures.lds.org/en/gen/1> creation

<http://earth.google.com/> explore the world.

Name some famous people who have made masterpieces

(As the answers start coming, remind family members to keep in mind a masterpiece is not necessarily something we can see or hear or touch)—ie-Handel, Einstein, Abraham Lincoln, Leonardo Da Vinci, C.S. Lewis, etc.

Let’s take a closer look at one masterpiece maker...Michelangelo

<http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/michelangelo-sculptures.htm> he picks marble specimens directly from quarry to match the project

<http://www.beliefnet.com/Inspiration/2007/01/Finding-Your-Gift.aspx> revealing the masterpiece within

<http://www.lifeclever.com/what-michelangelo-can-teach-you-about-good-design/> 3 steps to great design.

What about people that are not quite so famous?

What about people that are masterpiece makers and yet their names may not be remembered 50 or 100 years from now? Here is one example.



And finally, can you think of some people who are the everyday people you know who are creating masterpieces of their lives?

Someone rearing a household of foster children? Someone anonymously serving others continually? Someone knitting sweaters by the thousands to give to those who have none? Someone who endures great suffering yet shows us all how to be cheerful? There are good examples around us. Those who use the gifts that God has given them to the fullest extent possible are those that are creating masterpieces of their lives, just as the Lord intended for them to do. Remember what President Uchtdorf counseled: “The more you trust and rely upon the spirit, the greater your capacity to create.” You will change the world—now get out there and do it! ☺

Treat:

Make a Masterpiece Dough

1 (18 oz.) jar of peanut butter

6 tbsp.of honey

1/2 c. of dried milk

¼ cup corn starch

Mix the peanut butter and honey. Add the dried milk. Add the corn starch. Put this in the fridge until ready to use. As everyone uses the clay, you may want to have them brush their hands with cornstarch first. *{FYI, you could use this clay recipe for a lesson on Noah's Ark, the Creation, building the Jaredite barges, etc.}*

Assorted dried fruit—kiwis, apples, cherries, mangoes, etc. (I got a cool assortment from Costco.)

Nuts

Raisins

Baking chips—butterscotch, white chocolate, carob, etc.

Coconut

Other random goodies

Put the above items in small bowls. When it is time for the activity, put all the bowls on a nice clean table and give each person a portion of the dough. Little people get little portions.



Everyone can create a fantastic treat from the materials provided. Have them think of a plan or design for a moment before beginning. Some people will form the dough into the shape of something recognizable like a tree, or an animal or building. Others may make a rather abstract design that looks quite nice. Still others may simply have the plan to cram as many of their favorite items into the dough as possible to create the most delicious flavor they can. There is no wrong way to create your masterpiece. Here are our creations...

Here is a creation decked out in fruit and garnished it with nuts and seeds.



How about a chubby penguin. (It looked much cuter in real life. Pardon the lame photography.) The penguin is about to feast on a lovely dried fruit on a toothpick kebab. Here is a front and back look the penguin. See his kiwi "feathers"?



Some masterpieces require heavy concentration to get it just right.



How about a fruit basket, a face, or a conglomeration of various ideas?



Here is an inventive spaceship and Star Wars Creature .



Songs:

- [My Heavenly Father Loves Me](#) (Whenever I Hear the Song of a Bird) pg #228
- [I Am a Child of God](#) pg #2

*To really include toddlers, make a special emphasis on the pictures of God's creations. Help them learn new words to add to their vocabulary to describe some of those creations. Very young children will love to make their own masterpiece treat.