This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. As you know, the Thanksgiving holiday will be here next week, Thursday. This art project will celebrate Thanksgiving with turkeys and moments to remember all that we can be thankful for during this different and a little difficult, time. We will be using “Contrast” art while we consider how this Thanksgiving contrasts with others we remember. Contrast art explores the arrangement of different pieces, such as light and dark, where contrast is used to strengthen focus to the artwork itself or the message.

1-If you do not have different colored paper, fold a white piece of paper into thirds. Cut down the fold lines, to make three pieces. Take each of these pieces and fold into thirds and cut down the fold lines. You will have nine rectangles. Each of these will be cut smaller by trimming just a small amount (1/8 in.) around the whole rectangle. If using white paper, color each rectangle orange, red, or another fall color. Glue these pieces to another white piece of paper with equal spacing between each rectangle.

2-We will be making turkeys which will look just like a hand print. If you have a small child, you can draw around their hand to make the print or just draw a line to look like a hand print. You will need nine of these turkeys. They can face left or right, just like your hands. Color them all black and cut them out. Glue them into the rectangles any which way, even upside down. Maybe only the feathers will be sticking in the rectangle or the head. If the head is showing in the rectangle, give the turkey a wattle (the long, fleshy lump that hangs from the chin) and an eye. It may be easier to cut these small eyes by cutting a strip of paper, putting a number of black dots, and then cutting these into small squares. Then just snip the four corners. If working with a younger artist, feel free to use fewer rectangles.

3- You can leave one rectangle to write a Thanksgiving message or you can cut them evenly apart and write something you are thankful for on the back of each one. You can put your name on the back and use for the holiday table setting. Or share a message by writing one word on the back of each card, scrabble them up, and ask a special someone to try to figure out the message. Many options, many thanks to each of you for sharing ArtCart with me every week.

Be thankful!

Ms. Susan