

This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. We have had a great summer creating many different art projects. With Back-to-school coming soon, I thought making a few silly, colorful, or fuzzy pencil tops would be a great way to get one of your school supplies crossed off your list. So, find some yarn or string, scissors, glue, colorful paper or some favorite pictures and let's get cutting. We will have some pencil-topper fun!



1-Gather your supplies together and get ready to get creative. Cut out a square of paper and color it with any colors you like or you can use pictures from a magazine. Make it about 3 inches long by 2 inches high. Cut long strips in the paper along one long edge only. **Do not cut** through to the opposite side. Leave at least 1/2 inch. Put glue down on the paper leaving room for the eraser. Now roll the pencil up in the paper on the eraser end. You can curl the strips and gently pull them down once the glue dries.

2- For another option, cut a few strips of string or yarn and lay down on the table. Cut another long length of string. Glue one end of the string to the pencil on the eraser side without covering the eraser. Let this dry a little bit. Then, wrap the string around and around the pencil moving towards the writing end. Add glue as you turn the pencil. Only go about half way down the pencil or you will not have any room for sharpening. If you want a silly pencil friend, glue one or two eyes on when the string dries and a friendly mouth with a great big smile.

3-One more option could be to cut out a cute picture to have on your pencil that will remind you of your favorite person, animal, or fun thing to do. Cut another piece of paper for the back. Put glue along the edges of the paper, place the pencil down in the middle with the eraser sticking out and put a bit more glue on the pencil. Place the picture on top and hold the edges together for a bit until the glue sets. With any of these options, you can add yarn bows, silly eyes, or beads on the ends of the strings. Make your pencil your very own! There are so many possibilities! Make some for your back-to-school friends.

Happy writing! Ms. Susan

