

This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. Since the last time we shared artCart, we have had holiday happenings and winter weather of cold and snow. When I think of cold and snow, I wonder how penguins can get along in these frigid temperatures like we have had. Let's make some penguin pals while we think about some interesting facts about these flightless birds. First, some penguins can swim at speeds up to 36 km/hr. and dive to depths of 530m deep to catch their food. Then there is the fact that penguins poop every 20 minutes because of their fast metabolism. They really need to convert their food to energy quickly to stay warm. The black and white on their body is called counter-shading, and can camouflage them from predators. Penguins are just too cute when they waddle while walking and a group of penguins is actually called "a waddle" of penguins.



1-Take a piece of paper and trace your feet. (Preferably without your socks, if your feet are clean). Ask your family members to trace a foot or two, along with you. If you do not have black paper, color the footprint black and cut it out. Glue one or two feet on to a piece of blue paper. If you do not have blue paper, color the background after you have glued on the footprints. If you have some tinfoil, glue it behind the penguins and it will look like very cold, slippery ice. You can make a whole family. The group is actually called, a "waddle" of penguins. Color the belly white or cut out an oval shape and glue in the middle of the footprint.

2-Give your penguin pals, two eyes and a beak or bill. You can give your penguin a hat and a nice, warm scarf. You can add a layer of snow around the picture or give the penguins any other fun addition you want. This is your penguin pal and you can even give your friend a name.

Enjoy the wonder of winter and stay well !

Ms. Susan