

EASY WAYS TO FIND TIME TO CRAFT WITH YOUR KIDS...

1. **Make it a priority** rather than an afterthought. Mark it on your calendar. Put it in your planner. Save the date.
2. **Plan ahead** by preparing your craft kit so that you are ready
 - o <https://inthebagkidscrafts.com/fill-your-bag/>
3. **Use the brief bits of time that you do have.** It can take as little as 15 minutes, not hours, to complete a craft that your kids will be proud of for days. Here are some ideas when you might find yourself with a bit of down time that can be used for creativity...
 - o After putting dinner in the oven
 - o While you fold laundry on one end of the dining table while the kids craft on the other end
 - o After pajamas are put on instead of reading a story one night a week
 - o Rainy weekends when plans are postponed
 - o When your kids first come home from school and are needing a transition activity
 - o Instead of cleaning that room or taking that unnecessary phone call
4. **Build it into your weekly family routine.** Maybe just like a taco Tuesday (or pizza Friday at my house), you will have a night where you make something together. A crafty Monday maybe?
5. **Remember done is better than perfect.** This applies to so many things, but in this case when I mean is that it is better just to do it than to try to make it an absolutely perfect experience. Maybe you haven't prepared in advance or given it much thought but you find yourself with free time and kids who need to keep their hands busy. Make the most of what you do have. A friend told me recently that she did one of the crafts from my blog with her kids, but she didn't have everything that she needed. So she improvised. They were making the [stuffed pumpkin](#) but didn't have orange construction paper. What they did have was printer paper and orange markers...wala...a pumpkin was born!

Happy Crafting!

Love, *Joy*