

ISSUE

08

March 2010



DAYLILIES

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“Creative people make a mess, clean it up and make another mess. There are no mistakes in art only happy little accidents.”

Timothy Leonard

Some people see things and ask Why? I dream things which never were and ask Why not?

Ketaki Bhave

“Creative Minds are rarely tidy.”

Author Unknown

Spring is for Creating!

The sun is shining, birds are singing, and now that we have finally turned the calendar page to March, it is easy to believe that spring is just around the corner. And maybe it is all the new flowers and baby animals, but for whatever reason, spring just seems to bring out the best and most creative of all of us. So, let's get creating and make spring 2010 our very best and most creative spring yet!

And to help you be even more creative, we have placed a chat box on our [blog site](#). If you have any questions about a project you are working on, a project you have seen on the Daylilies' blog or downloaded from our website, or if you just want some advice about a great project for bored kids, we are here to help! (Well, since I am the person that writes the blog, it will generally be me on the other end of the chat and I would love to hear from you!)

We have also switched gears here in the studio – from last month's [drypoint felting](#) and [kool-aid dyeing](#) learn alongs to a whole month of everything geared to helping your kids get even more creative. It is going to be so much fun!

(In fact it has already been a lot of fun... I already embraced my inner 8 year old as I walked through the [salt clay blog projects](#) we posted just last week.)

And this week starts a great [new week long kid's scrapbooking project](#) – perfect any time, but this is a fantastic project to keep the kids busy if you have them around home all of March Break.

And... because we are focusing all our energies on fun and creative things for kids, we thought that one thing we could do to help kids be more creative this spring, is to offer them a chance at a cool creative prize. If you haven't heard about our [Kid's Creativity Contest](#) yet, then now is your chance to get involved! There is more information listed on page 2 of this newsletter, and even more on our website. I hope that you and your kids enter! (It really is a fun prize.)

Here's hoping we have a wonderful, sunny and creative spring!

Debra O'Connor
Page 1

Great Reading!

Recommended Reads...

For Adults:

Easter is just around the corner, and the best part about Easter (besides the chocolate and the great dinner and the flowers) is the Easter eggs. Not only are Easter eggs a great way to decorate for the holiday, but decorating eggs means that we adults can be a kid again.

This month's recommended read just happens to be a new book in the Daylilies store – [Decorating Eggs: 15 fun and stylish projects for decorating eggs by Deborah Schneebeli-Morrell](#). Every aspect of egg decorating is covered – from blowing the eggs to embellishing and dyeing them – everything you need to nurture your inner child and create some fabulous Easter Eggs this year!

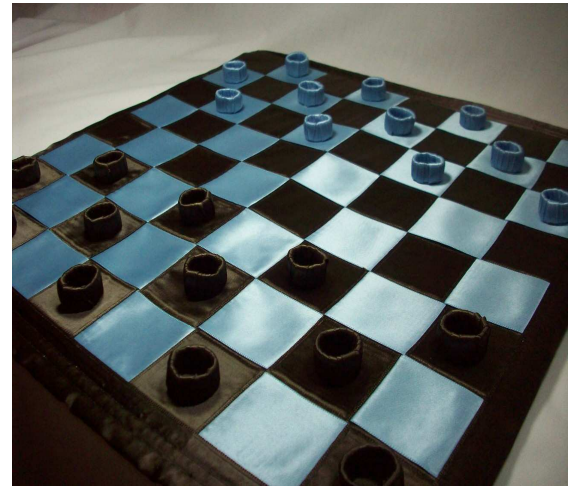
This is a perfect book for people of all skill levels and ages and comes with some fabulous photographs and clear instructions.



[March's Studio Picks:](#) **Bruynzeel Colour Express Colour Pencils.**

These colours are simply amazing. With one glimpse in the protective tin, you will know that these coloured pencils are just not your average pencils. And anyone who has tried these pencils from Daylilies just won't go back to their old pencils. And why should they with colours that look this amazing? So bright and spring-like?

[Bruynzeel Coloured Pencils](#) are super bright and vibrant colours with strong and large 3.5mm leads – perfect for children aged 5 and up. These pencil crayons are naturally made and feature ecologically friendly wood. Each set includes 12 assorted colours in their own tin carrying case. Only \$9.95 cdn.



[New in the Studio:](#) **The Ribbon Checkerboard Pattern. Kit. Finished Good.**

We are very happy to present a Daylilies original – new in the studio this month. So new, in fact, that it hasn't even made its debut on the blog yet (until today)! This pattern, developed in response to a challenge posted by ReadyMade magazine (we didn't win the challenge, but we really love the checkerboard!) is a fun and unique version of the traditional checkerboard. This board, and the pieces, in hues of a powder blue and chocolate brown, is made almost entirely of ribbon! The soft board measures 13 ½" square and would be a great addition to any décor, but it also makes a great handmade gift for that person that has everything.

[Daylilies' Kid's Creativity Contest!](#)

You can win your very own creative pack including:

- *Crafting Fun: 101 Things to Make and Do with Kids* by Rae Grant).
- All the supplies* you need for 4 children to make one of the Spring projects listed in the book: the Paper Sled Kite. It is a creative party just waiting to happen!
- Bragging rights – we'll share pictures of your children's kites on the [blog](#).
- (*scissors, rulers and pencils are not included in this kit)

For more contest information, and to enter, [click here](#).
The contest ends March 28.



More Thoughts from the Blog:

Felting & Cardmaking:

A Match Made in Card-Making Heaven!

Last month, we learned just how much fun [drypoint needle felting](#) can be – and just how flexible it is. Not only is drypoint needle felting great for 3-D forms (check out the [3-D bird mobile](#) we did on the blog), and has great possibilities for use in making bags, purses, slippers, and all things fabric, but it is also a really neat way to make some great, personalized greeting cards.



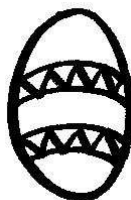
Our very first project of the drypoint needle felting learn along was the [valentine's heart card](#), and after experiencing the learn along, we really wanted to go back and create some more cards. It was that much fun.

The best part of drypoint needle felting is that it doesn't require a lot of supplies. Once you have a felting needle (in the right size) and a heavy piece of foam (or brush bristle work surface) – [the basic felting supplies](#) - all you need is some roving and a backing fabric to get you started. And it is a creative endeavour for all skill levels. If you have never tried drypoint needle felting before, give it a try! Start with simple shapes (like the Valentines Heart Card) and before you know it, you will be hooked!

Since Easter is coming, here is a great little project that will make all of your Easter baskets that much more festive: The Easter Egg Gift Tag!



To make the gift tag, start by resizing the following egg design to the size you wish your tag to be. Our tag measures 3- ¼" x 2 ½" and the felted egg design measures 1" x 2".



Transfer this design to your backing fabric and gather your coloured roving (Kool-Aid dyed roving works well for this!). Using your felting needle, felt each colour into the design transferred on the backing fabric as in the picture (for detailed felting instructions, visit the blog [Felting Learn Along](#)). The line detail is achieved by felting thin wool onto the backing. For best results use a coloured backing fabric.

To prepare card, cut a small card blank in half, and paint with a watercolour wash in the colours of your choice. Trim the top right layer with fancy edged scissors and glue the cut off edge back to the left side of the top layer. Affix your felted egg shape to the card with hot glue.

Great Reading!

Recommended Reads...

For Kids:

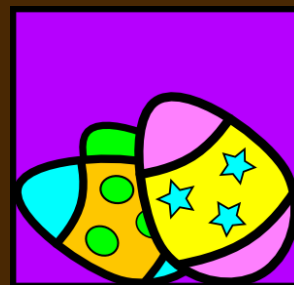
For a change, I am going to share the same book for both adults and kids this month. Yes,

Decorating Eggs: 15 fun and stylish projects for

decorating eggs by Deborah Schneebeli-Morrell is not

specifically a children's book, but it does have some great projects for your family this Easter season. Projects like the Papercut Goose Eggs, Paper Mache Eggs, the Easter Egg garland and the Egg Mobile are awesome for older children. And the Wooden Egg Alphabet Game is a fun creative idea and learning game for kids!

This book introduces children to a whole new way of looking at Easter egg decorating, and offers a very good opportunity for family time.



Easter Eggs: Not the Only Way to Celebrate Easter Anymore!

Here are some great ideas for a more creative Easter...without the same old same old!

- Make your own Easter basket! There are lots of different ways to make your own Easter basket, from weaving to clay and even out of chocolate, but [Busy Bees Kids Crafts](#) has a great tutorial to make your very own spaghetti Nest (or basket). This is a really funky idea – well worth checking out!!!
- A faux quilt square makes a great hotplate or decoration for your Easter table! A square of foam or foam core, fabric and a fabric punch (or dull butter knife) is all you need to make a great looking spring-like, no-sew, faux quilt square. This is a great project for ages 7 and up through adulthood! For more detailed instructions and pictures, check out [HowStuffWorks.com](#).
- How about a Hankie Bunny? This origami inspired bunny rabbit needs a white hankie and very little sewing to make a really cute little Easter decoration. (And you can even fill up the hankie with jellybeans for a festive treat or place setting! What a great idea from [Craftown.com](#).



Blog Schedule

March is for kids: Join us for a month of kid's creative fun and easy activities including a week long Scrapbooking for Kids (A march break blog special) and All things Easter!

April 1-4: Easter Break

April 5-9: Loom Knitting Revisited

April 12-16: Watercolour & Spring Flowers

Monthly Webstore Specials at www.dayliliescreative.com

March 2010

20% off All [Stockmar Beeswax crayons](#) and [Stockmar Modeling Beeswax](#)

April 2010

15% off Fiddlesticks Knitting 100% organic cotton EcoKnit yarn

Coming Soon to Daylilies

- Vintage How-to Books and magazines by various authors
- Your Personal Creativity Assistant
- Watch the blog as we announce our very first contest winner and our next great contest!

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Etsy: www.dayliliescreative.etsy.com
Phone: 519.744.4048
Email: daylilies@dayliliescreative.com
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