

A Feast Fit for Kids

Make your dinner delightful with these easy DIY projects.

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Unbreakable melamine dinnerware is perfect for the kids' table.

Keep 'em busy with crafts.

Wrap the table in white paper and let kids be creative.

1 Thankful String

- With a felt needle, string 2-cm felt balls (\$10 for two needles, \$20 for 60 balls; handbehngellets.etsy.com) onto a thin 30-inch hcmp cord; tie a knot at each end.
- Trim shaft ends of five feathers to be 1 inch.
- String two wooden beads onto each shaft.
- Place a 6-inch piece of braided cording against feather shaft (below beads), then secure to shaft by wrapping with hemp cord; tie off securely. Repeat with remaining feathers.
- Have everyone write what they're most thankful

Continued on page 48



Make
these for
\$5

Clear Spotlight Tumblers by Zak! Designs (previous page), \$6 each, amazon.com; **Green Core Dinner and Salad Plates by Zak! Designs** (above), \$3 each, amazon.com; **White Porcelain Square Dip Bowls by Pier 1** (above right), \$2 each, pier1.com; **Couturier's Headdress** (previous page), \$28, fairytalejubilee.etsy.com

Continued from page 46

for on a small piece of paper; punch holes in papers and thread onto cording. • Tie each feather between two felt beads on string; trim excess cording.

• Hang string between tepees, as shown on previous page.

Thankful String alternative: Create a paper chain and write what you're thankful for on each of the links.

② Arrow

• Collect a 10-inch stick from the yard. • Attach six feathers to braided cording and beads with hemp cord, as described in the directions for the Thankful String feathers, above. Put five of the braided cords together at one end of the stick and wrap the cords to it using a 10-inch cord. Tie securely.

• Write your guest's name on a piece of paper, punch a hole in it, and slip it onto the sixth feather. Tie it near the opposite end of the stick. • Hot-glue two 1-inch felt triangles to the end to represent the arrowhead.

③ Activities

Under the centerpiece, provide craft supplies: string and beads to make necklaces (beads can be a choking hazard for kids under 3), stamps and stamp pads, colored pencils, crayons, foam shapes, and stickers.

④ Feather Place Mats

• Trace the largest plate you'll be using on pieces of

scrapbook paper. • Cut out circles. • Glue feathers along edges, leaving paper centers blank (they'll be covered by the plates).

⑤ Tepees

• Hot-glue brown craft paper to a poster board. • To help with stability, hot-glue a 5½-inch-wide Styrofoam wreath to the bottom of a 14-inch-tall Styrofoam cone. • Create a cone shape with the poster board by taking one of the corners and rolling it into itself (this may take a few tries). Secure the edges of the poster-board cone together with hot glue. Slide poster board over the Styrofoam cone; adjust fit as needed, then hot-glue the poster-board cone to the base so it's completely covered. Cut off any excess poster board at bottom of the tepee. Also cut off tip of cone to make a hole about 1½ inches wide. • Find six 7-inch sticks in your yard. For each tepee, hot-glue three sticks together a third of the way up so they fan out. Stick one set into the top of each tepee. • Cut four 3-inch, 2-inch, and 1-inch pieces of leather cording. Crisscross two of the same length and hot-glue in the center. Hot-glue the X's to the tepees as shown, starting with the largest at base. Repeat the process on the second tepee.

All supplies can be found at crafts stores.