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"Pagan Creativity"



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Wee Pagans

By: TristA

Mom was reading a book to Jarred and Missy when she was interrupted by Jarred.

“Mom, what does creative mean?” asked Jarred

His mother tried to explain the meaning to Jarred and Missy but neither one of them understood what she was saying. She was becoming a little irritated with the whole situation when she put the book down and walked away from the couch.

Missy and Jarred stared at each other in amazement because their mother usually didn't get discouraged or angry at questions. They couldn't believe that she just got up and walked away.

As they sat there and talked about the book then drifted almost to an argument about something stupid that came up they heard their mother calling them from their bedroom area. They got up and hurriedly walked to the bedroom to see what was wrong. Both were thinking in the back of their head that she had noticed they didn't make their beds this morning.

When they got to the room they saw their altar empty, everything had been taken off. They saw a few boxes in front of the altar with supplies in it, some were even the things that was on there before their mother cleared it.

“Take this box of stuff and make-up your altar in honor of the Summer Solstice,” replied their mother, “Let me know when you are done.” She then walked quickly out of the room before they could ask her any questions.

It took about an hour before they were finished with the altar. They had placed all the items that reminded them of summer; plastic flowers, floating candles that looked like roses, bright yellow feathers to represent the suns rays, the wand that had a little green on it to represent the green that comes with summer, and a few other things. They stepped back and looked at what they had done and smiled at it before going and getting mom to tell her they were finished.

When they went to the dinning room to find mom and ask her to come and look at what they did she wouldn't come to see, instead she had pencil and paper and asked them to draw or color the page colors that reminded them of summer. They hesitantly sat down to do as they were asked.

When done their mother asked them to take the papers and come with her. She led them to their bedroom to the altar they did earlier.

“This altar is your creation,” mother started in “to complete it you had to be creative. The drawing of colors will be added to the altar to show something you used your creative juices to make.”

“So, you are saying we have juice in us?” Missy asked

“No, silly” replied mother, “you were creative when you thought of what to do without a guide or help and also when you put it on paper. Things that are made from you being creative are called your creation.”

“Oh,” butted in Jarred “I am creative when I think of something neat and also when I make it, or as you call it make my creation, right?”

“Right!” mother exclaimed.

Mother then left the room and the children decided that they needed to be more creative with their altar and add more things to it, things that they created. Before long mother was back in the room telling them they didn't have to be so creative.

Wee Pagans

By: TristA

Weather Art

One of the great gifts given by Gaia is weather. Take the time to do some art with it. When done have a small art show for family and friends with the things you created with the weather! Some ideas are below to get your creative juices flowing.

Wind Coloring

Color with the wind by following the steps below:

1. Tape a piece of paper outside on a flat place that is out in the open enough for the wind to hit it.
2. Secure crayons to the end of a string by both tying them and using warm straight pins to go through it and hold the string that is tied. (An adult will have to help with this step)
3. Tie the string above the paper where the pins are barely sitting on the paper.
4. Allow time to go by for the wind to do its coloring.
5. Add in some coloring of your own to make a nice picture.

Rain Painting

Paint with the rain by following the steps below:

1. Put large paint spots randomly on card stock.
2. When it is raining put the picture outside by laying it on the ground. Be careful that the wind is not blowing too much to carry it off; if it is then simply place rocks on the corners to secure it.
3. Allow the rain to paint for awhile.
4. Bring inside and lay on a flat surface and allow it to dry.



Energy Drawing with the Sun

Do some energy drawings with the sun by following the steps below:

1. Use a piece of construction paper to trace your hand on.
2. Cut out the hand or have an adult do it for you.
3. Hold your cut-out hand in your hand and give it all the energy you can.
4. Glue your hand on a piece of white printer paper.
5. Tape the picture on the outside of a window in a place that gets a lot of sun.
6. Allow it to sit for a couple of sunny days. Sometimes it takes a little less or more, just long enough for the white paper to turn brown.
7. Take it down and look at the energy that the sun gave the picture to add to the energy you gave it by the changing of color of the paper.

Mineral Focus

By: Lionfirestone

Hematite has several varieties, each with their own unique names.

- *Hematite Rose* is a circular arrangement of bladed crystals giving the appearance of the flower of a rose.
 - *Tiger Iron* is a sedimentary deposit of approximately 2.2 billion years old that consists of alternating layers of silver gray hematite and red jasper, chert or even tiger eye quartz.
 - *Kidney Ore* is the massive botryoidal form and gives the appearance of lumpy kidney-like masses.
 - *Oolitic Hematite* is a sedimentary formation that has a reddish brown color and an earthy luster and is composed of small rounded grains.
- Specularite* is a micaceous or flaky stone that is sparkling silver gray and sometimes used as an ornamental stone.

Hematite is the principle ore of iron. Huge quantities are mined throughout the world for industrial production. It is the source for roughly 90 percent of all iron mined in the United States. Hematite was largely used in the past as a red and brown pigment, although nowadays cheaper sources have been substituted. Well formed Hematite crystals are popular among mineral collectors, and tumbled, highly lustrous Hematite from Brazil makes a very popular, inexpensive specimen for amateur collectors.

In 2001, Egyptian government archaeologist Zhai Hawass was the first to enter a previously undisturbed tomb, believed to be that of an ancient regional mayor, in the Bahariya Oasis below the town of Bawiti. Upon entering the burial chamber, Hawass discovered a booby trap consisting of 8 inches of finely powdered hematite dust covering the floor and sarcophagus. When disturbed by a tomb robber, the sharp, metallic dust was intended to become airborne and irritate the skin, eyes and mucous membranes, eventually causing lethal siderosis if exposed for long enough. The archaeological team was forced to retreat and don full body suits and respirators in order to confirm the identity of the mummy. Hawass cites the ancient Egyptians' experience with powdered hematite as a paint pigment as proof that they were aware of its irritating properties.

Hematite helps one sort out things in ones own mind, and can be useful for a mental "tune up".

It helps memory enhancement, original thinking and technical knowledge.

Enjoy the bookmark below.

Mineral Focus: Hemitite



Color: Hematite is rather variable in its appearance - it can be in reddish brown, ochreous masses, dark silvery-gray scaled masses, silvery-gray crystals, and dark-gray masses, to name a few. What they all have in common is a rust-red streak.

Chakra: solar plexus and heart

Healing Properties: Hematite is a principal blood purifier among stone healers. It can be placed anywhere on the body for this purpose, or worn as a ring, pendant or necklace for continuous healing. It is also considered a grounding stone, which makes it useful for those people who have difficulty concentrating on the "here-and-now". Shamans historically have believed that Hematite, placed over the location of an illness, will draw the "spirit" of the illness out of the patient and into itself.

Magickal Properties: Hematite has long been associated with psychic awareness. In addition, some people believe that it assists in astral travel and scrying.

Lustre: Metallic, Sub-Metallic, Dull, Earthy

Hematite derives its name from the Greek word *haem* (blood) in allusion to its red color.

The spectral signature of hematite was seen on the planet Mars by the infrared spectrometer on the NASA Mars Global Surveyor ("MGS") and 2001 Mars Odyssey spacecraft in orbit around Mars.

Young Pagans

By: Pandora

The Nine Muses of the Greek Pantheon

Everyone can agree that these sisters are famous, even if they don't know their names. They were the daughters of Zues (King of the Gods) and Mnemosyne (Goddess of memory), and did not live on Mount Olympus. This was a departure from the norm, when compared to the rest of the Gods. Instead, they lived on Mount Helicon, and it was believed that they drank from the waters of the fountain Hippocrene.

Each daughter had her own gift:

Calliope: the muse of epic poetry

Clio: the muse of history

Euterpe: the muse of lyrics and lyric poetry

Melponene: the muse of tragedy

Terpsichore: the muse of choral songs and dance

Erato: the muse of love poetry

Polyhymnia: the muse of sacred (religious) poetry

Urania: the muse of astronomy

Thalia: the muse of comedy

Sometimes, an artist of one genre or another will look upon a particular person or embodiment as his/her personal Muse, in terms of 'helping' the artist to create. In truth, we can see that this personal Muse is simply a temporary embodiment of one of the original Nine Sisters. Who do you know that seems to channel one or more of these Muses?

Think!

A great free online program to get thinking and be creative is called Think!. This program will post a different list of items and goal each week and you can create your best works from them. The items are easy to find around the house items. When you have completed your challenge you are encouraged to submit pictures to share with others. This site is actually a blog, but lots of fun. Try your hand at some challenges to see if you can think out of the box:

Think! - <http://kidswhothink.blogspot.com/>

Young Pagans

By: Pandora



A Stone for Creativity? You Bet!

Did you ever need help focusing your creativity, especially on a given task? Did you really *want* to work on a creative project, but just couldn't figure out how to 'flesh it out'? Perhaps reaching for a particular gemstone will help imbue you with its energy, to help you get the correct focus.

Amazonite is typically a variety of green, from yellowish to a bluish-green. It is occasionally referred to as Amazon jade, probably due to its similarity in color, but not in texture. Unlike jade, Amazonite is not smooth when 'finished'. It would most likely be thought of as a green 'rock', as it is similar to in appearance to feldspar, if you weren't aware or sensitive to feeling energy fields of stones.

Physically, it's good for the heart, nerves and nervous system. Some even believe that it may be helpful to those with schizophrenia. Metaphysically, it is a calming, even soothing, stone. It helps balance the aura, as well as aiding in the balancing of stress, nervousness, as well as a troubled mind.

Amazonite is just one of many stones associated with aiding creativity. Perhaps another would be of greater use, as it may also be more affordable. Remember, there is no one, right and only correct answer.

Color Your Own Amazonite



Herbal Focus

By: Lionfirestone

Enjoy the bookmark below.

Collect nettle leaves before they flower in spring. They may be bad for the kidneys after they flower. New nettles come up in the fall, and you can pick them before they're killed by frost.

People have been using nettles for food, medicine, fiber, and dyes since the Bronze Age. Collect them using work gloves, and wear a long-sleeved shirt. If you happen upon nettles when you have no gloves, put your hand inside a bag. The young leaves are the best part of the plant. They come off most easily if you strip them counter-intuitively, from the top down.

Many of the benefits are due to the plant's very high levels of minerals, especially, calcium, magnesium, iron, potassium, phosphorous, manganese, silica, iodine, silicon, sodium, and sulfur. They also provide chlorophyll and tannin, and they're a good source of vitamin C, beta-carotene, and B complex vitamins. Nettles also have high levels of easily absorbable amino acids. They're ten percent protein, more than any other vegetable.

In the first century, Greek physicians Dioscorides and Galen reported the leaf of nettle had diuretic and laxative properties and was useful for asthma, pleurisy and spleen illnesses. Bandages soaked in a leaf and stem infusion were used in early American medicine to stop the bleeding of wounds; an account of this use was recorded by Dr. Francis P. Procher, a surgeon and physician in the Southern Confederacy during the Civil War. Nettle leaves were also recommended as a nutritious food and as a weight loss aid by the famous American plant forager and naturalist, Euell Gibbons.

This is for informational purposes, only; this is not to be used in place of medical care. Please keep in mind, if you are allergic to a substance, regardless of the health/magickal benefits to the general public, it *will do you harm*, and could even cause death, as with many allergens.

Herb Focus: Nettle



Parts Used: The leaves and root

Location: Found in rich soil, disturbed habitats, moist woodlands, thickets, along rivers, and along partially shaded trails.

Healing Properties: Hay fever**, asthma, mucus conditions of the lungs, chronic cough, flu, colds,

Magickal Attributes: Nettle works well in love, money, luck or health spells. Nettle also guards against danger and promotes courage.

Latin Name: *Urtica dioica*

Clean and chop nettles wearing rubber gloves. Once you've cooked them a little, the stingers (which are actually the small hairs on the leaves, as well as a naturally occurring oil on/in the leaves) are deactivated, and the plant becomes wonderfully edible.

The stinging sensation of the leaf hairs is caused by several plant chemicals including formic acid, histamine, serotonin, and choline.

The main use of the herbal remedies made from the nettle is in the role of a cleansing and detoxifying agent in the body. The diuretic action of the nettle is also a highly regarded property possessed by the herb; this property is probably due to the high content of bio-molecules known as the **flavonoids** and may also be because of the high potassium levels in the herb. The main property of the herbal remedy in this role is that it increases the total production of **urine** and helps in the effective elimination of accumulated metabolic waste products in the body, thus cleansing the liver.

Teen Pagans

By: TristA

Pagan Creativity

There are many things that can be labeled creative when it comes to Paganism. To be honest almost everything can be and creativity is definitely one of the things needed when walking a path. This does not mean that you have to be the most creative one on the block, it just means that you will need to tap into your creative juices (yes, everyone has some).

Write Poems Dedications Prayers Spells	Create Magical Places Altars Mystical Environments	Sing/Play Incantations Chants Songs Instruments for Paganism
	Make Magical Wear Magical Tools Mystical Items	

Finding Creativity

There are many ways to bring forth your creative juices, below is a list to get you started.

Meditate
Dream
Preform a ritual
Use a spell
Burn corresponding candle colors



Pagan Resources

There are many Pagan resources for kids, however, they seem to be hard to find. Below is a small list of the ones we found for you to check out. If you know of others or want your own listed here feel free to email us!

PaganMoonbeams@yahoo.com



W. Lyon Martin
artist • writer • storyteller • presenter



roots & shoots



**Grey School
of
Wizardry**



Megan Stories



intelligent info for today's pagan kids...and it's free!

**PAGAN KIDS!
GUIDES**



ANCIENT LIGHT

Challenge for the mind, fun for the hands, joy for the soul

Mystical Evening

By: TristÅ

Take the time, each month, to have a mystical evening with your family, focusing on our monthly theme. Make this the time that Paganism and modern day meet within your own realm. Involve all members of the family, allowing them to help and gain knowledge, both, with this one day. To get you started on ideas, take a look at some listed below.

Write or Lead

Give everyone attending an assignment to show off their creativity. Your children may surprise you with talent you never knew they had. This is the time for you to unearth their talents and show them that it can be used in a Pagan manor.

Have your child write the blessing for your dinner, or lead the family in a prayer to their favorite God/Goddess. Do not forget that you may need to help get things started or find inspiration for them to carry out their assignment.

Be sure you and your mate also do something at this meal. It is important to lead by example so they don't feel so isolated. This is a great opportunity to pull together the family. The anticipation of the meal will be great, especially when there is something else tied to it that each member will participate in.

Some ideas are below

Pagan prayer

Pagan song

Formal blessing

Ritual (maybe for the older kids and adults to each do one portion of it)

Dedication

Make sure it fits your family and makes things lots of fun!

Tour the Creative

I am sure the kids haven't seen all of your creative concoctions, now is the time to put them on display. Take the older children a tour of all your magickal creations, showing them and explaining not only what you have done but how you turned your inspiration into a piece of creative masterpiece.

On the same note if the children have some things to show as well, allow them to take you on a tour of theirs. While you are ooh'ing and aw'ing what they have to show you offer some advice on other things they could do as well as what they show using the same inspiration. For instance: if they are telling you that a starry night inspired them to make an altar in honor of Luna, then you can simply tell them that they could write a nightly dedication to use with the same inspiration and using their altar.

Cake and Stew

Make the base for a stew (gravy, juices, and meat) or a white cake mix. Turn the kids loose in the kitchen to create something of their own. For the cake they should add in flavoring of their choice and for the stew the ingredients they see fit. Include these items in your meal. This is a great time to talk about the true meaning of being creative with them.