

Planet Megan

Magic Megan's Monthly Mag August 2020

So, the baby shower finally came! And it was such a magical event. Food was: mushroom cupcakes (so cute) & moss cookies, dirt cake, delicious croissant sandwiches, deviled egg babies, tajín sprinkled fruit cups, veggies, and skewers of deli delights. So, so yummy! After a couple games and gifts, we had a relaxing time of rock painting, under the shade of a giant sycamore tree.

It was such a nice day visiting with family & friends. The highlight event of the year!

I'm so grateful for the immense generosity, support, & love for our family. Thank you all for helping us prepare for bringing a newborn into our home. Every single gift received is sooo appreciated and will make such a difference in a huge way. This is a first for us. We've been married 11.5 years and we weren't sure if we would have a kid. If it was going to happen, it was going to have to be an accident since I don't feel like I could "plan" that—it's a HUGE change, and it still feels weird. At the same time, I'm glad to say we've been married so long and had a lot of time for ourselves. We honestly don't feel that we needed a kid to fulfill our lives, but we know that it will be fulfilling.

I look forward to more parties and future fun. I feel like already planning for the 1-YR-OLD-B-DAY party! (This is a huge event in some



cultures. One time I attended a Philippine family's 1-yr B-day party. This major event included a giant roasted pig on the dining table that an apple in its mouth with never ending dishes of food surrounding it, many relatives & friends, and of course karaoke in the basement!

My hope is that I bring my kid up into a magical world of imagination, creativity, beauty, and fun. (Not forgetting to instill hard work ethic & street smarts.)

One creative outlet which is kid and adult friendly is **papier-mâché**! I recently discovered one of the friendliest & crafty creators on YouTube, Jonni Good, from UltimatePaperMache.com. She has several books on Amazon.com. She gave me permission to share what she does on the PlanetMegan Newsletter! She makes the coolest animal sculptures and masks and she so kindly gives away her homemade paper mache clay recipes and sells her creative patterns too! Working with this clay is great because if you don't want the mess of real earth

clay or you don't have a kiln, this is self-drying clay that newbies and kids can use! (Though NOT edible unlike DIY play dough) If you're interested in trying this out, I recommend watching her how-to video in the link to the left. I learned that the internal structure of a sculpture is called an "armature." Jonnie uses cereal box-like cardboards for the pattern, then begins sculpting the basic shape with tin foil. Once shaped, it gets sculpted over with her paper clay, then painted. I can't wait to make her recipe and have fun making something special.

When I was a kid, my mom got a big free box of telephone wire in every color of the rainbow. Instead of a lemonade stand, I had a bracelet making stand. I charged \$0.50/bracelet and once my customer picked

out what colors they wanted, I wove it right in front of them for an added artisanal spectacle.

Other paper crafts I'm a fan of are made with magazines. I love the recycled multicolored look. I love making magazine beads, which are great for kids to make and satisfying for adults.

They're pretty hippy too! I'd like to make magazine bowls too. 😊 I still remember making mother's day necklaces with paper beads and **papier-mâché** balloons in the 1st grade. Super fun!

If you are inspired to make something fun to pass the time while you watch your favorite show or keep your kids busy, please share your pictures of your creations/ideas to megan@planetmegan.com!!



Jonni's recipe for paper mache clay

(<https://www.ultimatepapermache.com/paper-mache-clay>)

- 1 1/2 cups damp toilet paper
- 1 cup premixed drywall joint compound in a plastic tub (but not DAP brand joint compound)
- 3/4 cup Elmer's Glue-All or any PVA glue
- 1/2 to 1 cup white flour (adjustable)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable or mineral oil/baby oil (optional)



To send in a pet photo or recipe, go to: www.planetmegan.com and it may featured in an upcoming newsletter.

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