

LET'S MAKE A GIANT LEGO BRICK SECRET BOX!



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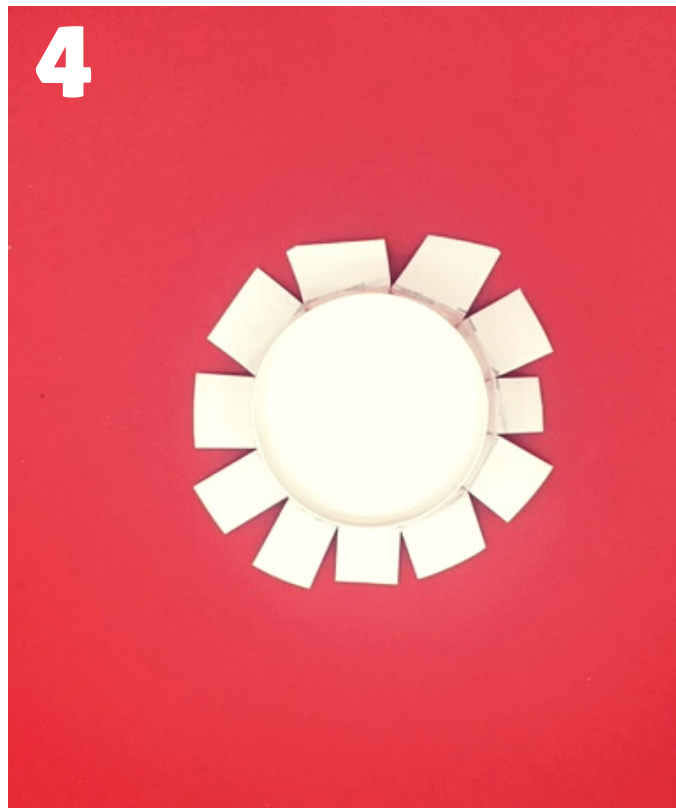
YOU WILL NEED

- A cardboard box with a lid (I used a shoe box)
- A ruler
- Scissors
- 1/4 cup of Elmers glue and 1/4 cup of water mixed together in a bowl
- A roll of masking tape, sticky tape is fine too.
- A pencil and eraser
- A large paintbrush
- Paper cups
- Which ever color paint you'd like your brick to be!
- White acrylic/poster/tempura paint
- Newspaper or tissue paper torn into strips of about 1 inch long.
- Pot of water to clean brushes
- Paper towel to dry brushes
- Apron
- Protective cover for the surface you're working on

Now put on your apron, cover the table and....

LETS GET STARTED!





First we need to make the studs (the bits on top that make the LEGO bricks stick together!)

1. Turn a paper cup upside down. Using your ruler, measure 1 inch down from what is now the top of the cup and mark a small line. Do this lots of times all the way around the cup.

2. Next, join the pencil lines up to make one line all the way around the cup. Don't worry it doesn't have to be a perfect straight line!

Then, take your scissors and make a cut from the cups opening, all the way up to the pencil line you just drew. Do this about 8-10 times all the way around the cup.

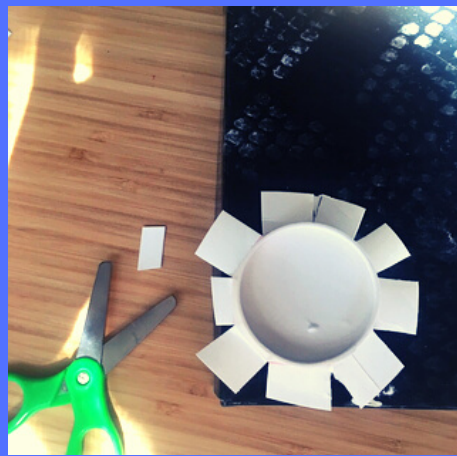
3. Bend the strips of cup out towards you, and fold them really well at about where you drew the pencil line. When you're done you'll have a kind of sun shape.

4. Use your scissors to trim the flaps so they are nice and short like in the photograph. (We need to fit it neatly on the box lid!)

5. Now place your mini sun, on top of your box lid. How many more do you need to make it look like a lego brick? Do the same thing to the rest of the paper cups.



1. Place your paper cup LEGO brick studs on top of your box lid so you can see how it looks. Do you have enough?



2. If any of the cups need any extra trimming, now's the time to do it.



3. Starting in one corner, tape down one of the paper cups. Make sure you tape it all the way around and cover all of the gaps.



4. Tape down cups in the three remaining corners.



5. Place the last few cups on top of the box, so you can figure out how to space them evenly. Then stick them all down too!



6. Make sure that the cups are stuck down really well and all of the scissor cuts are covered up.



7. Now, using your brush cover the box lid and cups with the watery gluey mixture, just one small area at a time. When applying the glue you don't have to cover the whole cup, covering just above the folds you made is great.



8. Put the torn pieces of newspaper on top of the wet glue, it's ok for them to overlap! make sure to put more glue on top of the newspaper as well. Cover the whole lid and when you're done, put it out in the sunshine to dry :)

Time to paint your LEGO brick box!

1. Start by painting a small area of one corner of your box the color you want your brick to be. If you can see the newspaper through the paint, you need to add some white paint to the color, mix it really well, and cover the entire box lid in this lighter shade. Don't use any water in between strokes, it will just make the paint thinner. (You just need to make sure you clean and dry your brush when you're finished). When it's dry, you can paint a second layer using just the color without the white paint mixed in. It should look much brighter now :)

2. While the top of your LEGO brick box is drying in the sun, paint the bottom of your box the same color. You can even paint inside the box if you like!

3. Once the bottom and top of the box are dry, inspect your work. Did you miss any spots? Do you think you need another layer of paint to make the color even brighter?

4. When you're happy with your work, and the paint is well and truly dry, put the lid on your box and stash your secret things inside!

Excellent work! You might have just made one of the biggest LEGO bricks your family and friends have ever seen!

