Creamy Tomato Soup
Makes: 6 servings
Prep: 5 mins
Cook: 24 mins

Ingredients
4 slices bacon
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 cans (28 ounces each) whole tomatoes in juice
1 cup chicken broth
1 tablespoon sugar
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
1/2 cup heavy cream
1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar

Make It
1. Heat a large, deep pot over medium heat; add bacon and cook until barely crisp, about 5 minutes. Remove bacon and reserve; remove and discard all but 1 tablespoon of the drippings. Add garlic and cook, stirring, over medium heat, 1 minute. Add tomatoes and their juice, breaking up tomato pieces with your hands or a wooden spoon. Add broth, sugar and black pepper; bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer 15 minutes with cover ajar.
2. Puree soup in batches in a blender or food processor. Return to pot, stir in cream until incorporated and heat through, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in vinegar. Serve, garnished with crumbled bacon.

Easy Minestrone
Makes: 6 servings
Cook: 13 mins

Ingredients
1 cup chopped onion
3 cloves garlic, sliced
2 tablespoons olive oil
2 can (14-1/2 ounces each) chicken broth
1 jar (16 ounces) marinara sauce
1 can (15 ounces) red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
3 ribs celery, sliced
1 box (10 ounces) frozen mixed vegetables
1 cup ditalini pasta
Grated Parmesan cheese
Basil

Make It
1. In a large nonstick pot, cook onion and garlic in olive oil for 3 minutes over medium-high heat. Add chicken broth, marinara sauce, kidney beans, celery and frozen mixed vegetables.
2. Bring to a boil and add ditalini pasta. Cook, covered, with lid slightly ajar, for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve immediately with grated Parmesan cheese, if desired. Garnish with basil.

How to Make a Rainmaker Musical Instrument
Things You’ll Need
- Long cardboard tube (a wrapping paper tube)
- Cardboard paper
- Glue
- Dry beans or rice

1. Cut two circles out of construction paper. Ensure that they are the same size as the holes on the ends of the cardboard tube. These circles will cover the holes.
2. Glue one of the circles onto one of the ends of the cardboard tube. Make sure it makes a clean seal so that no beans or rice can escape.
3. Set the tube so that it is vertical with the closed side facing down. Insert as many or as few beans or rice as you want. If you insert more beans or rice, it will result in a louder rainmaker; if you insert fewer, it will result in a quieter one.
4. Glue the second cardboard circle onto the other end of the rainmaker. Let the glue dry and make sure it is sealed just like the first end.
5. Turn the rainmaker upside down repeatedly in order to "play" it. You can also shake it like maracas to create different timbres.
**Homemade Window Art**

You’ll need:
- Dimensional/“puffy” fabric paint: various colors with fine tip applicator
- Plastic page protectors
- Pictures to trace

How to do it:

1. Have child find pictures of what he/she wants their cling to look like. Best pictures don’t have a lot of detail
2. Get them to print or tear their chosen pictures out and slip them into the page protectors
3. Now, have the child use the puffy paints to trace their pictures. Trace the outline first by dragging the paint rather than pushing it
4. Let dry for 4-5 hours. Then fill in outlines with paint from inside out. Paint needs to be thick enough but not too thick
5. When all filled in, let dry completely (approx. 24 hrs)
6. When dry, have your child carefully peel off page protector
7. Stick on window/mirror for a visual treat

**Homemade Guitar**

You’ll need:
- Adult shoebox
- 6 rubber bands
- Tape
- Coffee cup, pen/pencil, scissors, glitter, stickers, paint
- Paper Towel Tube
- Rocker outfit!!! 😊

How to do it:

1. Paint and decorate shoebox and paper towel tube
2. Draw a large circle onto top of shoebox lid (centered), carefully cut out, and tape lid to base of box
3. Stretch 6 rubber bands lengthwise around box. Different sounds will be made by rubber bands of varying thickness. Thick strings take longer to move because they are heavier so they vibrate at a slower rate and make a lower sound and vice versa
4. Slip pen/pencil under rubber bands in 2 in. space between hole and edge of shoebox lid to elevate rubber bands off of box
5. Cut paper towel roll size hole in top of box and insert roll to make guitar neck. Use tape to secure. Rock on!

**Salt Dough Magnets**

You’ll need:
- 1 cup Salt
- 2 c Flour
- 1 c Water
- Mixing bowl, measuring cup, rolling pin
- Magnet buttons
- Glue/ Hot glue (adult hands)
- Paint
- Acrylic spray sealer
- Wax paper
- Baking Sheet
- Cookie cutters, food coloring, embellishments (optional)

How to do it:

1. Decide what shape magnet your child would like to make. Preheat oven to 250 degrees.
2. Begin to mix salt and flour and gradually begin to add the water. Knead the dough until it is smooth (10min)
3. Lay down sheet of wax paper and roll dough to about quarter of an inch thick, then mold the dough into desired shape using cookie cutter
4. Place finished shapes onto baking sheet and toss in oven; Let bake for about two hours. Remove and let cool before decorating.
5. Paint magnets with acrylic paint and add decorations.
6. When everything is dry, the magnets should be coated with acrylic spray to seal
7. Hot glue magnet button to back and pop magnet on fridge