

Pinchbox Critters

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The bunnies are fun to make for Easter; all are great to use as party favors for kids' birthday parties or other occasions. When they are finished, hold at each end and gently apply pressure to "pinch" the critter open. Fill with jelly beans, treats, or small party favors.



You will need:

plain felt squares as follows:

1 white for the bunny, 1 pink for bunny, 1 light blue for bird, 1 bright green for frog, 1 orange for fish

matching thread

sewing needle

**two or three sizes of plastic eyes
(found in craft stores)**

lightweight white poster board

white fabric glue

hot glue gun

a cotton ball for the bunny tail

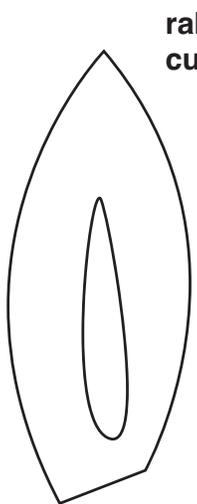
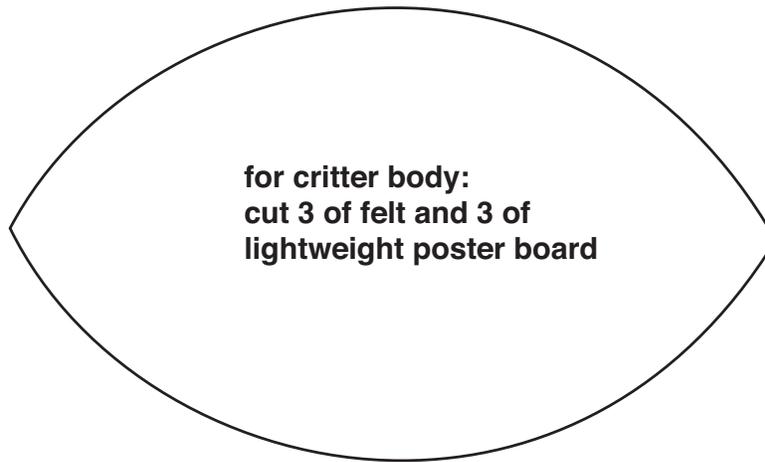
Basic directions:

For each critter: Use the body template and cut out three pieces of poster board and three pieces of felt. Using a thin layer of white fabric glue, glue the felt pieces to the board and let dry. With a needle and double thread, stitch the pieces together. Start with two pieces, *wrong sides together*, and stitch all around one curved edge using a blanket stitch. Secure both ends tightly. Then stitch one curved edge of the third piece to one curved edge of one of the others already stitched, and secure the ends tightly. The three pieces are now attached, and one side is open. Reach inside and push out all the pieces to form the rounded, three-sided body. The unstitched side is the top; all sides should come together snugly. Cut what you need from the templates here, and glue on the eyes and other parts to the critters. For the bunny, glue a cotton ball to one end for a tail.

Another idea: Create wild and wacky critter bugs using bright pinks and purples, with black pipe cleaners for antennae and legs.

patterns on next page

Pattern pieces for the bunny, bird, frog, and fish. Cut the pieces from felt.



bunny: cut a sliver
of pink felt for inside
ear and a tiny
triangle for the nose

