

Hands-On History Fun

Create-A-Craft:

Build a replica of Charlemagne's Palace

Using empty boxes you have available and your imagination, make a simple replica of part of Charlemagne's beautiful castle at Aachen (in Germany).

You will need: Empty boxes and tubes, such as boxes from oatmeal, paper towels, tissues, toothpaste, cake mix; Tempera paint—white, or whatever color you prefer; Sections of egg carton cut apart; Large piece of cardboard for the base; Construction paper; Scissors; Tape; Glue; Spray paint for stone walls; Marking pens; Sponge cut into 1 inch squares

Try making the various parts as illustrated below, attach them to each other with tape, then fasten them with glue or tape to the cardboard base.

Here are some suggestions:

- For the rounded roof: use one piece of construction paper. Draw and cut out a circle on the paper. Fold the circle in half, fold it in half again, then fold it in half once more. Unfold the circle of paper. There should be eight sections made by the folding action. Using the scissors, cut out two of the

sections (side by side). Now bring the cut edges together and tape them to form a six-sided dome that will sit on the top of the empty, round oatmeal box. Tape or glue it to the round box.

- To create towers: use individual pieces of egg carton (the part that would hold one egg) to sit on top of the paper towel tube or the toothpaste box (or one of each).
- To make a building with a sloping roof: use a half piece of construction paper, fold it in half, and set it on top of two cake mix boxes. Use tape or glue to hold the roof in place. Make a cross for the top of a building: cut out a small cross shape from an empty box, then tape it to the top of a tall rectangular box.

CAUTION: ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED. When the castle is completed, carefully take it outside to an appropriate site for spray painting. Follow the directions on the can of paint. Your castle will probably need several light coats of paint. After the castle has dried, you may want to use sponge pieces and tempera to paint "stones" on the castle walls. Use the markers to draw windows and doors.

