

Pet Adoption giant paper tree

This is a great project to involve children in. They love to make holiday crafts and help the shelter animals find homes. It is a fun and easy way to help animals. Adult assistance is needed, particularly for cutting cardboard with the craft knife, Internet use, contacting shelters, handling donation box, and posting the project on display.

What You Will Need

- About 4 feet by 3 feet of Cardboard (you can use several pieces of boxes and tape them together to build a 4X3' giant piece of cardboard)
- Sharp craft knife
- Green paper (rolls of green paper or construction paper)
- Glue
- Scissors
- Stickers or Glitter sparkles
- Yellow construction paper for star
- Holiday wrapping paper or red construction paper for ornaments
- Donation Box for a local animal rescue organization, optional (be sure to contact them about this project beforehand so they can get involved!)
- Pictures of adoptable pets (some can be printed from petfinder.com. If there are more animals than will fit on your tree, you can focus on just a few such as pets with special needs, seniors, long-time shelter residents, etc.)
- A location in the community to display the project. Always ask permission. The shelter may have a spot for it, or try a local business, public library, etc. The more they're seen, the more chances these pets have of finding a family.

How To Make It

1. Draw and cut out a giant tree form from the 4X3 cardboard.
2. Glue green paper all over the cardboard to cover it.
3. Cut out large circle ornament shapes from the holiday or red paper.
4. Print & cut out pictures of adoptable pets.
5. Glue pictures of pets onto ornament circles.
6. Write pet's name, shelter name & shelter phone number on each pet ornament.
7. Glue the pet ornaments onto the cardboard tree.
8. Cut out large star from yellow construction paper & clearly write 'Adopt Me' on it in bold letters.
9. Glue star on top of tree.
10. Decorate remainder of tree with stickers or glitter.

Display It

1. Contact businesses or other locations in the community for permission to display the project there. The shelter may have a good spot for it too.
2. Hook tree to wall above a small table & place donation box on the table.
3. Check back to keep the display looking nice & remove it after the holidays.
4. Take donation box to the shelter & ask if a featured pet has been adopted!