

Here are three fun ways to teach your Builders about postcards. Adapt the activities to meet the needs of your Builders or create your own activities.





The following activities partially complete the requirements for the Postcards award.

## ACTIVITY

# 1

## Collecting Postcards

# 10

MINUTES

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Postcards, a wide variety of ages, types, locations (can be found at tourist information centers and junk/antique shop)

### WHAT YOU DO

Start by asking the Builders if they collect anything. Then ask them why people might collect postcards. Some of the reasons might be that postcards teach people about history and geography, and remind people of trips they have taken.

Share the following postcard history: The first picture postcard was a hand painted picture of a post office and it was mailed in 1849 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by Thomas Hooke. According to Value Rare Postcards ([valuablepostcards.blogspot.com](http://valuablepostcards.blogspot.com)), a rare 1920s postcard of the West Point Tram Hotel sold at auction for US\$2,660!

Now dump out a pile of postcards for the Builders to sort. Have them look for the oldest postcard, the postcard from the farthest location, a postcard of somewhere they have been or want to go, and any other criteria that fit the postcards you provide. Let them keep the postcards for Activity 2.

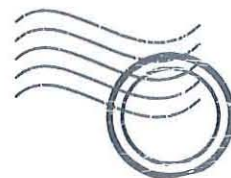
### TIP

For children who want to start collecting postcards, direct their parents/guardians to [postcrossing.com](http://postcrossing.com). Postcrossing is a free, family-friendly project that allows anyone to receive postcards from all around the world. For online safety, children under age 13 must use the site with adult supervision.



# Mod Podge Postcard Box

20  
MINUTES



## 2 ACTIVITY

### WHAT YOU DO

Ahead of time: Cover the work area with newspaper. Show the Builders a box that you have covered with postcards. Tell them that they will be making a box that they can use for collecting postcards or storing something else. Have them remove the lid from the box. They will decorate the lid and the box separately.

#### Steps for attaching postcards to the box and lid:

1. Paint an area of the box with Mod Podge.
2. Attach a postcard to the area that was painted with Mod Podge. The postcard can be cut or torn.
3. Repeat step 2 until the entire box and lid are covered with postcards. It's fine if the postcards overlap, as long as there is a layer of Mod Podge beneath each one.
4. Once the box and lid are covered with postcards, apply another coat of Mod Podge to varnish the entire surface of the box and lid.
5. Let dry. Don't place the lid onto the box until the box is dry or the lid will become glued to the box.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Solid color gift boxes with lids, approximately 6 × 6 × 4 in (15 × 15 × 10 cm) (can be found in bulk at craft stores or online; you can also use cardboard boxes you've collected)
- Mod Podge
- Paintbrushes, 0.5-1 in (1-2.5 cm) wide
- Paper plates
- Postcards
- Scissors
- Newspaper





## ACTIVITY

# 3

# Make and Send a Postcard

15  
MINUTES

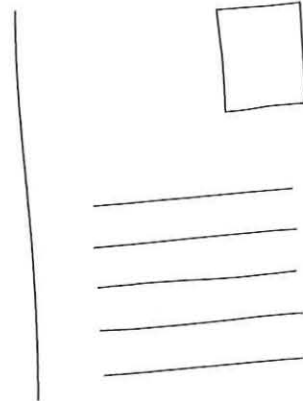
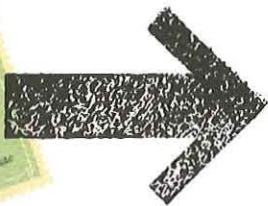
### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Blank postcards or 4 × 6 in (10 × 15 cm) index cards
- Stamps
- Ink pads
- Markers
- Stencils
- Pens or pencils
- Addresses of people who would enjoy receiving postcards from Builders such as someone in a nursing home or hospital, or someone who is confined to their home
- Postcard stamps

### WHAT YOU DO

Read 2 Kings 20:12 (NET): “At that time Merodach-Baladan son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a gift to Hezekiah, for he had heard that Hezekiah was ill.” Explain that it is thoughtful to send a letter, card, or postcard to someone who is ill, lonely, or would just enjoy getting a card in the mail. Then tell them they are going to make their own postcards and tell them about who they will be sending the cards to. Before they start decorating, show them a sample of a card you have made. Point out where they address the card and where they write a message. Also, suggest sample messages they could write, such as: have a happy day, get well soon, God bless you, or a Bible verse.

Encourage the children to decorate the front of the postcard. They can stamp, stencil, or draw a design or picture using the supplies provided. Once the postcard is decorated, have them write a message, sign their name, and address and stamp the postcard. If there is time, they can make additional postcards to take home and send to friends and family.



### Award: Postcards

To complete this award, check the requirements on p. 142 and add activities as needed.