

# CANDLEMAKING

## General Suggestions to Help Leaders:

- Encourage originality
- Show how to select materials and equipment
- Follow safety procedures

## Hand Carved Candles:

- Cuts should be smooth and uniform in size and thickness
- Use a straight curl to give a straight line to the work
- Understand what colors will blend together to set a certain mood
- Bottom of candle must be smooth and flat; a hole in the bottom does not detract from the candle
- Check for fingerprints or marks around sides and base of candles. (This is caused by holding candle too tight when cutting it.)
- Smoothness of outside layer and shine is important

## Kit Candles:

Emphasis should be on:

- Clearness of wax
- Free from mold lines
- Color combination
- Neatness

## Free-Form Candles:

Emphasis should be on:

- Color combination
- Neatness
- Abstracts should have originality

Learn proper safety procedures!

Members should further their knowledge of candlemaking and not repeat the same type of candle from previous years.

## **BEGINNERS (1-2 years in project)**

Suggested knowledge/skills to be learned:

- Learn about the types of candles that can be made at home
- Learn how to select materials and equipment
- *Learn and follow safety procedures!*
- Learn simple techniques of making candles

Suggested projects for beginners: small candles with emphasis on color combinations, simple techniques and neatness.

### **INTERMEDIATES (3-4 years in project)**

Suggested knowledge/skills to be learned:

- Continue using skills learned in previous years
- Learn more complicated candles
- Encourage original designs
- Experiment with glitter, dried flowers, decals
- Exhibits should demonstrate a better knowledge of candlemaking, not a similar candle repeated year after year

Suggested projects for intermediates: medium size candle with emphasis on above; learn cuts. No sand or water candles at this level.

### **ADVANCED (5 years and over)**

Suggested knowledge/skills to be learned:

- Continue using skills learned in previous years
- Learn more intricate cuts, advanced detail
- Learn different types of molds and use more difficult materials and techniques
- Learn to combine colors
- Learn to use different molds
- Master the skills necessary to complete a wide variety of candlemaking techniques
- Become a teen leader
- Demonstrate a technique and/or develop instructional materials
- Show and/or sell products at art shows, craft shows, etc.
- Attend county craft leaders' meeting

Suggested projects for advanced: large candles with emphasis on all of the above; no sand or water candles at this level.