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# The Artful Year: Celebrating The Seasons And Holidays With Crafts And Recipes--Over 175 Family-Friendly Activities



## Synopsis

Winner of the 2015 Parent's Choice Award From the author of *The Artful Parent*--a year's worth of art projects, seasonal activities, and recipes for simple, family-friendly crafting through the seasons and holidays. Celebrating the seasons and holidays is a wonderful opportunity to embrace creativity together as a family. It's also a fun way to decorate, prepare for, and learn about the holidays we celebrate. In *The Artful Year*, you'll find art activities, crafts, recipes, and more to help make each season special. By doing so, your family will create memories and mementos, you'll develop creative growth in your children and yourself, and you'll have lots of fun! The book includes:

- Arts and crafts, using the materials, colors, and themes of the season
- Decorations to make as a family
- Favorite seasonal recipes that are fun for children to help make (and eat)
- Ideas for celebrating the holidays together
- Suggested reading lists of children's picture books about the seasons and holidays

*The Artful Year* is a fun and active resource for crafting and celebrating around the year!

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (56 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #69,068 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Seasonal #72 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Crafts & Hobbies > Crafts for Children #83 in Books > Parenting & Relationships > Family Activities

## Customer Reviews

Such a beautiful book! I also own Jean's other book and think it is really worthwhile to own both. There are a few repeat activities, but not many. The intent of both books is so different; her first book is more about process art (exploring art without set expectations) and this book is more about craft (making stuff with more of an end goal). I love her inclusion of recipes to celebrate the seasons, as well as her lists of favorite children's books for each time of year. I love Jean's attitude toward creativity with kids; that openness and excitement doesn't come naturally to me and is a

huge help for me in knowing how to create alongside my kids.

I really wanted to love this book because I do love the blog. I am a teacher and work with young children and ordered this to use for ideas for my classroom. I was excited because it spans all of the seasons! However, after receiving this book, I find it to be too heavy on recipes for my taste and the Spring section contains 12 activities to decorate eggs! I mean, it is great that there are so many ways, but 12 ways in this one book seems excessive to me. I will say that the book is beautiful-- the pictures are gorgeous and it is nicely broken into seasons for easy reference. But the amount of recipes (45-- not all for kids to make either) is too many for what I was looking for. This book is likely being returned.

This is an excellent book for the parent (or grandparent, or anyone else who spends a lot of time with kids) who struggles to come up with ideas when it comes to arts and crafts. All of the ideas in this book can be easily completed with common items that are either around the house, or easily obtained at mass merchandise stores, so no need to search around for exotic components. Most of the projects in the book are appropriate for ages 2 and up (with adult assistance for things like cutting and using irons), but there are a couple of projects geared specifically towards older children, like melting wax onto hot stones. The details and instructions for all of the projects are clear, with a very helpful list of "ingredients" at the beginning of each project. So you will not get 3/4 of the way through a project, only to discover that you now need some exotic item/equipment to complete it. The instructions are clear enough that my 8-10 year old children were able to read and understand the ones that they looked at. This is a great book! The only reason I did not give 5 stars is because the projects found in the book can easily be found on line, or are common projects done at school or camp (like ironing crayon shavings between sheets of wax paper to make sun catchers). However, unless you have copious amounts of time to search the internet for children's activities (hoping they have detailed instructions!) the book is still a great choice for anyone seeking fun projects to do with the children in their life. I received a free copy of this book, courtesy of NetGalley, in exchange for my honest review. All opinions are my own.

For years now I have been a loyal fan and reader of Jean's The Artful Parent site, and I am just thrilled that she has put together activities to take families through an entire year of artful fun! Everything Jean does is so full of creativity and love, and this book shows all parents how to help children grow to be artful and crafty all year long. Even though our family has many traditions to walk

us through the holidays and seasons, this book has given me tons of new ideas for adding a fresh spin to our already-established norms. It has given me tons of ideas for making our current family traditions fresh and new! I'm sure that my children will be thrilled to see how we make THIS year our most artful year ever! Thank you, Jean, for designing a book that is beautiful, comprehensive, and easy for busy parents to incorporate into their children's lives-- today.

This book is not only full of wonderful crafts and recipes, but it's just really useful. When I opened my copy, I felt the need to sit down on the sofa with a cup of tea and really read some of the pages, not just flip through the pictures. There is such a warm and loving quality about the way Jean photographs her projects. She captures her children in creative moments that look so genuine and real. There is no pretense or perfection. I really connected to her writing and her lifestyle. I know The Artful Year will be one of those books that will be lovingly worn down through the years. And hopefully some day I will pass it on to my own kids when they start their families! I highly recommend this book for any parent or grandparent who wants to spend quality time being creative with their children. This book is a treasure!!

Really fantastic! Great ideas for the whole year and for different ages. Everyone likes to do creative, fun stuff! Even if you don't think the older kids will get into it, they will! Even the older older people (adults) will get in on the creativeness. I like that this book expands on some of the things we do for holidays, yet brings in season celebrating too. Most of the supplies can be found around the house or outside. So easy, simple, fun and active.

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