Goldie at Home Activity: Dutch Windmills

Activity Overview: Iowa is home to many people from different places around the world. This Goldie at Home activity focuses on a particular group, the Dutch, and the iconic windmills that can be found around Iowa and in the Netherlands. Although Iowa's famous tulip celebrations have been cancelled this year, celebrate the Dutch at home by creating your very own miniature windmill. Tulips and Dutch Letters not included.

Connection to Iowa History



Dutch immigration to Iowa began with the arrival of a group of several hundred Dutch settlers, who were led by Dominie (Reverend) H. P. Scholte in 1847. They settled in Marion County, Iowa, and founded the city of Pella. Many more Dutch followed, and eventually, a second group led by Henry Hospers began another settlement in what is now Orange City in northwestern Iowa. Today, both Pella and Orange City honor their Dutch heritage with annual Tulip celebrations in the spring.

Tulip Festival

In 1936, Orange City held their first Tulip Festival, which was originally called the May Festival. This celebration continues to this day and grew to three days of events and activities to highlight the town's Dutch heritage and the beautiful tulip.

Tulip Time

Pella's Tulip Time festival was first held in 1935, and was originally planned to promote and commemorate Pella's Dutch heritage. Pella is also home to the Vermeer Windmill, which is the tallest working windmill in North America.

Instructions

1. **Square the Paper**: Cut your paper into a square shape. An easy way to make a square is to fold the paper over into a triangle by taking one corner and lining it up to the other side.
2. **Decorate:** Using crayons or markers, decorate both sides of the square with any design you wish. Some decoration ideas include tulips, shapes or any pets you have.
3. **Fold:** Fold the paper diagonally so it turns into a triangle. Make sure to crease the fold. Repeat this for the opposite direction. After unfolding, you will have a creased "X" on the page.
4. **Cut:** You will cut each corner about halfway up the creases toward the middle of the paper. Make sure not to cut all the way to the center.
5. **Bend:** Now, bend the left corner of each cut piece into the middle of the "X" located in the center of the paper.

Materials

- Cardstock or computer paper
- Crayons or markers
- Pencil or plastic straw
- Push pin
- Scissors

Instructions continued on the next page

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Instructions continued

6 **Pin it:** After the four corners are in the middle of the "X," push the push pin to attach the windmill to the straw or pencil. Now, you can test our your windmill!

7 **Questions to Spark Learning**

- Does your town have a celebration every year like Orange City and Pella? If so, what does it celebrate? And why is that important?
- If you had to choose something for your town to celebrate, what would it be and why?
- Why do you think towns like Orange City and Pella celebrate their town's heritage?

8 **Additional Resources**

If your young historian would like to learn more about Dutch heritage or the many immigrants who settled in Iowa, explore these additional resources below.

- **Dutch Coloring Sheets** by Cameron Van Kooten Laughead for the Pella Historical Society and Museums
- **Immigration to Iowa Primary Source Set**
- **Goldie's History Kits - Immigration Think Like A... Cards**
- **Goldie's History Kits - Immigration History Mystery Activity**