

Gems of Friendship: A Treasure Chest Gift

“Ye are My treasury, for in you I have treasured the pearls of My mysteries and the gems of My knowledge.” —Bahá’u’lláh

My awesome friends Jade and Ruby are jewel beetles. Similar to sparkling gemstones, they come in amazing colors. They share their cool games and gadgets, too. But that’s not why I love them. I treasure them for their kindness and honesty. We have so much fun playing and making art together!

My beetle buddies have a culture that’s different from my firefly family’s culture. Still, they listen to me, respect

me, and encourage my creative interests. And I get super inspired learning about their traditions and crafts. The brilliant way they use color lights up my imagination!

To show my thanks, I made Ruby and Jade a treasure chest gift. Inside are photos, drawings, and souvenirs of our best memories.

What do you love about your friends? Create this gift to express what makes them shine!

A GIFT FOR MY TREASURED FRIENDS!



You'll Need

- 2 pieces of 3½" x 2½" (8.9 cm x 6.4 cm) sturdy cardboard
- 17" x ½" (43.2 cm x 1.3 cm) ribbon
- 2½" (6.4 cm) circle for tracing
- craft sticks
- craft gems
- ruler
- scissors
- pencil
- tacky glue
- decorative bead
- decorative paper
- masking tape

- 1 (a) Draw a line across both pieces of cardboard that’s 2" (5.1 cm) from a short end. Cut along lines to make four rectangles. (b) Place circle over smaller rectangle so edges meet (on three sides). Use pencil to trace it. Cut rounded corners. Repeat for other rectangle.



- 2 Trace each cardboard shape twice on paper. Cut out shapes and glue to front and back of cardboard pieces.



- 3 Place seven sticks in an even row to form bottom of box. Tape across center to hold sticks in place.

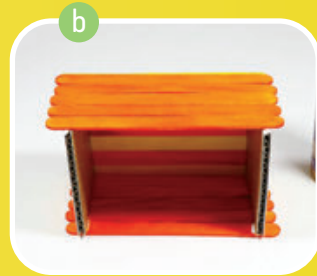




- 4 Cover one long edge of both cardboard rectangles with glue. Center each gluey edge $\frac{1}{4}$ " (0.6 cm) from end of sticks. When dry, remove tape.



- 5 (a) Turn bottom of box on its side. Glue five sticks centered on short edges of cardboard to form a side of the box. Let dry. (b) Turn box over and repeat Step 5 on opposite side.



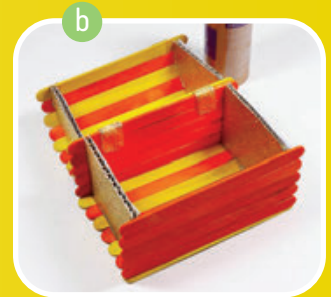
- 6 (a) Place twelve sticks in an even row. Tape across center of row to secure sticks. Place two more tape pieces about $\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 cm) from central strip on each side. (b) Cover curved edge of each small cardboard piece with glue. Center each gluey edge upside down, $\frac{1}{4}$ " (0.6 cm) from ends of sticks. Carefully wrap sticks around edges of both curves to form curved lid of chest. Cup hands underneath to support curve. When dry, remove tape.



- 7 Glue two 7" (17.8 cm) pieces of ribbon around lid's top, about 1" (2.5 cm) from each side. Make sure extra lengths of ribbon hang over same side.



- 8 (a) Fit lid over chest base. Trim or press cardboard edges a bit for closure, if needed. Glue extra lengths of ribbon along back of box as a hinge to attach lid. Let dry. (b) Open lid. Glue two pieces of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (3.8 cm) ribbon inside box to reinforce hinge. Let dry.



- 9 Glue $\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " (1.3 x 6.4 cm) paper strips to cover exposed cardboard edges.



- 10 Decorate box with bead and gems. Fill with treasures (such as photos, drawings, or souvenirs) that honor your friendship. Give as a gift to your friend!

