Crafting Together: Mushroom Fairy Houses for Earth Day with Courtney and

Chapter 1 - Crafting Together: Mushroom Fairy Houses for Earth Day

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(lighthearted music) (lighthearted music) (lighthearted music) - Hi everybody. Welcome to Creative Bug. We're coming live from our studio. I'm Courtney and I'm here with- - Stephanie aka Twinkie Chan. - And it's finally spring. I'm so happy about that. The flowers are blooming all over, our atmospheric rivers have calmed to just little drizzles here and there and the sun is out. And it's April, so it's Earth Day is this month as well. - Yes, I believe Saturday. - Yeah. So I was thinking it would be fun to do something that's like celebrates springtime. I also have a toddler and I always like to sort of encourage the child within. So we're doing fairy houses for today's live. This could be a very eco-friendly version using all-natural elements, outside, in your garden, or anywhere, on a walk. But you could also do a more everlasting version in your home. And that's what we're gonna do because we're in the studio today instead of outside. So if you're gonna follow along, you might wanna have a couple of terracotta pots along with the bases in a variety of sizes. And we're actually gonna flip this whole thing over to make little toad stools or mushrooms. Do you call them toad stools or mushrooms? - I call them mushrooms. I call them mushies. - Mushies (laughing). - My mushy house. - And I love your dress because- - Thank you. Put it on just for today. - Perfectly in theme. So pick out some terracotta pots and saucers. The other things that we have gathered, again, because we're doing the version that we're gonna keep in our house, are some artificial flowers and greenery, whatever you have lying around. It could be from an old wreath or something that you found at the local craft store. We've got moss. This is natural moss, so this could be used outside as well. Some straw flowers. Those have been dried from the actual living plant, so that could be inside or outside. And then craft paint, acrylic markers, and then your kind of general crafting supplies. Again, for our indoor version, we're using some hot glue. And then because we're not doing this outside and we want something that we can maybe move around in our house, put on a bookshelf or on a mantle, we're using a vintage or upcycled book for our base. So we each have one and I already painted mine like a foresty green. And you've got one that's natural. - [Stephanie] I liked the color of this, I'm gonna keep it unpainted. - I love it, it's very like fairytale Cinderella blue. It's really nice. You can also use dried flowers, if you want something that you're gonna start in your house and then move outside maybe and let it just warm up to the elements. And did you have any idea for your fairy house starting? Do you have like a theme you're gonna go for? - Well, I was poking around on the internet a couple of minutes ago and I like, I crochet a lot of mushrooms and so the classic like amanita, like it's the red with the white polka dots, so I kind of wanted to do something different. - Yeah, yeah. - And I saw these houses that had sort of mossy, leafy roofs, so I think I might paint a base but really like start gluing a bunch of stuff on top. - Like very green. - Yeah. - Like a little green- - Mossy. - Fairy forest table. - Yeah. I've never done it so I don't know if it'll look like a hot mess. - No, I'm sure it'll be good. That'll be a good thing too cause you can gather leaves, let them dry out or use fresh ones if you're doing this. When I'm working with my toddler outside, we just gather what's around. So stones, sticks and just lean things up against a base or a bush or a pot that's already there. For this version, I'm gonna start by painting my elements that I want to dry and then I can add on to them. So do you know what size house you're gonna do? - [Stephanie] I'm making a house for my frog friends. - [Courtney] Oh my gosh, he's the cutest. - [Stephanie] So I mean it doesn't really matter, he's not actually gonna like live in this house, but I'm thinking like a medium

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mushroom will suit him. - Oh cute, yeah. - How about you? What are you gonna do? - [Courtney] I don't know. I've got, I like this little pairing, so I've turned my pot upside down and then I'm just using the saucer as its little mushroom cap. I also like like a really small one- - Oh, that's cute. - And I painted this one earlier. - [Stephanie] I like that. - So pick out your pairing and then you're gonna wanna paint your terracotta top, saucer, which now we're making the cap. Unless you're doing something like Steph, where you're just gonna glue a bunch of fun stuff, in which case you can leave it natural. You can also, if you're doing this outside, my partner did this actually, Jill, you can take buttermilk and like moss. You can paint buttermilk on this to like encourage moss to grow. - Whoa! - And you can also have like a moss starter, where you put a little bit of moss and water and you put it in the blender and then you use that to paint. And then you're making like natural moss paint so moss will be encouraged to grow onto your surface. So you could do that. You have to wait though, you have to be more patient. I'm not that patient. - [Stephanie] Sounds really cool though. It's like grow your own crystals. - [Courtney] Yeah, grow your own moss. So I started with this little terracotta base and I've already given it a coat of paint. And I think I actually want to change it to purple, so I'm just using acrylic craft paint here and I'm gonna go back over. - [Stephanie] I can't decide what size pot to use. These are tough decisions. - [Courtney] Ask the frog what does he want. - [Stephanie] (laughing) The frog. Well, we're live so if you have opinions. - [Courtney] Oh yeah, we are live, so feel free to write in the discussion questions. Leanna is moderating for us, so she will let us know if you have any questions. Let us know if you've done a fairy house before or maybe you don't even call it a fairy house, maybe it's like a little wild animal critter house. - [Stephanie] What is inspiring your fairy house design today? - [Courtney] You know, I have never been a purple person, but I am like really into this lavender color right now. So I think I'm just gonna go with the color. I usually am inspired more by the materials. So I'm just painting this. And again, depending on how solid you want it to look, you can give it more than one coat. While I'm letting that dry, I was gonna show you, our friends here who are watching, these are champagne corks and you can also make little mushrooms or toad stools out of these. I'm just gonna use a new paintbrush and using red. You can also use markers, if you're working with like really little kids, or you can use washable paint. You can make little tiny toad stools out of these champagne corks. - [Stephanie] I think this is really fun for, I knock over my pots a lot in the garden and they crack or they have like a chunk missing. But you could totally- - Yeah, upcycle this. - [Stephanie] Keep them and yeah, make these really cute houses. - [Courtney] Yeah, I think the more rustic quality for a fairy house makes it look a little more authentic. Authentic fairy house. Okay, so here's my champagne cork, turning it into like a little toad stool. And I tend to, I don't know, I'm just such a sucker for the classic red and white fairytale, like you said, amanita muscaria. - [Stephanie] I feel that. I do make those a lot as well. Oh, that's really adorable. - [Courtney] That's to dry before I add any white dots, otherwise they won't turn out. This is something you can do. So you could start like a little craft assembly line here. And so here's another small top that I painted with the lavender paint and then now it's dry and I'm gonna pair it, you pair it with like a really little guy. Let's see, I think the proportions of that are a little funny. Yeah, I think I'll do something like this. Now this is hanging down a lot. I could try lifting it up a bit. And I don't think I brought a exacto knife, but if you were gonna, you could cut off a little bit of cork and glue it or place it just on top of this and then have the hat sit or the mushroom cap sit a little bit higher. You can also just, you know, take a stone or something and glue it and then if you're using glue, otherwise you can just use like the weight, the natural gravity to hold everything down. So once you have this, you can add, if you wanna do any decoration, you could do vines on top of your mushroom. You could glue some moss like I think Steph is gonna do it. You could go

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with some of this purple moss and add something like this. - [Stephanie] Ooh, I didn't even see that purple moss. Really, it's just- - The green stuff. - [Stephanie] pile of wonderfulness. - [Courtney] Yeah, you could play with that. You could give your your mushroom top another hat. - [Stephanie] (laughing) That's cute. - [Courtney] I think I'm gonna just do some, like a fun pattern on this. Maybe I'll do dark purple dots instead. So here we're using paint pens. - [Leanna] I have a question for Twinkie while you're doing your purple dots. Kathleen would like to know do you have the frog friend pattern on Creative Bug or is there somewhere else that you could find. - So Kathleen is asking about a crochet pattern for my frog friend. And I do, in fact, I think I have it, I definitely on Etsy, perhaps also on Ravelry, but I can't remember. And he also, like he lives in a mushroom forest so you can buy like a pattern bundle, where it's the frog friend and like three different kinds of mushrooms. - That's too cute. - You can definitely also have a frog giveaway. And they look really cute amongst your house plants. - Oh my god, he's so cute. - Like your little friend. - He's such like a little chubbers, I love him. - He's based on if you, I follow a lot of bakers. This is totally irrelevant to like fairy houses and Earth Day, but I love, there's a lot of cute sort of Asian, Korean bakers. - Yeah. - very creative with butter creme and they make lots of creatures out of blobs of butter cream. So he's actually a blobby butter cream frog. - He's so cute. - Yeah. - Does he have a name? Just buttercream frog. - I think it was just frog (laughing). We'll let other people name their own frogs. - Yeah, he's really cute. How many little frog friends do you have at your house? - Just the one. - Only one. Well, I sell them. - Frog friend doesn't even have a frog friend. - Or give them away. I made him because, this is also completely irrelevant, but- - People wanna know. - There's an Instagram video of him making his own quilts. - I saw that. It's like the cutest thing I've ever seen. We should do a tiny quilt like that too as a live. - I got very inspired because I was taking Heidi Park's daily practice, quilting daily practice. She was teaching you how to do Patrick by hand, so I just turned it into his tiny quilt. - You're like I only have enough pieces to do this four inches square, totally. - That's how I feel. - Oh, I love that, that's so cute. I also found these little buttons that are woodland theme. You could add like a little gnome, he's in good proportion. Again, if you're doing this at home, it could be hot glue. If you're gonna do it outside, look for more natural elements or just know that they're gonna weather and then make sure that once they have weathered, you're upcycling or doing something different with them. I don't want the plastic to live on in your backyard for too long. I also found these like little paper mache mushrooms that you could potentially add. - Those are so sweet. - They're so cute. Actually, I like this sort of like purple and yellow together. - So now this is the fun part, you sort of pick your terracotta pot for your mushroom house. You paint your base layers, you add some elements with your paint pens, and then you can sort of gather the materials to paint your scene. For the bottom of my mushroom, I actually wanna do little windows, maybe a door, so I'm also gonna use the paint pens for that. What are you gonna do on your little house? - I think definitely a door and a window. Maybe do like a yellow window with a frame, like the lights on inside. - [Courtney] Cute! Oh my gosh we have to do like little curtains. Okay, let's see. I think I'm gonna start with a little window. - [Stephanie] I've never used this glue gun before. - [Courtney] Yeah, it's a pretty industrial one. it's nice and hot 'cause the terracotta pot cools the glue as you add it, so I think the industrial glue gun works the best. But again, you could also use, if you have the patience, you could use like tacky glue and just know that it has to dry. - [Stephanie] Just know that the industrial ones, they get super hot. - They do. - So I'm just trying to make sure, especially if it's such a porous item, to not get it on my fingers. - [Courtney] Can we use, I don't think we have, oh, we can use one of these as a poker. (Twinkie emoting) - Pokey tools. - [Courtney] These little fairy houses are very forgiving so if you mess up, just turn it to the back, glue some moss over it. -

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[Stephanie] Can we just glue more things on top of the other things? - [Courtney] Yes, absolutely. - [Stephanie] And it'll eventually look good. - [Courtney] I know, I was trying to think like what is the fairy forest equivalent of sprinkles? Like not glitter, don't put glitter in your yard. - Hmm. - Actually I was at the Rose Garden this weekend and there was an official sign that said no glitter. It was the first time I'd ever seen that. 'Cause it's not good for your natural environment. - [Stephanie] Yeah. I thought they made like biodegradable glitter now. And I'm not sure what it's made out of or how sparkly it is- - Oh yeah. - But I've seen some on Etsy, I just haven't like purchased any and seen any in real life yet. - [Courtney] Like what is the, what's the natural version of sprinkles? - Pollen? - Pollen. That seems like that might be hard to get on your house. - [Stephanie] Um, true. Just like tiny pebbles. - Little flower pedals. - Oh that's cute. - [Courtney] I feel like it would be fun to do a beachy version of this and have a few seashells and sand and some fun things. I like, these are the Poska paint pens. They actually are fairly opaque on the terracotta, which I like. You also don't have to use natural terracotta. You could play with other pots that you might have lying around. If they're painted or have like a glossy surface, you just have to make sure that your paint or your pens are gonna stick to it. - [Stephanie] I feel like I'm fully utilizing the little things I'm trying to share. - [Courtney] Oh no, no, go for it. I'm still drawing. - Okay. - [Courtney] If you guys have any questions, let us know in the chat. Leanna is standing by. - [Leanna] We have a suggestion. - [Courtney] A suggestion, we love it. - [Leanna] Pamela says she's used corks and safely sliced them to paint circle shapes that are perfect for polka dots on mushrooms. - Oh that's such a good idea. - That's really smart. - We have someone saying that they have just safely cut the cork using an exacto or a blade to make perfect little circles and then you can glue those on to the cap to make the dots for the mushroom instead of painting them or drawing them, Which is such a cute idea, I love that. That's a good suggestion. - It's fun to just wander around the house or outside and sort of think of things in different ways. - Yeah. - Like using them in different ways. - Absolutely. Okay, those are my sort of windows. Let's see. - [Stephanie] Running out of like the one moss. Gonna have to- - The reindeer moss. You need something else. - Diversify mosses. - [Courtney] Also, this is like sheet moss. This is fun. You can get this also at the craft store or floral supply. - [Stephanie] Oh, sorry. - [Courtney] I think tearing it makes it look more natural and you can start with that as a base. So maybe I'll glue some of that. - [Stephanie] These would be really cute on like a teacup saucer too. - Oh yeah, absolutely. I used to make a lot of like little worlds inside vintage teacups. We have a live, I think, where Faith took like a vintage teacup and made it into a candle. But if you have some leftover from that craft, you could totally make little tiny woodland worlds inside. I like that idea, Steph. Uh-oh. Oh just paint, nothing to burn you. - No, I would've made a much louder sound if I got burned. - [Courtney] Ah! Okay, I've got some little glue gun bits here so maybe my house will go over that. - [Stephanie] I have that like blank sketchbook, like you know you're sort of like, ah, I can't, I don't wanna ruin the pot. - The blank page? - Yeah. - [Courtney] You're gonna always paint over it, don't worry. You can always paint over it. Okay, let's see. Here's my little house. I think I do wanna lift up his hat, but I need a piece of cork for that, which I forgot to bring. Or you know what, I can just glue some moss 'cause it's pretty thick. - [Stephanie] This brown on brown is not super showing up. - [Courtney] Before you glue down your little house, definitely make sure, if you are gonna glue it down, make sure that you have everything finished 'cause it'd be hard to draw on it once it's in place. So I'm just gonna see if I wanna add anything to the bottom. Maybe just something along the bottom here. - [Stephanie] I feel like the doors have this like, I don't know what to call them, like the hinge. - [Courtney] Oh yeah, yeah, like a storybook. And I feel like that then they're made out of like slats of wood. - [Stephanie] Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. Wonder what

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that looks like? Oh, I should've- - I know, photo reference. - [Stephanie] Should've looked that up beforehand. - [Courtney] Get a photo reference when in doubt. - [Leanna] Okay, I have another question for you guys. What kind of stand or base would you put this on? - Okay, someone's asking what kind of stand or base would you build your little fairy house on? Because we're keeping ours indoors, we're using a book, like a used or damaged book, hardback book, as the base. But you could also, if you're gonna do it outside, you could put it in another pot. You could have dirt, you could do moss, you could just find a natural flat part in the landscape. I was saying in the beginning of the live that when I do this with my toddler, like at any park we're at on any given day, on every weekend, we just gather sticks and rocks and then we just make it around like the base of a tree. So just lean it up at the base of the tree. So you can just use like whatever's handy. If you wanna build up more of a surface and you are using a book, you can use tissue paper and glue that in place and then cover it with moss. I've done that on this little guy. So I had two sizes where I have one little mushroom house here and then another one actually on the base. And then you can see some of the painted champagne corks. You just create your little scene. But like Steph was saying too, you could do it inside of a teacup as well. Okay, so I'm gonna glue some moss. Just not that you're gonna see, but just as like a lifter. Whoop. - [Stephanie] You're so far ahead, I feel very behind right now. - [Courtney] Take your time. I picked a very tiny one. - [Stephanie] Speedy crafting. You can really kind of get in the weeds here with detail. - Literal imperative. - Yeah. - [Courtney] Okay, now mine just looks like it has funny hair, but I'm just gonna cover that up so that I just have more room to see those windows. If you are using hot glue, just beware of all the little hot glue gun strings. They can look like spiderwebs though, so you don't have to worry about it if you're going for your fairy house of spiderwebs. Okay, so I haven't glued him down yet, but he's sort of looking like that. - [Stephanie] Oh, that's adorable. - [Courtney] I think it's gonna be cute with some of these yellow accents around it. And I also found this faux strawberry that I absolutely love. I don't know how it's gonna fit in. And maybe it might not this time, but we'll see. All right, I think I want a higher area, so I'm gonna use more moss. Now one thing I haven't played with is adding like little critters, like you're adding your frog. I haven't attempted to make a fairy to go into this. I kind of like the idea of just the fairy comes and goes. But I think little animal friends would be cute. - [Stephanie] And I'm imagining like a mouse lives in here? - Oh yeah. - Like a cute little mouse. - [Courtney] Yeah, it doesn't have to be a fairy house, it could be mouse house. I love that idea. Like Brambly Hedge or Beatrix Potter style. Tiny critters in tiny cute houses. You can't go wrong with that. - [Stephanie] Oh that's really cute. - [Courtney] Okay, it's kind of coming together. So yep, now I want to create some space around. If you're using the artificial florals, make sure you have either a wire cutter or garden shears or something for cutting the wire part. You don't wanna use your regular scissors for that. Again, if you wanted like a more earth-friendly version of this, something that doesn't have to last quite as long, then you can use dried flowers or gathered flowers. We're doing something for inside that we do want to last. I feel like there's so many good kids book stories, where there are little animals outside, like I said, like Brambly Hedge or something. So you could definitely get inspiration from a kid's book for your house. - [Stephanie] Did you just run hot glue along the bottom edge here? - [Courtney] Yes, but be careful it doesn't drip off onto you. So you could just do it, like just kind of eyeball it and go, doop. You should glue this down first. - [Stephanie] Right, seems dangerous (laughing). - [Courtney] No, cause you can always put more moss if it's- - [Stephanie] That's true. - [Courtney] Put this here so you can see it. I definitely would not recommend using floral foam. I feel like that stuff is gonna be on the earth forever and ever and ever, do don't use floral foam. I did see that there's like an eco version of floral foam now. Do you know what I'm talking about? It's like

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those green bricks of foam. Have you ever used those? - The Oasis? - Yeah. - [Stephanie] I did not think that that was a natural element. - It's definitely not. - [Stephanie] But now they have? - [Courtney] But now, no, I don't think Oasis is making it. I think someone else is making it. They're making like compostable, biodegradable versions but I think it's awesome- - That's cool, yeah. - [Courtney] 'Cause that stuff is definitely does not feel like it's earth-friendly otherwise. But I think that's standing up. You wanna make sure that you build up enough things around it to keep it in place. - [Stephanie] This glue is intense (laughing). - [Courtney] Yeah, it's definitely hot, be careful. - [Stephanie] Yeah. - [Courtney] I already have a lot stuck to my fingers. - [Stephanie] Have you ever used those rubber finger things? - [Courtney] No, I haven't. I like that idea though. - [Stephanie] I feel like it makes it difficult to feel the items that you're working with but it seems really smart. - [Courtney] Safer for your fingers. - [Stephanie] Yeah, especially if it's an industrial glue gun. - Um-hmm. Do we have a big mushroom? - [Stephanie] It's starting to feel like something. - [Courtney] Oh, I love it. It's really cute. I love his mossy little house. - [Stephanie] It looks like he's wearing a little hat or a wig or something. - His wig. Got it? - Got it. Making like our own new, mossy ball. - [Courtney] Take that off maybe, I don't know. Okay, we're just keeping at it. Just adding here until you feel like it has enough fun little elements. You can always add more later too, once you have it in place and decide that it needs something extra. If you're gonna do it for a tablescape, like for a birthday party or just to keep on your dining room table for a season, make sure that it looks nice on all sides. So you wanna make sure there's not a back. That as you turn it around, there are cute things to look at on every side. I like the idea of it being a little mouse house, that's so cute. I think I'm gonna glue another little mushroom back here. - [Stephanie] So maybe little tiny bookmarks. - [Courtney] Those are adorable! Those are bookmarks? Oh my gosh. - [Stephanie] I think I'm gonna use them to stick out of my house here. - [Courtney] Are you just gonna add them with hot glue or- - Yeah. - Yeah. And those are crocheted? - Yeah. - [Courtney] Oh my gosh, they're cute. - [Stephanie] It's really fast and then the wire's just wrapped with yarn. - It's really cute. Okay, you might also have luck with using like glue dots, if the hot glue seems scary. - [Stephanie] I have no luck with glue dots. I might be buying the wrong kind. - [Courtney] I think you need really good ones, like the ones from the floral supply place also. I think I'm going like yellow and purple here mostly. What else am I gonna add? - [Stephanie] Wish I had a chimney. Do you have any recommendations? - [Courtney] A chimney. Well, you can use a cork as a chimney and then- - [Stephanie] Does that look like a chimney? - [Courtney] There's also some straight corks. - [Stephanie] Oh, some's already chopped in half. - Perfect, use that one. - Okay. - [Courtney] Yeah, that's good. I like also to have like a variety of heights. So we have some things that are tall and some things that are tiny and some things that are short. - [Stephanie] It's like a flower arranging class. - [Courtney] Yeah, pretty much. - [Stephanie] Well, it's a little puffy but- - [Courtney] It also helps play with the scale. This feels like it's really nestled in to its environment. You could even experiment with using Play-Doh. I mean, you have to let it dry, if you're doing this with a kid. I mean, Play-Doh does get hard. So instead of using glue, you could set things into Play-Doh and just make sure it stays untouched for a few days. That would work really well for the C1 too 'cause Play-Doh, the salt kind of comes to the surface. My child makes a lot of things out of Play-Doh and then we have to keep them. (Stephanie laughing) - [Stephanie] I'm excited to see your art collection 20 years from now. - Oh my gosh, it's so funny. I think I'm gonna just start gluing them onto cards and giving them away 'cause they're mostly flat little creations, at the moment. Okay, here you need this back. - [Stephanie] Just for a second. - [Courtney] So we're just adding little elements until we find a good balance. - [Stephanie] 'Cause you're like, "How do you know when it's done?" - I know. - You

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just have to keep putting stuff all over it. - [Courtney] I mean, I think fairy houses can be maximalists. I mean, if you look at the forest floor in nature, there are lots of little things to continue to look at. There are rocks and stones and pebbles and leaves and all kinds of things, so you can just keep on keeping on, I feel like. - [Stephanie] I feel like this is the wrong perspective. It kind of goes down here- - [Courtney] Oh, it's so cute! I love how you used the strawberry flower. That looks really natural coming out like that. It's so cute. - [Stephanie] I like yours, the scale, like the tiny, tiny mushroom house with these gigantic flowers over it, it's very cute. - [Courtney] The outcropping. I'm also liking this, using this palate knife as a pointer to save my fingertips from being burned by the hot glue, as I'm blinding poking into the moss here. - [Stephanie] I know you recommended that to me and I haven't been using it. - [Courtney] Okay, it did go down, that little flower. I feel like it needs a buddy of some kind. I think just to fall in, a little something. - [Stephanie] I actually glued my book to my- - [Courtney] That is so cute, Steph. I love the little strawberry. They're like little umbrellas, the little crocheted mushrooms and the- - Yeah. - Those are really cute. - [Stephanie] There might not be room for the frog anymore but, you know- - [Courtney] Oh yeah, he can come live at my house. (Stephanie laughing) Aww, he's so cute. - [Stephanie] He can visit this house. - [Courtney] Come visit me. - [Stephanie] That's cute (laughing). - [Courtney] It's so cute. I would not glue him in place. - Oh no, no, no. - I feel like he could go and visit a bunch of little places. - [Stephanie] It's just like a little village. He can hang out at everyone's house. - Yeah. - Yeah. - [Courtney] I love your strawberries, they're adorable. Maybe I need just the leaves. I feel like these leaves look more realistic too so maybe those are nice to add. - [Stephanie] Normally, I'm a super maximalist but I'm feeling like- - You've reached your peak. - [Stephanie] I'm feeling cool with how this is turning out. Did you use your cork mushroom? - [Courtney] No, not yet. I don't know if I'll use this one in my landscape here because I think the color, I'm going a different colorway. You can use mine, if you want it. - [Stephanie] I'm not sure. Maybe, hmm. Also, this definitely needs another coat. The light color on the cork really kind of sucked it all up. - Yeah. If you're working with the pastels, it can be sort of hit or miss on how many coats it might need. - [Stephanie] I might steal your red mushroom. - [Courtney] Do it, I'm not using it. Okay, and maybe one other strawberry leaf here. - It's super dry. - Yeah, that's okay. - [Stephanie] Being patient is hard. Now I'm gonna ruin your pen. - [Courtney] Oh no, it's fine, we can wipe it off. - [Stephanie] I'm gonna use a regular pen. It's just dots. - Oh yeah, dots are- - [Stephanie] Yeah, I don't need to use the Posca. - [Courtney] I sort of think of making a fairy house as like a kid-friendly craft, which I think it is, but it's also very satisfying as adults. - [Stephanie] No, it really is. I find that when I do non-crochet crafts for these lives, especially with you 'cause I don't have to do all the talking, you really get in the zone. - Yeah. - You're like, I'm just here by myself- - [Courtney] Gluing some more things. - [Stephanie] Yeah, gluing and painting. - [Courtney] Okay, I like how this is turning out. It's so cute. I feel like a little ant or a little ladybug would be really cute. I don't have a ladybug here but, wait, can I turn the strawberry into a ladybug? I feel like a ladybug would be cute. Let's see. The strawberry flowers are nice 'cause they have the yellow center. Actually, the red's kind of like a nice accent. I wonder how believable that is though? It's like all jammed into the corner. - [Stephanie] It looks abundant and fantastical. - [Courtney] Abundant and fantastical, hmm. - [Stephanie] Hmm, skeptic. - [Courtney] It is nice to have another color in there a little bit though. - A nice pop. - [Courtney] Can I get one of your orange poppies? - [Stephanie] Yeah. - [Courtney] Maybe that's what I need. Thank you. Again, more height. This would've been fun for an Easter table. Easter's already passed but maybe you do, like you have a spring birthday to celebrate, this would be really fun. I mean, I could definitely see making this as a kid's activity at a birthday party for like a seven-year-old or, I mean, all the way up

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to 12, to be honest. I don't know if it needs anything else. Maybe I should just leave it for now. - [Stephanie] Yeah, I feel like- - [Courtney] Let it, just see how I like it too. - [Stephanie] I feel like it's speaking to me and saying, "Stop doing stuff to me." - [Courtney] "I'm full." Maybe I just need a gnome. - [Stephanie] Oh, that's sweet. - [Courtney] He can even just hang out here until I've made up my mind. He doesn't have to be glued in place. He's just hanging out. Did you ever see "David and the Gnomes", that cartoon? It's from when I was really little. - Yeah. - I think about that. It was very, I think, influential. - [Stephanie] Did you watch "The Littles"? It was like a Saturday morning cartoon, like these really tiny- - [Courtney] Were they "Borrowers" style? - [Stephanie] I never actually read or watched "The Borrowers". - [Courtney] But are they outdoors or indoors? - Indoors. - Yeah, I think it's like "Borrowers" because those were little, tiny people who live in the house. - Yeah. - [Courtney] I feel like that does sound familiar, now that you say that. I'm gonna have to go watch these all like on YouTube. In square format, that's the thing that drives me crazy. - [Stephanie] I think I have a DVD of "The Littles". You can borrow it. - Okay, yay. Report back for a Littles live. - [Stephanie] They live in like, you know, milk cartoon houses. It's cute. - That's so cute. Oh my gosh, that's what we should do next is upcycled period houses made from recycling materials. - [Stephanie] That would be fun. - [Courtney] Okay, I think mines kind of coming to an end. - [Stephanie] Feeling good. Aww. - Let's see, aww, your frog friend looks happy. - [Stephanie] He always looks happy. That's the beauty of being a frog. - [Courtney] Oh my God, it's so cute, I love it. Oh, it's so sweet. Do you want strawberries? You're like no, you're done. - [Stephanie] Stop, no, that is cute. - Yeah, no, this is nice with the little cluster up here. These are so fun to make. I mean, honestly, we could make many, many of these and continue going on because, like Steph said, once you start, it's hard to stop. They're so fun. And they come together really quickly, especially if you have a lot of these craft materials. And I love your idea of using the terracotta pots that might have a crack in them. If they're weathered, all the better. They look more like an authentic fairy house, I suppose. Yeah, they're just really fun for Spring. And of course, you could do this for any season and just change up your elements. - Or Halloween. - Absolutely. - You can do like a spooky fairy house. - Yeah, or you could even make a tiny pumpkin house and then use like autumn leaves. You could do a bat house would be super cute, like in a little log or something. They're so, so, so fun. Oh my gosh, so cute. - [Stephanie] They look really fun. - Are you gonna do another one when you get home? - Can I take this one home? - Oh yeah, of course. - I'm gonna keep it. - Because we're live, we're just checking to see if you have any questions before we sign off. - [Leanna] Lots of suggestions. - Let's hear some of the suggestions. - [Leanna] Wonder said, "The frog needs a cute little chair." - Ah, yes, the frog does need a chair. - I feel like you could make a chair out of popsicle sticks. - Like a stool. - Oh, a stool! That would be really cute. The frog needs a chair. Maybe, I was gonna say a hat. - [Leanna] Oh, a hat, that would be- - Oh, a flower hat. - Or like a leaf umbrella. - [Leanna] Another person suggested putting something like home sweet home on the book binding. - Oh, that's a great idea. So if you are using a book, if the title does not suit your scene, then you can make your own title, like home sweet home. That's really sweet. - [Leanna] Very cute. And then somebody else said, "This would be cute with an old teapot that's missing it's lid or a bit cracked." - I love that. - An antique old teapot. - Those are all really good thriftable finds or things you might already have lying at home. Here, let's do a little- - Like a reveal. - You can see our little worlds here. - A glue string world. - I wanna live in your imagination. That's so cute. Look at this! This is how you did that? - Yeah, a little flower hat. - That's very much like "Thumbelina". You are so sweet. - It's a social media thing. You stick flowers on ducks. - And Charlie. Stayed tuned for a flower hat on Charlie. - Yes. - Oh, these are so fun. Yeah, I feel like you could pick your favorite

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storybook character and make them a little house, your favorite outdoor wild creature. Again, if you're gonna do it outside for Earth Day, you can just gather all natural elements, like sticks and rocks, and just make a little popup tiny fairy house in your neighborhood and see if the fairies come. - So sweet. - Join us for our next live. We'll be broadcasting on Zoom with Faith Hale and Heidi Parks. We'll be talking about mental health and slow stitching and how those things come together in May. So the registration will be open shortly, so keep an eye out for that. It's been so fun hanging out with you guys and making our fairy houses. Thanks for joining us today. Thanks, Steph. - Thank you. (lighthearted music)

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