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Thanks, Aunt Zelda! Thank-You Cards for Kids to Craft

Cynthia MacGregor
Anouk Perusse-Bell, illustrator
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Opening presents-who doesn't look forward to the excitement of feeling special and wondering what's in those beautifully wrapped boxes? When everything is unwrapped, there's more to be done than cleaning up. It's time to write Thank-You Notes-moms love them, children dread them, and they have to be written. This book shows kids why thank-you notes are so important to write and send, even if the gift is awful, and gives directions for ten thank-you cards for kids to create.

The author, known as "the Martha Stewart of the kindergarten set," explains to kids that it's just good manners to express appreciation for the time and effort taken to purchase a gift for them. For young writers who don't know where to start, suggestions for a basic friendly letter are given. What about the worst gift on the planet? Diplomacy is the key, and examples show that it can be done. For example, is the color of the sweater blah? Write that its neutral color will go with everything.

The card ideas are enticing ways to get kids to take care of a task that they often put off, causing stress for the whole family. The craft section starts with a collage card, a comic character note, a glittering stars card (which uses silver glitter and aluminum foil), and a jigsaw note. Confetti cards, cards made in different shapes like rockets, picture cards crafted with yarn and markers or crayons, and potato-stamp cards will pique the interest of reluctant correspondents. A stencil-and-splatter card invites kids to be creative with paint. Complete directions are given, along with supplies needed to make each card.

Teachers, group leaders, and parents will be able to use this book to encourage children to fulfill their social obligations in an enjoyable and creative way.
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