

The lively needle

Stitchery is fun for kids

Stitchery can be great fun for children and for parents, too. It gives experience with color and texture, and opens channels of communication between parent and child. Organize the project well in advance and then let your child do his own thing.

You can begin stitching when children are 2½ or 3. The secret of success at this age is parent-pressuredness. Have materials ready ahead of time so that when your child is interested, no time will be lost. Attention spans are short and you won't want to waste precious time looking for a needle.

Make sewing cards of eight by 10 inch oblongs of fiberglass screening. Cover all edges with masking tape.

Use needlepoint yarns or perle embroidery cottons in No. 3 or 5 weights. Cut 18-inch pieces of various colors. Dip one end of each piece in white glue and let it dry on wax paper. Knot the other end so that it can't pass through the fiberglass meshes. Set the materials aside.

When the right moment comes, you'll be prepared. Forget needles and let your youngster push the hardened ends through the screening. Since taking out stitches is as much

fun as putting them in, the materials can be used over and over again.

ANOTHER EASY idea for children in this age group is to turn their own art into stitches. Most children love to paint and draw. Let them work on shirt cardboard.

When everything is dry, poke holes around the design every half inch with a nut picker or large needle. Be sure that the holes are slightly larger than the yarn he'll use. Let him embellish his own work with stiffened yarn or a threaded needle. These creations often lend themselves to framing and giving as family presents.

School age children like to design their own stitches, too. Here's a more sophisticated technique for them.

Let the child draw or paint his picture on a sheet of tracing paper. Tack or staple natural burlap or monk's cloth over the back of an old picture frame. Base the paper over the stretched cloth. Let him stitch through both layers, using a blunt tapestry needle. When he's finished, the paper will be perforated. Gently tear it away and the embroidery will remain on the cloth.



By MARY KAY DAVIS

eye of the needle.

IF THE CHILD is having trouble threading his needle, a fine hairpin makes a great threader for a No. 18 tapestry needle. Just put the hairpin loop through the needle's eye and thread the yarn through the loop. The hairpin will pull the yarn through the

Older children may wish to include seeds, dyed macaroni, sea shells, "one cones and other 'found'" objects in their stitches. It's a great way to thin out collections that threaten to crowd the child out of his room. Couching is the way to attach found objects.

Block children's stitches as you would any embroidery. Frame them, make cushions from them, or use two to make a tote bag for your child to carry his lunch to school in. The greatest compliment for an embroiderer of any age is to have his work used.

Women veterans to install

Virginia Nagy of Madison Heights will be installed as the 1977-78 president of the Detroit chapter of the Women's Army Corps-Veterans Association at an officer's installation dinner, Sept. 10.

The dinner at Macbus Sly Fox, 725 South Hunt, Birmingham, is open

to WACs or former WACs and their families and friends.

Other women who will be installed as officers include Violet Kincaid, Grosse Pointe Park, first vice-president; Lorraine Wall, Royal Oak, second vice-president; Sandra Intorre, Allen Park, recording secre-

tary; Elizabeth Bulger, Redford Township, treasurer; Lucy Needham, Novi, corresponding secretary; Ruth Grijak, Detroit, chaplain; and Marion Adams, Canton, sergeant at arms.

Those who wish to attend must pre-register with Virginia Nagy, 547-0638.

Meditation talk set

A free public lecture and discussion on "Meditation: Individual and Social Growth" is slated for 7:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 9, at 8172 Brace, Detroit.

The program is sponsored by Ananda Marga, an international spiritual and social organization. Acarya Yatishvarananda Avadhuta will be the guest speaker.

Brace Street is located off of Joy Road just west of Southfield Road. For more information or a ride to the lecture, call Richard Hobbs at 461-6023.

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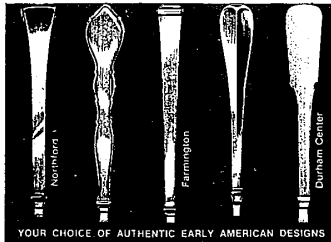
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Dressing Your HOME



New small prints give style to walls

From California comes a new collection from the well-known Bob Mitchell designs. He has created a high fashion collection of small print wallcoverings and fabrics—Pet Prints 2.

This is a departure from what Bob Mitchell has previously designed. He coordinates 10 patterns in 85 colorways with 52 related fabrics. Recognizing the inherent difference between wall-covering ink and textile pigments, the design and styling department chose to relate rather than match the two.

Once again, using families of color, changes of scale and direction, and reverse colorways, they have innovated a creative method with which to achieve breathtaking compatibility in interior settings.

There is a pattern called Briarwood for walls with coordinated fabrics called Briarwood, Banbury, Double Check, River Nile and El Deco.

These are used in a room to create a tropical setting. The wall-covering gives a bamboo pattern effect and bamboo furniture is used with cushions and pillows of a mix of all the coordinated fabric patterns.

Another setting has been created through the use of a small print old-fashioned in feeling, called Satin Buttons and Foxy Check wallcoverings. To go with this is a fabric collection called Satin Buttons, River Nile and Wheatfield. The wall patterns look like small buttons on satin, with fabric of the same pattern. The other coordinated fabrics are used in the upholstery on chairs, cushions and skirted table.

The wallcoverings are handscreened on 30-inch wide, untrimmed paper-backed vinyl, 15 feet per single roll. The fabric is also handscreened and is 100 per cent cotton, 54 inches wide.

STEPPING AWAY from wallcoverings, an unusual collectors' item came to my attention the other day.

Every popular sport, from "Pumping Iron" to "Girl Watching" is represented in this delightful collection. Meticulously handcrafted of fine quality pewter, these comical characters are the creation of sculptor Philip Krazekowski.

The line is distributed exclusively by Hummelwerk. For further information, write them at 250 Clearbrook Road, Elmford, N.Y. 10822.



LAURETTA REGAN

Diabetes class starts

A series of diabetes classes for adults will be offered by the Oakland County Health Department beginning Sept. 15.

The free classes, held weekly for five weeks, will be 7:30-9:30 p.m., Thursdays, at the South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield, at Eleven and One-half Mile Road, Southfield.

The classes, taught by public health nurses and an Oakland County nutritionist, will cover the nature of the disease, dietary management and medications, and coping with everyday problems.

Classes are limited to 20 persons. Those interested may register by calling the health department education office at 557-1400.

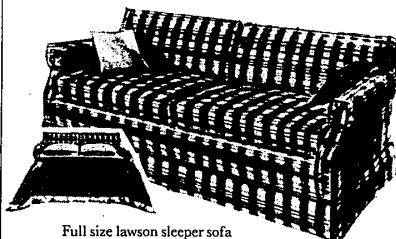
Those attending must have diabetes or have a family member who has the disease and be under the care of a doctor. A written statement from the doctor is required for attendance and must be presented at the first class.

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now on sale in our Ethan Allen Gallery!

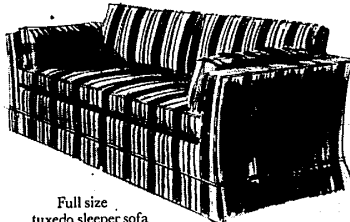
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