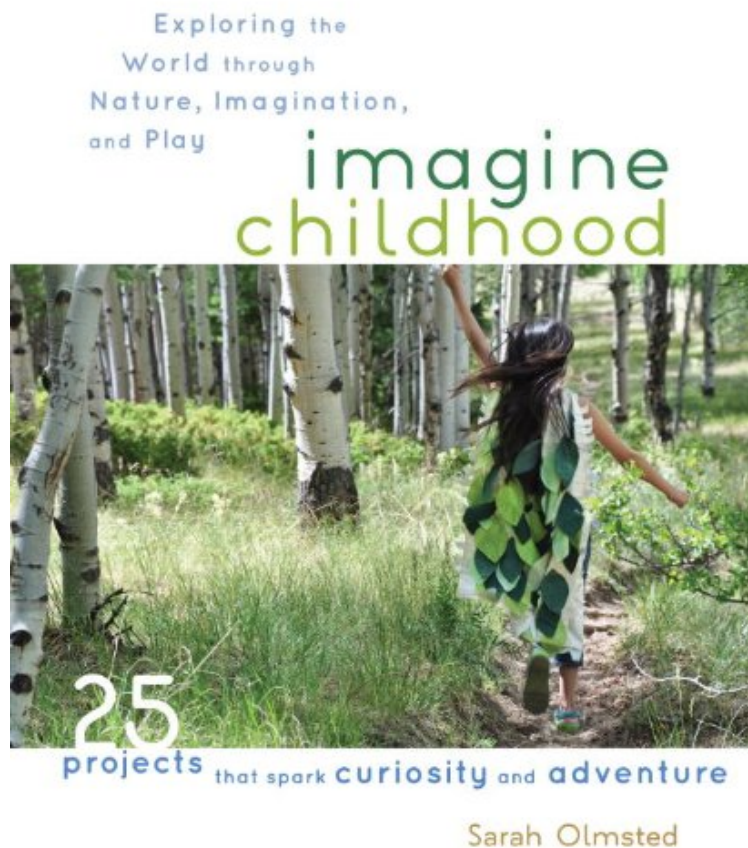


[Read now] Imagine Childhood: Exploring the World through Nature, Imagination, and Play - 25 Projects that spark curiosity and adventure

Imagine Childhood: Exploring the World through Nature, Imagination, and Play - 25 Projects that spark curiosity and adventure

Sarah Olmsted

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Sarah Olmsted : Imagine Childhood: Exploring the World through Nature, Imagination, and Play - 25 Projects that spark curiosity and adventure before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Imagine Childhood: Exploring the World through Nature, Imagination, and Play - 25 Projects that spark curiosity and adventure:

16 of 17 people found the following review helpful. the perfect gift for the whole family By Amy Bowers It seems like every Christmas there is a pile of activity books under the tree. I have bought my kids books about micro crafts, making little warfare weapons from office supplies, house building and more. These books end up on the family bookshelf and are really a gift to us all that enriches our life and makes for a creative year. If I did not receive a copy of

Imagine Childhood: 25 projects that spark curiosity and adventure by Sarah Olmstead, it would have been under our tree this year. Imagine Childhood is a treatise on the importance of a slow, intentional, creative-based childhood offering specific projects and suggestions to support the thesis. Divided into three parts: nature, play and imagination, each section is filled with evocative essays, hand on projects and breath taking photographs. This book is delightful for the whole family as it easily fulfills both a parent's need for soulful, inspiring writing, and a kid's need for hands-on making! I love how the projects range from simple to complex, yet all provide the space and tools to create a dreamy, timeless childhood. Some of the projects are classics, like making tents, sewing kites and building little boats from found natural objects. Others are more unique, like building Rube Goldberg apparatuses, constructing little adobe houses and making a 19th century magic lantern. Olmstead reframes the classics and makes them seem fresh and full of new possibilities. All the projects leave the reader with inspiration and an eagerness to spend time making and playing. I especially appreciated that several of the projects were more involved and would be perfect for older kids; I am always on the lookout for open-ended creative projects for older kids. In fact, I am sure you will see several highlighted here on the blog in the upcoming year, as my kids are excited to try some out. I highly, highly recommend this book. It would be the perfect gift for any family, but it especially deserves a place under your tree. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Gorgeous, inspiring book with lots of ideas By Kimberly R Tubbs I am a sucker for glossy arts and crafts books and this one is truly beautiful. The ideas are inspirational and provide great projects as well as jumping off places for adapting to your family/goals. The author includes introspective writing that invites you to curl up with a cup of coffee and imagine with her. People who appreciate Waldorf, Reggio Emilia, and/or seasonal/nature based activities for their house and children will find that this book dovetails nicely with their creative approach. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic book By Dean Di Emidio I love this book for its innovative, creative projects that opens the minds of children and adults. As an artist and educator, I will use this book as a reference for creative, educational projects. A keeper!

For children, potential is limitless, curiosity is an electrical current, and every moment is open to the possibility of the unexpected. Day-to-day life is filled with adventure. Road blocks are invitations to try new routes. And the world is vast and expansive. This book is a celebration of childhood through the crafts and activities that invite wonder and play. The twenty-five projects and activities in this book are meant to speak to the way children engage with the world. These projects are not about what is produced in the end (although that part is fun too) but rather they are stepping-off points activities that spark curiosity, an adventure, or an investigation. They're about the process of getting there. They're about the conversations that happen while making things together. They're about getting to know the world inch by inch. They're about exploring imaginary universes and running through real forests. They're about living in childhood . . . regardless of your actual age. They're about being a kid.

I have two responses to reading these pages: (1) I want to run directly to my toolbox and start making stuff, and (2) I want to run outside into the woods and spend hours playing. This book is a must have for every parent's exploration toolkit! Keri Smith, author of *How to Be an Explorer of the World* and *Wreck This Journal* Reading *Imagine Childhood* was like finding a guidebook into the brilliant and vast galaxy of a child's mind. The book is brimful of projects and springboards that help you nurture a creative, sensitive, and wonder-filled child in the best possible way. Sharon Lovejoy, author and illustrator of *Toad Cottages*, *Shooting Stars* and *My First Bird Book Feeder* About the Author Sarah Olmstead grew up in Colorado and spent much of her time exploring art, science, and the nearby foothills and mountains. After receiving a bachelor of fine arts degree from the San Francisco Art Institute, she spent some time as a freelance children's furniture designer/fabricator, which eventually led her to the Field Museum of Natural History. There she worked in exhibit design, developing interactive educational activities for permanent and traveling exhibitions before moving on to co-found imaginechildhood.com in 2008.