

# Charity - Spending - Saving BOXES

This craft was originally created by me, as the picture shows. I really didn't know what I was going to do with my new treasure from the store, a set of wooden nesting boxes, but slowly I began playing with them and letting the paint caress them and before I knew, while they sat on the table the answer was whispered into my ear... Charity... Spending... Savings. This project helps children (and adults too) learn the foundation of giving to charity, the ability to have spending money, and the opportunity to save money for who knows what.

## YOU'LL NEED:

- A set of THREE Nesting boxes with lids (Walmart: about \$9)
- Assorted Acrylic paints and Paint Brushes (tip: using a pencil – pre draw your artwork onto your box)
- (PARENTS) A sharp BLADE /utility knife, a cutting board, masking tape, a ruler and a pencil.
- 2" Wide Masking Tape, sponge paint brush and a bottle of chalk board paint... (this is now an essential in my paint bucket). This is craft paint, which is fine because this is a small project, but you can use the higher grade of paint if you go to the paint department.



## START BY...

- ❑ (PARENTS) First mark out – on the inside of the lid an opening of 1-3/4" X 1/2". You can choose to center it on the box or place it anywhere on the lid – though I recommend leaving a 1/2" gap between your opening and the edge of the lid. Now apply, Masking Tape to the outer part of the lid – this will help a little if the wood decides to split and peel back while you are cutting through it. Now, carefully with your lids on a cutting board, cut through the wood. Move slowly, applying a good amount of pressure so that the blade will cut through. Carefully pop out the section and remove the masking tape.
- ❑ Now, mark out a 2" wide band – 2" up from the bottom of the box on one side of the box – this will be your chalkboard area. Using your masking tape, tape off the edges of this area so that you can paint your chalkboard without worrying that might end up with chalkboard paint in areas you may not want it. –OR- Just paint an entire side using chalkboard paint.
- ❑ Paint the chalkboard area using a foam brush AND be sure to follow the manufactures' instructions for applying the paint. Allow all three boxes to dry and cure completely before continuing.
- ❑ Go to work painting and designing your boxes and their lids too. You don't need to paint the inside just the outside of the boxes. Allow your boxes to dry completely.
- ❑ Add the words; Charity, Saving and Spending onto your boxes with chalk. We tell the boys, if you have \$3, than \$1 goes into charity, \$1 goes into Spending and \$1 goes into savings... in other words, whatever they have for money to offer up to their boxes should be divided three equal ways (as equal as you can get them sometimes).
- ❑ Now you can begin adding money to your boxes!!

p.s. when your charity box is full – don't forget to donate it to your favorite charity – then begin filling it again. If your savings box gets full you can do two things; you can open a bank account or you can exchange your change for bigger bills that take up less room. Like if you have \$15 in quarters, a ten and a five dollar bill don't take up as much space and the box is much lighter.

OPTIONAL – for older kids: Add more chalkboard paint to the backside of the box – have them keep a tally of the money they are putting in the box.

I hope you enjoy this little project and be inspired to do more like... Get another set of nesting boxes - take off the lids and mark the containers with something like; pens, pencils, markers to help keep homework desks more organized, or even craft areas.