

Art and Craft Ideas

Most of these ideas require supplies that Child Life can provide, if interested:

- 3D hand molds of children and patient (i.e., Model Magic)
- Fingerprint charms (Child Life can help/give instructions if interested while your loved one is in the hospital.)
- Trace each person's hand on different colors/prints of scrapbook paper and cut out each. Then, layer and glue the paper hands in order of age (with oldest on bottom). Can then glue the hands to a larger piece of paper (solid color) and frame!



- Decorate memory box with pictures, scripture, song lyrics, etc.
- Decorate journals and write down thoughts, feelings, etc.
- Each family member write personal letters to one another
- Have a photographer photograph the family
- Create a family memory jar where family members (immediate, extended, friends) write down a favorite memory and place it in the jar. On special occasions, a memory can be read from the jar.
- Caregiver write letters/sign birthday/special occasion cards.
- Personal video messages

- 4 square canvas handprints



- Family dates artwork



- Fall trees out of family member's hands



Bereavement resources: The following links are for continued bereavement support during and post hospitalization:

When Families Grieve (Sesame Street Resource Kit, in both English and Spanish) – This is a Bilingual kit uses the power of Elmo and Sesame Street Muppets to support grieving families. It includes a DVD of a TV special with Katie Couric, the Muppets & stories of families coping with the death of a parent, a parent/caregiver guide & a kid's storybook. Please visit the following link to download: <http://www.newyorklifestore.com/nyl2/when-families-grieve/sesame-kit.html>

New York Life provides a variety of grief resources for families: <http://www.newyorklifestore.com/nyl2/>

This is a **scholastic website** providing guidance and support to children during difficult situations: <http://www.scholastic.com/childrenandgrief/>

This is a **website** that provides information on supporting a grieving person, including children: <http://www.helpguide.org/articles/grief-loss/supporting-a-grieving-person.htm>