Mid Mouse Project 2021

The Mid Mouse project is a Midlothian transition project to support children who are starting Primary 1 in August 2021. We want to ensure that this is a joyful experience for all Midlothian children. We require willing volunteers to help to knit/crochet mice, so that every child starting school in August will receive one. Our hope is that this will help 'knit our Midlothian community back together'. The children will get to take their mouse with them when they start school and we hope that this will help them to settle.

Children will receive their mouse in the summer term, in the lead up to the school holidays. During this time, children will take part in various transition activities, with their mouse at their nursery and/or with their childminder and at home.

Thank you for your help in advance, we are very grateful and we know that the children will be excited to receive their mouse made just for them! We want every mouse to be different and unique, like every child, so please feel free to choose the colour of the wool and we look forward to seeing all of the different mice created.

Once you have completed your knitted mice, please contact Laura to let us know how many you have knitted and we will be in touch at a later stage to arrange getting them to the children ☺

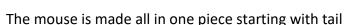EarlyYearsMidmouse@midlothian.gov.uk

With special thanks to Newtongrange Primary and their mindfulness mice, who inspired this project. # kindnessmidlothian

#midmouse

Knitting Mouse Pattern

You will need

- 3 mm or size 11 knitting needles
- Double knitting wool oddments
- Oddments of black wool for eyes and nose
- Small amount of stuffing
- Sewing up needle

The mouse is made all in one piece starting with tail

Make Tail

Cast on 20 stitches using two needle method (**this will not work if you use other methods**) *

Row 1: K2tog, slip all the other stitches off the needle and pull to unravel to create tail. One stitch.

Make Body

Start at row three casting on 8 stitches.

Tail cast on 18 sts then cast off. Sew on tightly

Row 2: Cast on 3 sts (4 sts)

Row 3: Knit to end cast on 4 sts (8 sts)

Row 4: Stocking Stitch 2 rows starting with knit row

Row 6: Increase into every stitch (16 sts)

Row 7: Purl

Row 8: (Inc 1, K1) to end of row (24 sts)

Rows 9 -21 stocking stitch

Row 22: K1 (K2tog, K2) to last 3 stitches K2tog K1 (18sts)

Rows 23-27 Stocking stitch

Adding Ears

Break wool here leaving an end of approx. 2metres thread end onto sewing needle

Row 28: K1 K2tog K1 K2tog, **cast on 7, thread sewing needle through these 7 stiches and pull together tightly to form ear on right side of work, fasten of firmly, using a few stiches to secure. Continue with stitches on left hand needle,** K1 K2tog K1 K2tog, again **cast on 7, thread sewing needle through these 7 stiches and pull together and repeat as before,** Last six stitches K1 K2tog K1 K2 tog. (12sts).

Rows 29- 33 stocking stitch

Row 34: K2tog to end (6sts)

Thread needle through these stitches and pull tightly to form nose, then use remaining yarn to sew up seam, stuffing as you go.

Use black wool to add eyes and black or pink for the nose.

*If you prefer to make a tail and add when sewing up.

Crochet Mouse Pattern

Materials:
– Worsted weight yarn
– Size G crochet hook
– Tapestry needle
– Safety eyes (12mm)
– Poly-fil fiber stuffing

Ears (Make 2):
Magic ring, chain 2 and make 4 DC in ring, chain 2 and join to ring. Pull tight. Don't join.
You should have a half circle.
Sew ears on behind the eyes.

Pattern:
Magic Ring, chain 1 and make 4 SC, pull tight and continue to SC in rounds
Round 2: 2 SC in each stitch around (8 SC)
Round 3: SC in each stitch around (8 SC)
Round 4: 2 SC in first, SC in next, repeat around (12 SC)
Round 5: SC in each stitch around (12 SC)
Round 6: 2 SC in first, SC in next 2, repeat around (16 SC)
Round 7: SC in each stitch around (16 SC)
Round 8: 2 SC in first, SC in next 3, repeat around (20 SC)
Round 9-11: SC in each stitch around (20 SC)
Round 12: SC Decrease, SC in next 3, repeat around
Now is a good time to add your safety eyes and begin to stuff with poly-fil.
Eyes should be between round 5 and 6 and leave 3 stitches between the eyes.
Round 13: SC Decrease, SC in next 2, repeat around
Round 14: SC in each stitch around (12 SC)
Fasten off leaving long tail.
With a tapestry needle, weave in strands so the bottom closes. To do this you will make what is almost a SC decrease with your tapestry needle (but no yarn over). Just insert your needle under front loops of two crochet stitches. Keep doing this all the way around and pull tight.

With thanks: be sure to also follow me on my Repeat Crafter Me INSTAGRAM account!

Abbreviations:
Magic Ring Tutorial
SC = Single Crochet
SC Decrease = Single Crochet Decrease
DC = Double Crochet

Finished mouse measures about 3 inches long and 1.5 inches wide.

Leave extra yarn hanging for the tail.