

sweet, adorable knits
for baby and beyond

itty-bitty nursery



Susan B. Anderson



clothesline

I use knitted items as pieces of art all over my house to liven things up in a playful way. This clothesline is a terrific way to create knitted art in a child's room. The four clothing items hung on the line are colorful and happy, and the parasol adds whimsy. You might also hang a child's photo, a little knitted animal, or any other fun items you find!

I love the yarns used here. Rowan's Summer Tweed, which I used to knit the two sweaters and to embroider the jeans, is a treat to work with because it softens up as you knit. Noro Sakura, used as trim on the short-sleeved sweater and for the skirt, is a newer addition to the company's product line. The wrapped sections remind me of the fun, colorful hair wraps worked with embroidery floss girls love to make in their hair. (Have you seen those?) Of course, Rowan's Denim is one of my all-time favorite yarns, one I couldn't omit from this clothesline. After all, what clothesline would be complete without a pair of jeans?

yarn

- Rowan Summer Tweed (70% silk, 30% cotton; 118 yards/50 grams), 1 skein each in Bouquet #510 and Brilliant #528
- Rowan Denim (100% cotton; 102 yards/50 grams), 1 skein in Tennessee #231
- Noro Sakura (36% rayon, 28% polyester, 18% nylon, 11% silk, 7% lamb's wool; 147 yards/40 grams), 1 skein in #6
- turtleneck sweater: Bouquet and Brilliant
- t-shirt: Brilliant and Sakura
- jeans: Tennessee and Brilliant
- skirt: Sakura
- parasol and finials: Brilliant, Bouquet, Tennessee, and Sakura

tools

- U.S. size 8 double-pointed needles or size needed to obtain gauge
- U.S. size 6 double-pointed needles or size needed to obtain gauge
- U.S. size 3 double-pointed needles or size needed to obtain gauge

- U.S. size G crochet hook
- 4 feet of 0 gauge flexible wire
- 10 mini clothespins, Cavallini & Co. Can o' Clips
- Small bag of polyester fiberfill
- 20 inches of ½-inch-wide ribbon
- Stitch markers
- Stitch holders
- Scissors
- Yarn needle
- Ruler or tape measure

gauge

- Rowan Summer Tweed: 4 stitches per inch on size 8 needles
- Noro Sakura: 4 stitches per inch on size 8 needles
- Rowan Denim, Rowan Summer Tweed: 5 stitches per inch on size 6 needles

finished measurements

- All pieces are 5 to 6 inches in length

turtleneck sweater

BODY

Using two size 8 double-pointed needles as straight needles and Bouquet, cast on 24 stitches. Work in k2, p2 rib for 4 rows. Work in stockinette stitch until piece measures 6 inches from the beginning.

Next row (neck opening): k6, bind off 12 stitches. 12 stitches remain. Knit to the end of the row.

Next row: p6, cast on 12 stitches using backward-loop method (see p. 143), p6. (24 stitches.)

Continue working in stockinette stitch until piece measures 11¼ inches from the beginning. Work 4 rows in k2, p2 rib. Bind off in rib.

COLLAR

Using 4 size 8 double-pointed needles, pick up 32 stitches around neck edge as follows:

Needles 1 and 2: 10 stitches per needle.

Needle 3: 12 stitches.

Work in the round in k2, p2 rib for 2 inches. Bind off loosely in rib.

SLEEVES

Measure and mark 3½ inches from the bottom edges on both sides of front and back. Using two size 8 double-pointed needles as straight needles with right side facing you, pick up 24 stitches between the markers on one side edge. Starting with a purl row, work in stockinette stitch until sleeve measures ¾ of an inch, ending on wrong side row. Begin decreases:

Row 1: ssk, knit to last 2 stitches, k2tog. 22 stitches remain.

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: Purl.

Repeat rows 1–4 until 16 stitches remain and work measures 3¾ inches from the beginning. Work in k2, p2 rib for 4 rows. Bind off loosely in rib.

Repeat on other side.

FINISHING

Fold piece in half and sew side and sleeve seams using mattress stitch.

t-shirt

FRONT AND BACK

Using two size 8 double-pointed needles as straight needles and Brilliant, cast on 24 stitches. Work in k2, p2 rib until piece measures 5 inches.

Next row: Work in rib for 12 stitches. Place remaining stitches on a stitch holder.

Turn, and working only those 12 stitches:

Row 1: ssk, rib to end. 11 stitches remain.

Row 2: Rib to last 2 stitches, k2tog. 10 stitches remain.

Row 3: p2tog, rib to last 2 stitches. 9 stitches remain.

Row 4: Rib to last 2 stitches, k2tog. 8 stitches remain.

Row 5: ssk, rib to end. 7 stitches remain.

Row 6: Work to end, k2tog. 6 stitches remain.

Break yarn. Rejoin yarn at center and working only on 12 stitches from holder repeat rows 1 through 6 for the other side.

Next row: Rib across.

Next row: Rib 6 stitches, cast on 12 stitches using the backward-loop method, rib 6 stitches. (24 stitches.)

Continue working in rib until back matches front, measuring 12 inches total from the cast-on edge. Bind off loosely in rib.

SLEEVES

Measure and mark 3½ inches from the bottom edges on both edges of front and back. Using two size 8 double-pointed needles as straight needles and Brilliant with right side facing you, pick up 24 stitches between the markers on one side edge. Starting with a purl row, work in k2, p2 rib until sleeve measures ¾ of an inch from the beginning, ending on a wrong side row.



Row 1: ssk, rib to last 2 stitches, k2tog. 22 stitches remain.

Row 2: Rib.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until 18 stitches remain.

Next 2 rows: Rib.

Bind off loosely in rib.

FINISHING

Fold piece in half and sew side and sleeve seams using mattress stitch.

EDGING

Using crochet hook and Sakura, work one round of single crochet (see p. 155) around neck opening, sleeve edges, and sweater bottom.

Weave in ends and trim.

jeans

Using size 6 double-pointed needles and Tennessee, cast on 50 stitches for waist and distribute stitches as follows:

Needles 1 and 2: 15 stitches.

Needle 3: 20 stitches.

Place marker and join, making sure stitches aren't twisted. Work in the round as follows: Work 2 rounds in k1, p1 rib. Then knit every

round until piece measures 2 inches from the beginning.

Divide for legs:

Knit 25 stitches and place on a stitch holder.

Redistribute the remaining 25 stitches as follows:

Needles 1 and 2: 10 stitches.

Needle 3: 5 stitches.

Continue knitting every round until leg measures 6½ inches from the beginning. Purl one round.

Bind off loosely.

Working on stitches on holder, reattach yarn and repeat as for the first leg.

FINISHING

With a length of Brilliant threaded into a yarn needle, embroider three spider web circles (see p. 156) on one side of the jeans using the photograph as a guide. Weave in all ends and trim.

NOTE • You may choose to machine wash the jeans at this time to remove excess dye; this might cause them to slightly shrink in length, but will not affect the overall item. The sample is unwashed.



skirt

Using size 6 double-pointed needles and Sakura, cast on 50 stitches for the waist and distribute stitches as follows:

Needles 1 and 2: 20 stitches.

Needle 3: 10 stitches.

Place a marker and join, making sure stitches aren't twisted. Knit in the round in k1, p1 rib for 3 rounds.

Knit every round until skirt measures 4 inches from the beginning. Purl 1 round.

RUFFLE

Round 1: kfb of every stitch. (100 stitches.)

Rounds 2 and 3: Knit.

Round 4: Purl.

Bind off loosely.

parasol

NOTE • This piece is worked in alternating colors of Rowan Summer Tweed, with unused color carried along on wrong side. Work colors throughout as follows:
2 rounds Brilliant, (1 round Bouquet, 1 round Brilliant), repeat to end.

TOP

With crochet hook and Brilliant, chain 4 and join with slip stitch to form a ring.

Round 1: Chain 1, 6 single crochet into the center of the ring, join with slip stitch.

Round 2: Chain 1, (single crochet once in next stitch, single crochet twice in the following stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (9 single crochet.)

Round 3: Chain 1, (single crochet once in next 2 stitches, single crochet twice in next stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (12 single crochet.)

Round 4: Chain 1, (single crochet once in the next 3 stitches, single crochet twice in the following stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (15 single crochet.)

Round 5: Chain 1, (single crochet once in the next 4 stitches, single crochet twice in next stitch) repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (18 single crochet.)

Round 6: Chain 1, (single crochet once in the next 5 stitches, single crochet twice in next stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (21 single crochet.)

Round 7: Chain 1, (single crochet once in the next 6 stitches, single crochet twice in next stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (24 single crochet.)

Round 8: Chain 1, (single crochet once in the next 7 stitches, single crochet twice in next stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (27 single crochet.)

Round 9: Chain 1, (single crochet once in the next 8 stitches, single crochet twice in next

stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (30 single crochet.)

PICOT EDGING

With Sakura, crochet 1 round as follows: Chain 3, slip stitch in the same stitch, single crochet once in next stitch, slip stitch in next stitch. Repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch, and break yarn.

BOTTOM

Work as for top, through round 6 only and using only Bouquet.

HANDLE

Using two size 3 double-pointed needles and Tennessee, cast on 3 stitches. Make I-cord for 8 inches. Bind off and cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Wrap the tail tightly around 5 inches of the I-cord, shaping it into a hook as you wrap. Pull the unwrapped end through the center of the top and knot. Whipstitch knotted end down to secure and form a ball.

FINISHING

Push handle through the center of the bottom parasol piece. Holding the bottom and top pieces wrong sides together, lightly stuff the top with fiberfill and whipstitch the two pieces together using yarn threaded into a yarn needle. Tie the ribbon around the hook of the handle.

finials (make 2)

Using crochet hook and Bouquet, work as for the top through round 5. Change to Sakura and make a picot edging as for the top of the parasol. Break yarn.



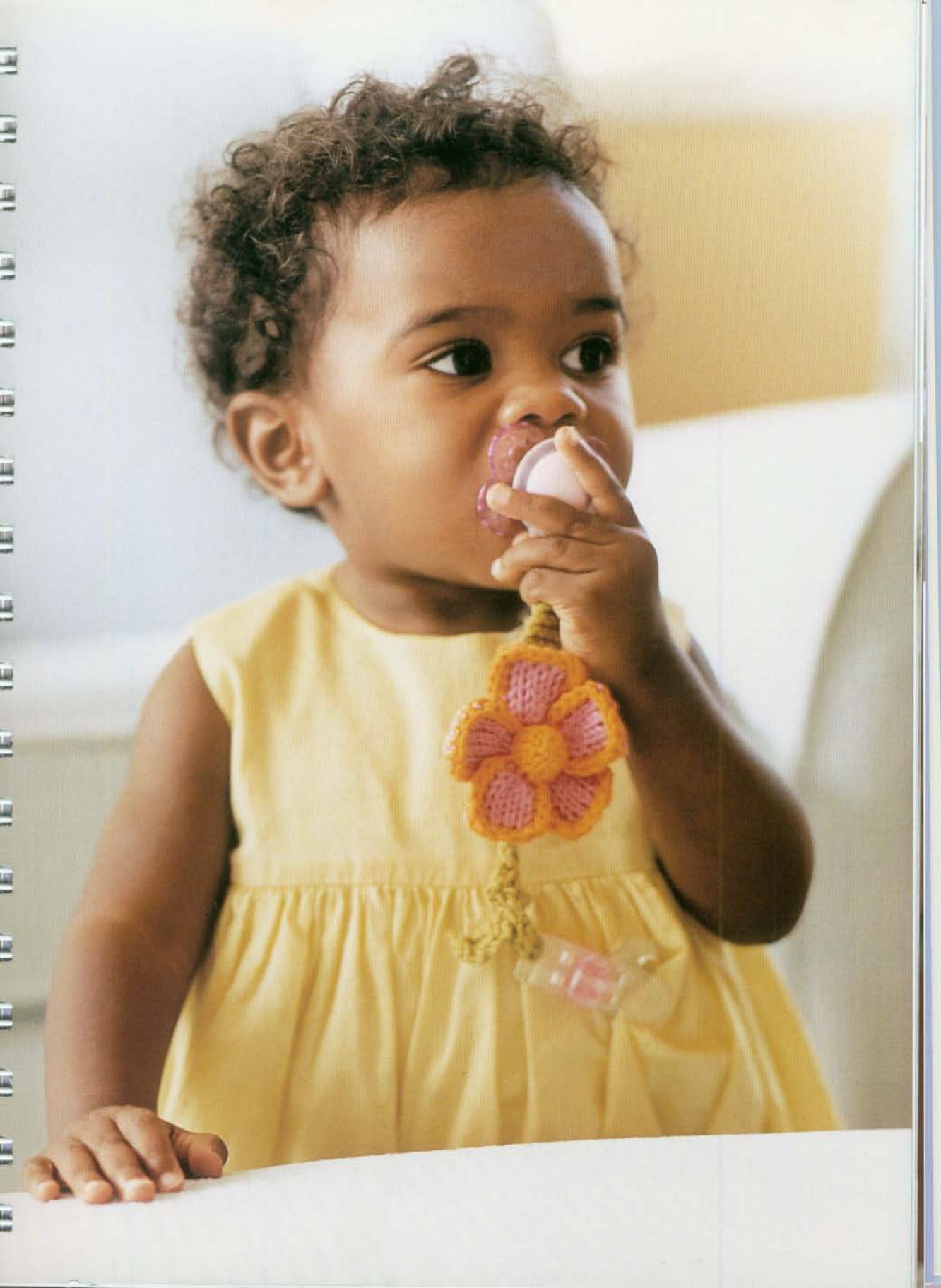
Using crochet hook and Brilliant, work as for the top through round 2. Break yarn.

Sew smaller circle onto larger circle with yarn threaded into a yarn needle, using a whipstitch.

Repeat for the second finial, using Brilliant for the larger circle and Bouquet for the smaller circle.

putting it all together

Make a 1-inch ring on both ends of the flexible wire by winding the ends around the circle to hold it in place. With yarn threaded into a yarn needle, sew each wire circle to the back of one finial, and take extra stitches to create a loop for hanging the clothesline. Using two miniclothespins for each item, hang the parasol in the middle of the wire and hang the rest of the clothes, evenly spaced.



pacifier clips

For some reason, my babies were never too keen on pacifiers, so they have never been something to which I paid much attention. Lately, however, I have been seeing that not only do a lot of babies love their pacifiers, but their moms have clipped them right onto their shirts. How smart! These manufactured clips are not all that interesting, so I thought about making cuter ones. This collection of three clips turned out so sweet; the elephant, frog, and flower are great options for any baby, and I think you'll want to make all three. And they make fantastic baby gifts because they are small and knit up quickly. Pacifiers rule!

yarn

- **Elephant:** Rowan Handknit Cotton (100% cotton; 93 yards/50 grams), 1 skein each in Chime #204 and Bermuda #324
- **Flower:** Rowan Handknit Cotton, 1 skein each in Sugar #303, Gooseberry #219, and Mango Fool #319
- **Frog:** Rowan Handknit Cotton, 1 skein each in Gooseberry #219, Mango Fool #319, Celery #309, Bermuda #324, and Seafarer #318

tools

- U.S. size 3 set of four double-pointed needles or size needed to obtain gauge
- U.S. size E crochet hook
- Three purchased pacifier clips (remove any attached ribbon—leave only the plastic parts)
- Oddments of black embroidery floss
- Small bag of polyester fiberfill
- Stitch markers
- Scissors
- Yarn needle
- Ruler or tape measure

gauge

- 6 stitches per inch

flower

PETALS (make 5)

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Sugar, cast on 10 stitches.

Rows 1–12: (k1, sl1 as if to purl), repeat to end of row. Cut yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail and thread into a yarn needle. Take the two needles out of the work, form the piece into a tube by gently squeezing. With a yarn needle, thread the tail through the live stitches. Turn inside out so knit side is facing you. Pull the tail through tightly to gather up the stitches, and secure.

Using crochet hook and Mango Fool, single crochet around outside edge of the petal, join with slip stitch. Cut the yarn and invisibly weave in the end on the inside of the petal.

Sew the five petals together at the gathered ends with several small stitches to create the flower.

CENTER

Using double-pointed needles and Mango Fool, cast on 6 stitches and distribute evenly, 2 stitches per needle. Place a stitch marker and join, making sure the stitches aren't twisted.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: On each needle, k1, m1, k1. 3 stitches per needle. 9 stitches total.

Rounds 3–5: Knit.

Round 6: On each needle, ssk, k1. 2 stitches per needle remain. 6 stitches total.

Round 7: Knit.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail, and thread into a yarn needle. Insert needle through the live stitches, removing them from the double-pointed needles. Stuff with fiberfill. Pull tail tightly to close and sew to the center of the petals using a whipstitch.

STEM

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Gooseberry, cast on 4 stitches. Work in garter stitch until piece measures 2½ inches.

Next row: ssk, k2. 3 stitches remain.

Work I-cord for 4 inches. Bind off.

LEAVES (make 2)

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Gooseberry, cast on 5 stitches.

Row 1: k2, yo, k2tog, k1. (5 stitches.)

Row 2: Purl.

Rows 3 and 4: Repeat rows 1 and 2.

Row 5: ssk, yo, k2tog, k1. 4 stitches remain.

Row 6: p2tog, p2tog, pass second stitch over first stitch, cut yarn, and pull through remaining stitch. Invisibly weave in end on the back of the leaf. Thread yarn tail from cast-on into a yarn needle, insert needle through cast-on stitches, and pull tightly to gather.

FINISHING

Pull the garter stitch end of the stem through the hole in the pacifier holder and sew down securely with a whipstitch. Sew the flower to the stem just above where the garter stitch changes to I-cord (about 2 inches from the pacifier holder). Sew leaves to both sides of the I-cord stem. Pull the I-cord end of the stem through the clip and sew securely with a whipstitch.

elephant

HEAD AND TRUNK

Using 3 double-pointed needles and Chime, cast on 9 stitches and distribute 3 stitches on each of three needles. Place a stitch marker and join, making sure the stitches aren't twisted.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: On each needle, k1, m1, k1, m1, k1. 5 stitches per needle. 15 stitches total.

Round 3: Knit.

Round 4: On each needle, k1, m1, k3, m1, k1. 7 stitches per needle. 21 stitches total.

Rounds 5–7: Knit.

DECREASE ROUNDS

Round 8: On each needle, k1, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k1. 5 stitches per needle remain. 15 stitches total.

Rounds 9 and 10: Knit.

Round 11: On each needle, ssk, k1, k2tog. 3 stitches per needle remain. 9 stitches total. Close up the bottom hole with the tail left from the cast-on threaded through a yarn needle. Stuff the head with fiberfill until firm.

trunk

Rounds 12–17: Knit.

Round 18: On each needle, ssk, k1. 2 stitches per needle remain. 6 stitches total.

Rounds 19–28: Knit.

Stuff the head with fiberfill.

Round 29: k2tog across each needle, moving the 3 remaining stitches onto one needle. Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles, make I-cord for the trunk until it measures 4 inches. Bind off. Cut yarn, leaving an 8-inch tail, and pull tail through remaining stitch to secure.

STRAP

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Bermuda, cast on 4 stitches. Work in garter stitch until piece measures 2 inches. Bind off and cut yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail. Thread tail into a yarn needle, and pull the bound-off

edge through the hole in the pacifier holder. Sew the bound-off end, using the whipstitch, to the back of the strap. Thread the tail from the cast-on edge into a yarn needle and sew the cast-on edge of the strap to the back of the elephant's head, using the whipstitch.

EARS (make 2)

Using the crochet hook and Chime, chain 4 stitches and join with slip stitch to make a ring.

Round 1: Single crochet 6 times into the center of the ring, join with slip stitch.

Round 2: Chain 1 stitch (single crochet once in the next stitch, single crochet twice in the following stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (9 single crochet.)

Round 3: Chain 1 stitch (single crochet once in the next 2 stitches, single crochet twice in the following stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (12 single crochet.)

Change to Bermuda.

Round 4: Chain 1 stitch (single crochet once in the next 3 stitches, single crochet twice in the following stitch), repeat to the end of the round, join with slip stitch. (15 single crochet.)

Cut yarn and pull tail through the remaining stitch to secure.

Using yarn tail threaded into a yarn needle, sew one ear to each side of the head using the whipstitch. Invisibly weave in ends and trim.

FINISHING

Pull trunk through the pacifier clip and securely sew the end of the trunk down with a whipstitch. With black embroidery floss and yarn needle, embroider two eyes and a mouth, making small, straight stitches. Pull the end of the embroidery floss through to the inside of the head and then out again firmly. Cut the floss so the end retracts back inside of the head.

frog

HEAD

Using four double-pointed needles and Gooseberry, cast on 9 stitches and distribute evenly, 3 stitches per needle. Place a stitch marker and join, making sure stitches aren't twisted.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: On each needle, k1, m1, k1, m1, k1. 5 stitches per needle. 15 stitches total.

Rounds 3–6: Knit.

Round 7: On each needle, ssk, k1, k2tog. 3 stitches per needle remain. 9 stitches total.

Round 8: Knit.

Stuff with fiberfill. Cut yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail, and thread it into a yarn needle. Insert needle through the live stitches, removing them from the double-pointed needles. Pull tightly to gather and stitch to secure. Do not trim tail.

EYES (make 2)

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Gooseberry, loosely cast on 1 stitch, leaving a 1-inch tail.

Row 1: Knit into the front, back, and front again of the stitch. (3 stitches.)

Row 2: Knit.

Row 3: Purl.

Row 4: Knit, do not turn. One stitch at a time, pass the second and third stitches over the first stitch. Cut the yarn and pull the tail through the remaining stitch. Stuff the eye with the cast-on yarn tail. Gather up with the other tail on a yarn needle to create a bobble. Sew to the head with whipstitch.

BODY

Using four double-pointed needles and Gooseberry, cast on 9 stitches and distribute evenly, 3 stitches per needle. Place a stitch marker and join, making sure stitches aren't twisted.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: On each needle, k1, m1, k1, m1, k1. 5 stitches per needle. 15 stitches total.

Round 3: Knit.

Round 4: On each needle, k1, m1, k3, m1, k1. 7 stitches per needle. 21 stitches total.

Rounds 5–8: Knit.

Round 9: On each needle, ssk, k3, k2tog. 5 stitches per needle remain. 15 stitches total.

Round 10: Knit.

Round 11: On each needle, ssk, k1, k2tog. 3 stitches per needle remain. 9 stitches total.

Round 12: Knit.

Cut yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail, and thread into a yarn needle. Insert needle through the live stitches, removing them from the double-pointed needles. Stuff with fiberfill. Pull yarn tightly and stitch to secure.

LEGS AND ARMS (make 4)

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Gooseberry, cast on 2 stitches. Make I-cord for 1½ inches. Bind off.

HANDS AND FEET (make 4)

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Gooseberry, *loosely* cast on 1 stitch, leaving a 2-inch tail.

Row 1: Knit into the front and back of the stitch until 5 stitches are on the needle.

Row 2: Knit.

Row 3: Purl.

Row 4: Knit, do not turn. One stitch at a time, pass the second, third, fourth, and fifth stitches over the first stitch to create a bobble.

Cut the yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail, and thread into a yarn needle. Stuff the bobble with the 2-inch cast-on tail. Gather up the edges and stitch to secure into a ball. Repeat three times. Sew one bobble to the end of each arm and leg.

FINISHING

Using the photograph as a guide, and whipstitch, sew the head to the center top of the body. Sew the arms to where the head meets the body. Sew the legs to the bottom of the body. With black embroidery floss threaded into a yarn needle and

satin stitch, embroider a V-shaped mouth and two small eyes.

STRAP

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Bermuda, cast on 4 stitches. Work in garter stitch until piece measures 6½ inches. Bind off.

LEAVES (make 3)

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Celery, cast on 5 stitches.

Row 1: k2, yo, k2tog, k1. (5 stitches.)

Row 2: Purl.

Rows 3 and 4: Repeat rows 1 and 2.

Row 5: ssk, yo, k2tog, k1. 4 stitches remain.

Row 6: p2tog, p2tog, pass the second stitch over the first stitch, cut the yarn, and pull it through remaining stitch. Invisibly weave in the end on the back of the leaf. Thread the cast-on tail into a yarn needle and stitch through the cast-on stitches. Pull the yarn tightly to gather, and secure. Sew the leaves to the bottom of the frog so that they fan out.

STEM

Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Celery, cast on 2 stitches. Make I-cord for 5 inches. Bind off.

BUTTERFLY

body • Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Seafarer, cast on 2 stitches. Make I-cord for 1 inch.

Next row: kfb, kfb. (4 stitches.)

Cut the yarn, leaving a tail, and thread it into a yarn needle. Insert needle into the live stitches, removing them from the double-pointed needle. Pull tightly to gather, and stitch to secure.

wings (make 2) • Using two double-pointed needles as straight needles and Mango Fool, cast on 3 stitches.

Row 1: kfb, k2. (4 stitches.)

Row 2: k3, kfb. (5 stitches.)

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: Bind off 2, k2. 3 stitches remain.

Row 5: k3, cast on 2. (5 stitches.)

Row 6: Knit.

Row 7: k3, k2tog. 4 stitches remain.

Row 8: ssk, k2. 3 stitches remain.

Bind off. Cut yarn, leaving a tail, and thread into a yarn needle. Insert needle through the last stitch to secure. Sew wing to one side of the butterfly body. Repeat for the second wing.

FINISHING

Pull one end of the strap through the pacifier holder and one end through the clip. Sew down securely, using the whipstitch on the back side of the strap. Using the photograph as a guide, sew the frog to the strap about 1 inch from the clip so that it leans back slightly. Sew stem to the strap so it forms a loop. Sew the butterfly to the bottom of the stem about ½ inch from the pacifier holder.

