

HORTICULTURAL YOUTH SOCIETY NEWSLETTER FALL 2011



Youth Convention Winners

"Children are the true connoisseurs.
What's precious to them has no price, only value."
- Bel Kaufman

Editor: "Rad Dad" - Harry Wyma
Box 1136 - Ridgetown ON - N0P 2C0
E-mail: wyma.harry@sympatico.ca
Phone: 519-674-3493



*If you are no longer the Youth Leader, please forward this copy to the appropriate person.
Also, for all leaders' name changes or cancellations, please inform either/or both, the
OHA Youth Chair: Betty Morrison, 705-789-1407 email: kenmorrison156@gmail.com, and/or
OHA Secretary: Kelly Taylor - email: secretary@gardenontario.org - Many Thanks.*

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RECIPES

MY FAMILY

My family is caring
And loving and sharing
Ma Dad works all day
And at night we can play
My Mom is the best although she could use a rest
Erin likes to play piano
She really liked the movie Keanu
Lindsay likes to bounce here and there
And puts lots of spray in her hair
Then there is me, the youngest one
And now I guess I'm done.

- Justin Banks
- Elgin Avenue Public School
- Grade 4

HOCKEY

Skating down the ice
Past the red line ... the blue line
Winding for a shot
It is in the corner
And all your friends are amazed

- Mathew Slaven
- Walsh Public School
- Grade 5

WINTER

On a dark cold night
White snowflakes fall in peace
Covering the ground
With an endless white blanket
That sparkles in the moonlight
Nathan Butler
Walsh Public School
Grade 5

ADVENTURE

Goose bumps
Cool, Neat
Reading at night
Can't put it down
Adventure
Victor Norman
Bloomsburg P.S
Grade 4

A TENSE MOMENT

As you walk slowly to the
plate
Feel the bat claiming your grip
Step into the box ready to hit

Hear the crowd roar
As you stand and stare
The wind-up is made

See the ball spin round and
round
Like a leaf blown by a furious
wind
Swing your bat hard but slow
And connect

Sense that you have hit a pop
But still run
Like a hawk chasing its prey
Realize that you may already
be out
But with hope, look for
There it is.
Know you have hit a homer
TJ. Stewart
Elgin Ave P.S.
Grade 6

The above poems are from:
"A Collection of Poetry" by
Junior Division Students
1994-1995
The Norfolk Board of
Education

PIE TIN BIRD FEEDER

Source: birdsandbloom.com

By Jennifer Mancier

If you're looking for a bird feeder that will stand the test of time, this one is for you. A vent (shanty) cap protects the food while a pie pan presents a picnic for your backyard birds. You can easily obtain all the supplies from a hardware store, but also look for vintage pie tins and cake pans at yard sales and consignment shops. Then each feeder you make will be unique!



What You Will Need:

- Vent (shanty) cap
- Aluminum pie plate
- 1 cm / ¼-in. eyebolt
- 1 cm / ¼-in. hex head cap screw
- 1 cm / ¼-in. coupling nut
- Exterior primer and paint (optional)
- Superglue
- Twine or wire for hanging

Instructions:

1. An eyebolt and cap screw that have a combined height of 1 cm - 2cm / 1/8"-3/4" less than the height of the vent cap. That way, there will be just enough room for the coupling nut to hold the two together tightly.
2. Wearing safety glasses, drill an 8 mm / 5/16" hole through the center of the vent cap and the pie plate. While you're at it, drill a few small holes through the bottom of the pie plate to allow for water drainage.
3. Leave the vent cap and pie plate clear. Choose for an industrial look, or paint them to add a pop of color! I find that a latex-based exterior paint on top of primer adheres best to galvanized metal.
4. Paint the vent cap and pie plate separately before assembling your feeder. Be sure to

follow the instructions on your paint can and allow adequate drying time.

5. Place the cap screw through the center hole in the pie plate with the threads facing upward.
Give the coupling nut about 3 or 4 turns onto the threads of the cap screw to hold it in place. Next, center the vent cap over the pie plate while holding the cap screw in place.
6. Place the eyebolt through the center hole of the vent cap and turn the eyebolt into the other end of the coupling nut. Using a wrench, hold the nut steady while hand-tightening the eyebolt. Seal the coupling with a few drops of superglue for extra holding power.
7. To hang, slip twine or wire through the eyehole and tie. Hang from a tree branch. Then fill the platform with birdseed and watch the birds gather to enjoy your backyard masterpiece!

HOW TO MAKE A VINE WREATH

Source: allfreecrafts.com

By Jane Lake

...Using common garden vines found around your home or neighbourhood. Mid-summer to late fall is the season to harvest vines to make a vine wreath or two.

Although you can buy grapevine wreaths quite readily, if you have access to your own vines, why not try making your own? Grapevines, of course, are ideal for this craft project, but the picture shown on the left is made from fresh Virginia Creeper vine and is currently in the process of being dried. I've also made vine wreaths from euonymus, silver lace and honeysuckle vines, and I'm sure that there are many other plant varieties that would work equally well.

Caution: Virginia Creeper is an aggressive vine that grows readily in gardens, over walls, near rivers, roadsides, and fields. It is grown as an ornamental plant, but is also regarded as an invasive weed. This is good news for vine makers, because a single vigorous Virginia Creeper plant will provide literally yards of strong vines, which are perfect for weaving into wreaths. Its leaves identify it, which has five leaflets radiating out like the fingers of a hand. The leaves turn red in the fall. Virginia Creeper is sometimes mistaken for poison ivy, which has three leaves, and often the two plants can be found growing alongside each other -- so make sure you know which plant is which!

Craft Instructions:

1. The first step, of course, is harvesting the vines. Grapevines should be cut anytime after the grapes have been picked, up to first frost. I've found that Virginia creeper is usually vigorous enough to harvest in mid-summer in my area (left too long and it will kill the pine trees that it attempts to cover).
2. You will want nice long lengths of vine to work with - anything from 3 feet to 10 feet is a workable length.



3. Trim off the leaves. However, on a small leafed vine like the euonymus pictured on the right, you might want to let some leaves dry on the vine to form the first decorations. I usually leave the curly clinging tendrils in place, because they make attractive corkscrew shapes when dried.
4. If you are unable to work with the vines right away, coil them in a large bowl or laundry basket and cover with water overnight so they remain pliable and easy to weave.
5. Begin at the thicker end of one vine length, and coil this first round of vine in a circle slightly smaller than the size you want. I usually begin with a coil of two or three rounds before weaving. You will build on this set of rounds, and the wreath will grow as you weave it.
6. Now begin weaving, pulling the vine in and out of the circle and working your way around the wreath until you come to the end of the vine (see photo above for detail). Tuck this end in place between the coils.
7. With the second length of vine, start by tucking the thicker end in at a different spot than the place you began the first vine. You may want to coil more rounds before weaving again, or you can weave in and out of the circle right away; it partly depends on how much vine you have, and how thick you want the wreath.

8. Keep adding vines in this way until the wreath is the size and thickness that you want. It is up to you whether you weave the vines tightly (as in the Virginia creeper picture above) or loosely (like the euonymus photo). A loose wreath is less formal and allows room to weave in ribbons.
9. Attach a wire or string at the back for hanging and decorate your vine wreath as desired.
10. The glorious colors of fall are shown off in this homemade autumn wreath, which combines dried floral with a few inexpensive silk flowers and silk leaf picks.

The base is a homemade euonymus wreath, approximately 23 cm / 9" in diameter

Autumn Wreath Craft Supplies:

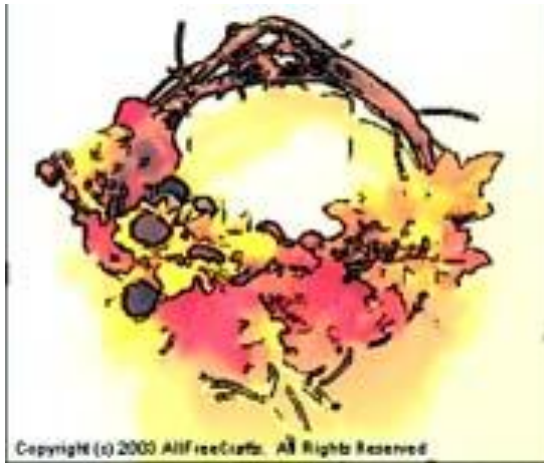
- 24 cm x 25 cm / 9 or 10-inch wreath base
- 3 artificial or dried red maple leaves, no stems
- 3 sprigs of yellow and orange maple leaves, two leaves on each sprig, slightly smaller than the red leaves
- 3 to 5 even smaller yellow and green maple leaf sprigs. Note: you want three sizes of leaves to arrange, large red, medium yellow and orange and smaller yellow and orange; often a pick of leaves contains three to five sprigs of leaves that you can remove from the stem to use for this project.)
- 3 small mum blossoms, no stems, dark orange
- 5 artificial sunflowers, no stems, 3 cm / 1-1/2"
- 3 to 7 dried miniature roses, strawflowers or similar in yellow or red, no stems or short stems
- Dried red rose petals, mini pinecones, or other dried flower material for filling in spaces
- Small amount of raffia or shredded dried cornhusk



Your choice of embellishments - I used one miniature plastic gourd, 1 miniature 2 1/2" bird, a bunch of 5 red grapes, one 5 cm / 2" round pine cone "flower" sprayed gold, and a miniature basket...but the "theme" could be anything that suits your decor. In fact, all elements of this wreath could be substituted with something else, although the overall

combination of sizes, textures and "harvest colors" should be maintained for the same look

How to Decorate an Autumn Wreath Craft Project Instructions:



Tacky glue or a hot glue gun are needed to assemble the wreath - but make a "dry run" first to find the placement that pleases you most.

1. Using a clock face as the imaginary circle of the wreath, you should begin by gluing the three large red maple leaves in place, one at 5 o'clock, one in the center at 6 o'clock, and one beginning at between 7 and 8 and pointing upwards to 9 or just beyond. The photo of the wreath also shows how the colors of the leaves are placed.
2. Place the miniature basket at the 6 o'clock position, behind the center red maple leaf. Fill it with a wadding of paper so that objects placed in it will be viewed at the top, rather than inside.
3. Place the larger yellow and orange leaves in place on the right side, extending up to the 3 o'clock position.
4. Now place the 5 sunflowers, over and around the red leaves, from the 7 to 9 positions. Use the depth of your wreath to advantage here, placing two flowers right at the front, facing outwards; two in the middle, facing upwards, and one at the back, facing frontward. This accentuates the 3 dimensional quality of the wreath, adding depth and interest.
5. Glue the dried rose petals and miniature roses (or other dried flowers) above the sunflowers, from the 9 to 10 positions.
6. Add the pinecone flower to the right of the basket, at the front, and use the orange mums to decorate the front of the basket.
7. Glue the gourd and grapes to the top of the paper in the basket.

8. Find a nice spot for the bird - in this photo; the bird is nestled among the sunflowers. Fill in any gaps with dried miniature roses, dried flowers, small pinecones or other material you may have on hand. Take a few pieces of raffia, or cornhusk, about use your fingers to curl the raffia a little, and glue in place at the bottom center of the wreath.

Other Vine Decoration Ideas:

Spray paint (once dry), in gold or silver, or add dried or silk flowers, pine cones, Christmas ornaments, small birds, butterflies or other miniatures, wrapped candies or candy canes, dried apple or orange slices, cookie cutters, wooden shapes, cinnamon sticks, eucalyptus branches, plain or colored raffia, miniature gift boxes, holly leaves and berries, mistletoe, dried autumn leaves, pine branches, cedar branches...or make a fresh floral wreath by hiding tiny glass water tubes in the vine and filling with sprays of fresh flower

NOTE: I would recommend NOT using grapes, either natural or artificial, in any project as they readily become loose and could pose a detrimental hazard such as choking. Rad-Dad

EGGSHELL MOSAICS

Source: bountytowels.ca

Next time you make scrambled eggs or French toast for breakfast, save the eggshells and use them for this fun craft. Even small children will have fun making mosaics with crushed eggshells they've tinted with food colouring.

Time: 30 to 60 minutes

Age Group: 4 and under

What you'll need:

- Eggshells
- Food colouring
- Containers or paper/plastic cups
- Bounty® paper towels
- Construction paper
- Liquid glue
- Crayons or markers (optional)
- Plastic or rubber gloves (optional)
- Pencil



Age Group: 4 and under

What you'll need:

- Crayons
- Heavy sheet of paper, such as construction paper (not copy paper)
- Black or dark tempera paint
- Paintbrush or 2-cm foam brush
- Pencil
- Small cup or container to hold tempera paint
- Several large sheets of newspaper
- A large bowl or container of water
- Bounty® paper towels



Directions:

1. Carefully wash out the eggshells. Remove the thin membrane that clings to the shell.
2. Mix the food colouring with water in the containers you're using.

For bolder colours, use more food colouring.

3. Drop the eggshells in the food colouring. The eggshells will take on a darker tint the longer you leave them in the containers.
4. When the eggshells are sufficiently tinted, remove them from the containers and place the shells on the paper towels to dry. (You may want to use gloves for this!)
5. When the shells are dry, crumble them into small pieces. A slightly larger piece will give you more of a mosaic look; however, it's quicker and easier for younger children to work with pieces that have been more finely crumbled.
6. Use the liquid glue to make a design on the paper (or lightly draw a design in pencil first, and then cover it with glue).
7. Sprinkle the broken shells on the glue and the design will emerge!
8. Children may want to use crayons or markers to write their name, or to dedicate their picture to someone.

NO-HEAT CRAYON BATIK

Source: bountytowels.ca

This is a great project for using up old, broken crayons. Unlike many batik projects, this one doesn't require using an iron, so less adult supervision is needed

Time: 60 minutes or more

Directions:

1. Decide on a design for your picture. You may want to draw your design on another sheet of paper first, or draw it very lightly in pencil on your paper.
2. Remove the paper covering on the crayons you plan to use. Use the sides of the crayons (not the tips), pressing down very hard to fill your paper with colour. Make bold, colourful designs or patterns and cover as much of the white background as you can.
3. When you're finished with your design, carefully immerse your paper in a bowl or container of water at room temperature.
4. While your paper is under water, gently crumple it into a ball. This entire process should take about 10 seconds.
5. Remove the paper ball from the container and very carefully squeeze out any excess water. Gently smooth out the crumpled ball and spread it out on sheets of newspaper. Blot any remaining drops of water with a paper towel.
6. Pour about ¼ cup of tempera paint into a cup or small container and thin the paint with a little water. Paint a black wash over the crumpled paper and let it dry.

7. Your paper will tear easily, so handle it very gently. Torn spots can be taped on the back once the paper is completely dry. Clean up your brush with soap, water, and paper towels.

PIZZA THAT'S FOR THE BIRDS

Source: canadianliving.com

Kids will love making this tasty treat for their feathered friends.

By Catherine Nash, HappyMailForKids.ca

Spring is in the air! Welcome back our feathery friends with a delicious pizza treat! This craft is enjoyable for children and grown-ups alike to make and decorate together. It's sticky and lots of fun.

You need:

- Waxed paper to work on (large enough to cover your work space)
- Bagels with visible holes in middle
- Bread that has been well toasted and cooled
- Peanut butter (if you have nut allergy concerns)
- Just use any sticky spread)
- Wild birdseed
- Raisins
- Ribbon
- Tin pie plate
- Spatula/butter knife



To make:

1. Cover your workspace with waxed paper (this will make cleaning up a little easier).
2. Cover the bottom of a tin pie plate with birdseed.
3. Using a spatula or butter knife cover both sides of the bagel with peanut butter. Cut a

hole in one corner of the cold toast before covering it with peanut butter.

4. After covered with peanut butter, place the bagel and toast one at a time in the pie plate of birdseed. Use your hands to spread and press the birdseed to the bagel/toast (a spoon also works well).
5. Shake off the extra seeds and lay the bagel/toast on your wax paper.
6. Dip one side of the Raisins in peanut butter then press to the bagel/toast (the Raisins act as the pepperoni). Cover any remaining exposed peanut butter with birdseed.
7. Cut a piece of ribbon and thread it through the holes in your bagels and toast. Tie the 2 ends together so you can hang the bird pizza outside.
8. Now you are ready to find a tree to hang your pizza for the birds.

EGG-CARTON FINGER PUPPETS

Source: canadianliving.com

Your kids will crack up as they make these recycled egg-carton finger puppets.

By Anna Hobbs - Photography by Laura Arsie
Illustrations and diagrams by Renée Schwarz

You need:

- Cardboard egg cartons, for finger puppets
- Stiff thread or fishing line, for whisker

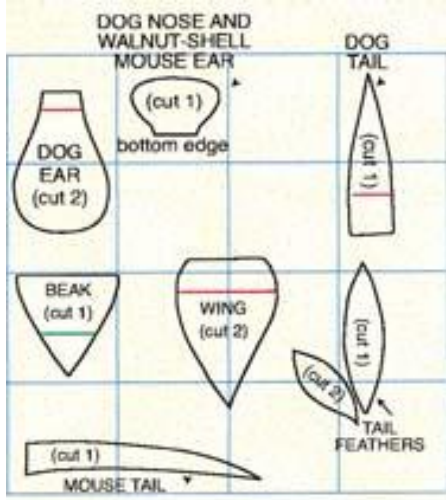


Dog

1. From flat carton top, cut a 4 cm (1-5/8-inch) square, then cut 2 ears, 1 tail and 1 nose using patterns. From the carton bottom cut out 2 "points" centered between eggcups. Trim each point straight around bottom edge to make it 2.5 cm (1 inch) high.
2. At top of 1 point (body), carefully poke hole to fit your finger. On other point (head), cut flap on bold lines as shown in Dog Head Diagram and fold up along red line. Leaving flap loose, apply glue to bottom edges of head; place on square and press down firmly

until glue sets. Let dry. Apply glue to outside of flap; tuck flap into finger hole; clamp flap to body. Let dry.

3. Fold each ear along red line; apply glue to flap above fold; glue to top of head. Fold tail along red line; apply glue to flap above fold; glue inside body at back and clamp. Glue on nose. Let dry.
4. Paint. Let dry. From stiff white paper, punch out 2 eyes; draw on pupils with marker; glue in place.

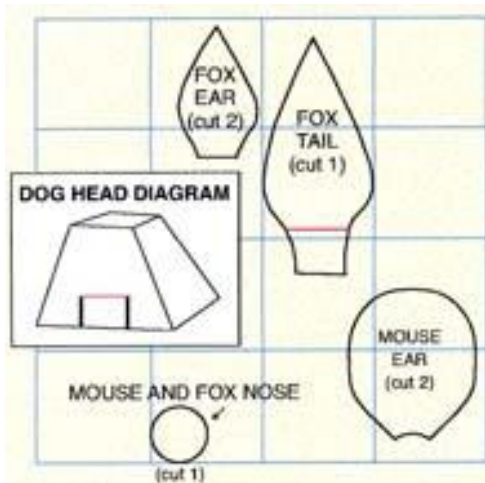


Mouse

1. Cut out pieces as in Step 1 for dog.
2. Assemble as in Step 2 for dog, then angle ears and glue flat to back of head, glue tail sideways across body back and glue whiskers under nose. Finish as in Step 4 for dog.

Fox

1. Cut out pieces as in Step 1 for dog, trimming each point just enough to straighten bottom edge.
2. Assemble as in Step 2 for dog, then angle ears and glue flat to back of head. Finish as in Step 4 for dog.



Bird

1. From flat carton top, cut 2 wings, 3 tail feathers and 1 beak using patterns. From carton bottom, cut 1 corner cup (head) and 1 inside cup (body); trim cups straight around top edge to make them 2.5 cm (1 inch) and 3 cm (1-1/8-inch) high, respectively. Apply glue to beak above green line; glue to flat head front; clamp. Let dry.
2. At top of body, poke hole to fit your finger. Ask an adult to make horizontal slit with knife approx 1.5 cm (5/8-inch) long in each side of body, approx 1.5 cm from bottom edge. Fold wings along red lines. From inside, push wing tips through slits to fold. Glue flaps to inside; clamp. Let dry. Apply glue inside back and sides of head; place over body, pinching head to sides until glue sets. Let dry. Glue tail feathers in place along bottom edge; clamp. Let dry. Finish as in Step 4 for do

SAND CASTING

Source: Crafts.kaboose.com

Dig through a whole range of fun shapes and your kids will enjoy the results of their sand casting work-of-art.

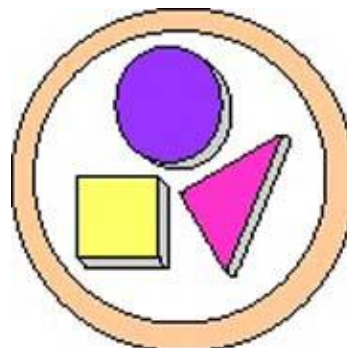
What you'll need:

- Sand
- Pie pan
- Rag
- Plaster
- Shapes
- Paint
- Paintbrushes

How to make it:

- Fill pie pan 1/2 way with sand.
- Embed shapes, holes, etc.
- Fill the other 1/2 of pan with plaster.
- Let dry.
- Wipe off lose sand after removing the mold from the pan.
- Paint the mold.

Have fun!



CHRISTMAS MOUSE ORNAMENT

Source: Crafts.kaboose.com

Welcome this Christmas mouse into your house. With a walnut shell and some mini pompons kids will delight in crafting this little ornament that looks cute hanging on any tree.

What you'll need:

- Walnut shell half
- 2 small wiggle eyes
- 1 large round gray or white pom-pom, depending on what color you want your mouse to be (You can get these at thrift or craft stores. Also, the large pom-pom has to be small enough to fit in a walnut shell.)
- 2 small gray or white pom-poms for the ears
- 1 medium size pom-pom
- Any color ribbon about 5 inches long
- A miniature Santa hat, optional (You can get these at craft stores with the miniature doll things or ask a clerk to help you find them.)
- Hot glue gun



How to make it:

1. Make sure you have a piece of newspaper on a table or on the floor (wherever is easier to work) so you don't get any glue or scraps everywhere. That makes cleanup time quicker.
2. Lay all your materials out on the newspaper. Heat the glue gun up and make sure you have an adult watching you at all times when you are using the glue gun.
3. Put a dot of glue in the walnut half and stick the large pom-pom inside it. Press down lightly and hold for about 10 seconds. Put a dot of glue on the medium size pom-pom where the head should go, and hold for about 20 seconds.
4. Take the two small eyes and place them on the head with a dot of glue and gently hold for about 10 seconds each.
5. Glue on the small pom-pom balls by placing them above the head, and hold for 10 seconds.
6. Put a dab of glue in the middle of the ribbon and place it under the walnut. Tie the ribbon at the top so you can hang your mouse.

Hang it on your tree for a nice little touch.

FLOWER POUNDING

Source: familycrafts.about.com

Did you know that you could transfer the color from flowers and even leaves onto fabric by beating them with a hammer? The kids especially will enjoy this creative activity as long as they have plenty of parental supervision!

Age Guideline: 5 Years and Up

Time required: 30 minutes (Does not include drying time)

The above age and time guidelines are estimates. This project can be modified to suit other ages and may take more or less time depending on your circumstances.

Materials Needed:

- Variety of Fresh Flowers and Leaves
- White, cotton fabric (muslin works well)
- Wax Paper
- Masking Tape
- Hammer



1. Instructions:

1. It is best to work on a hard surface, like a sidewalk or cement floor. Cover your work surface with wax paper. Use masking tape to hold your wax paper in place. Start out by arranging the flowers and/or leaves onto the wax paper in whatever design you want them to appear on their fabric. You can also just lay out one flower or leaf at a time.
2. Carefully lay the fabric over the flowers and/or leaves. Use masking tape on the edges to hold the fabric in place. Gently pound on the fabric over the flowers and/or leaves and see the flower colors bleed through onto the fabric. Continue to pound the flowers and leaves until you get the desired results. Set your fabric aside to dry completely.
3. You can use the fabric to make pillows, frame it to make pictures, make several to use in a quilt, or even appliqué it onto a shirt or other fabric item. You can also use this technique to transfer color to paper. Make unique

stationary, invitations, bookmarks, and much more. I have been told that this fabric is machine washable in cold water with mild detergent, but I do opt to hand wash if necessary!

GROWING MAGNET

HOW TO MAKE A MAGNET THAT REALLY GROWS

Source: familycrafts.about.com

By Sherri Osborn, About.com Guide

This unique project is not only educational; it would make a fun gift.

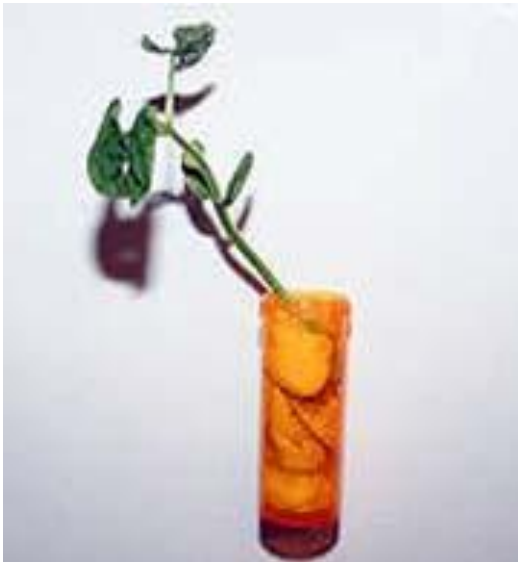
Age Guideline: 3 Years and Up

Time required: 10 minutes (Does not include drying time)

The above age and time guidelines are estimates. This project can be modified to suit other ages and may take more or less time depending on your circumstances

Materials Needed:

- Pill Bottle or Film Container (that can be seen through)
- Magnet Strip
- Cotton Balls
- Craft Glue
- Fast Growing Flower or Vegetable Seeds (beans work well)



Instructions:

1. For this project, try to find a clear pill bottle or film container so you can watch the roots as the seed grows.
2. Start out by decorating the film container or pill bottle if you like. Make sure you don't completely cover it though because then you won't be able to see into the container while

the seed is growing. Glue a magnet strip along the side that will be the back of the film container. Let the glue dry.

3. Place two cotton balls in the film container or pill bottle. Sprinkle a little water onto the cotton balls and then place a few flower or vegetable seeds onto the damp cotton balls. Place one more cotton ball on top of the seeds and sprinkle with a little more water.
4. Now you can hang the magnet on your refrigerator or any other metal surface and watch it grow. You should keep the seed moist, adding just enough water at a time to keep the cotton balls damp without making a puddle in the bottom of the film container. Once the plant outgrows its magnet home, it can be transplanted into a pot or outside. More seeds can then be added to the container.

PINE CONE SQUIRREL CRAFT

Source: familycrafts.about.com

By Sherri Osborn, About.com Guide

Follow these step-by-step directions and create an adorable squirrel using a pinecone and a few other supplies.

Age Guideline: 5 Years and Up

Time required: 20 minutes

The above age and time guidelines are estimates. This project can be modified to suit other ages and may take more or less time depending on your circumstances. For best results, read through all of these steps before you start making this craft.

Before you start any project it is easiest to gather together all of the supplies.

For this project you will need:

- Pine Cone
- 2 1/2 cm / 1" Pom-pom (If you use a larger pine cone, you will want to use a larger pom-pom)
- Wiggle Eyes
- 5mm Pom-pom
- Bumpy Chenille Stem
- Regular Chenille Stem
- Wooden Bead
- Craft Glue (You can also use a Hot Glue Gun and Glue Sticks)
- Old Scissors or Wire Cutters (For Cutting Chenille Stems)

Before you craft with pine cones you pick up out of your yard, you might want to read this tip about how to make sure you get rid of unwanted critters, seeds, or sap that might be hiding in them.



Pine Cone Tip

"When making things with pine cones, first bake the cones on a foil-lined cookie sheet for about 45 minutes to an hour at 200 degrees. This kills any bugs or spider mites that live in them. This also allows the seeds to fall out and sap to dry up.

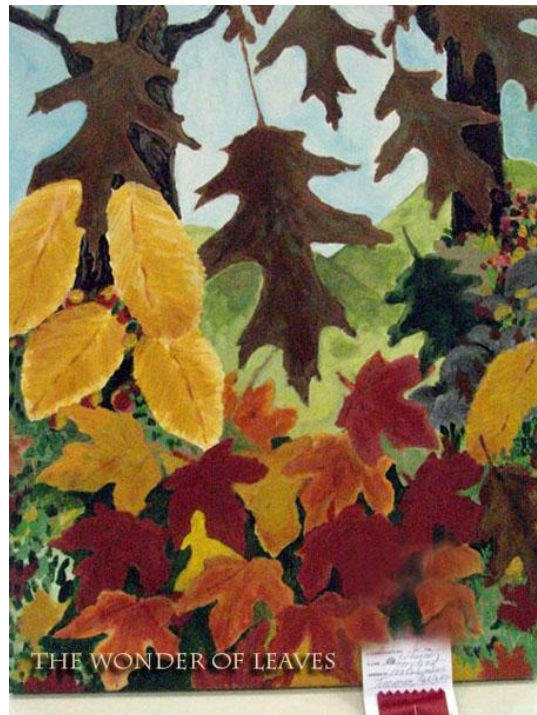
If you want your pinecones to close up tight, try plunging them in ice-cold water after baking. This should make them close up tight; they will later when dry re-open.

1. Start out by gluing the 2 ½ cm / 1-inch pom-pom on the pointy end of the pinecone. The pom-pom will be the squirrel's head and the pinecone will be the body.



2. Once you have the head glued on, use your glue to attach at wiggle eyes onto the head and also the nose (the 5mm pom-pom)
3. To make the ears, cut two pieces of chenille stem, about an inch long, and fold them in half to form a 'V' shape. Glue each inverted 'V' onto the top of the squirrel's head to look like ears. If you prefer, you can also use scrap pieces of felt or craft foam to make the ears.
4. For the tail, I cut off 2 bumps from the chenille stem. I folded them in half and twisted the ends together

5. Glue the twisted end of the chenille stem bumps to the back of the pinecone to form the tail. Bend the top of the tail down a bit to give it a little shape.
6. For the squirrel's feet, cut two pieces of chenille stem about 5 cm / 2-inches long. Fold each piece in half and glue them to the bottom, front edge of the pinecone body.
7. For the squirrel's arms, cut two more pieces of chenille stem, again, about 5 cm / 2-inches long. Glue one to each side of the pinecone body.
8. For a finishing touch, make a small acorn by gluing a small piece of chenille stem to a wooden bead. I simply rolled the leftover tan chenille stem I used into a small, tight spiral. Glue the acorn into the squirrel's hands.



Convention Winner

RECYCLED MILK JUG BIRD FEEDER

Source: squidoo.com/earth-day-crafts

Simple to make recycled craft makes the birds happy.



1. Wash out a plastic gallon milk jug and replace the cover. Refer to the photo for approximate size and placement of the seed port openings.
2. To make the openings, using a utility knife or craft knife, cut a U-shaped opening in 2 or 3 sides of the jug. Fold the flaps of plastic from each opening up to create an awning that protect the seed ports from rain and snow. Cut small X-shaped openings about an inch below the seed ports; make a matching cut on the opposite side of the jug, then push a sturdy twig or dowel into the jug from one side and out the other side to create perches for your hungry birds.
3. Note: the recycled milk jug bird feeder in this photo has two different seed port styles. I tested one without an awning and one with an awning. You can make either style; simply make the U-shape cut upside down and remove the plastic if you don't want to make the awning style openings.

MAKING PAPER MACHE PASTE RECIPE

Source: squidoo.com/PaperMachePasteRecipe

Paper Mache is a wonderful medium; it's free, non-toxic, and great to do with kids. No fancy equipment required! You probably already have everything you need. Paper Mache is so fun and so easy and you can create just about anything. This recipe works for all types of projects from bowls to bracelets and piñatas.

Paper Mache paste can also be refrigerated and saved overnight, but the water tends to separate and it's quite unpleasant to stick your hands to cool mushy goo. I always prefer working with

warm paste, but I don't like to waste anything either.

LIGHT BULB REINDEER CRAFT

Source: familycrafts.about.com

By Sherri Osborn, About.com Guide

Materials Needed:

- Light Bulb
- Newspaper
- Paper Mache Paste
- Paint
- Craft Foam or Felt
- Ribbon
- 2 cm / 3/4-Inch Red Pom-Pom
- Craft Glue or Hot Glue Gun and Glue Sticks
- Paint Brush
- Scissors



Instructions:

1. I put 3 layers of paper Mache on my light bulb first. Read article about how to paper Mache.
2. Paint the light bulb with brown paint. Let the paint dry completely. I set the neck of the light bulb into an empty film container. This worked great while the paint dried!
3. With the neck of the light bulb pointing up; paint eyes and a mouth on the reindeer. Glue on the red, pom-pom nose.
4. Cut two antlers out of fun foam or felt using the pattern below. Glue one to each side of the light bulb neck.
5. Form a loop with a piece of ribbon, about 10- to 12-inches long and glue it on the top, back edge of your reindeer head. This will be the hanger for your ornament.

