

Egg Carton Flowers 3-5

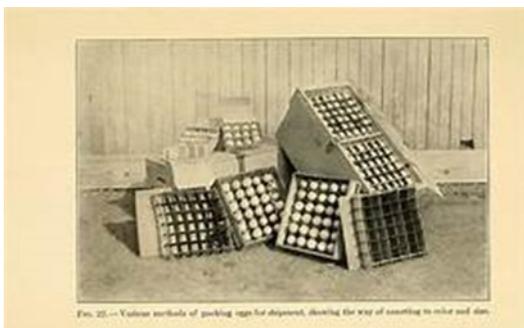
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Lesson

Eggs are a food that most of us eat & enjoy, especially for breakfast! They are a food that has always been available as birds lay eggs & people have eaten many forms of eggs. . . Not just from chickens! Many of the farmers would gather the eggs in baskets on the farms. Since not everyone raises chickens or other egg laying birds, more & more people wanted the eggs of the farmers. They had to come up with something to be able to safely deliver the eggs to their distant customers. Bringing them in baskets caused many to be broken before arriving at their customers. In the early 1900's, the first form of



egg cartons was created by interlocking strips of cardboard to separate the eggs. Since then, other forms were made. Not until 1969 was the packaging that we know of today was created which best protects the eggs in traveling & storage. They were formed from a product that we often call Styrofoam. It is actually a product called polystyrene that is made from petroleum oil & a chemical combination mixed with a lot of air at very high temperatures. It's considered to be a form of



plastic. These egg cartons usually have 12-18-24 egg divots per container. They are made from polystyrene which is a good product for protecting the eggs from breakage while transporting them. When we recycle items in our bins, these egg cartons are a #6, but not recycled here in Palm Beach County. You can bring them to Resource Depot or you can drop them at local grocery stores for bulk recycling. Before recycling them, can you think of some fun projects that you can create with them?

Questions for students

- Once recycled, what happens to egg cartons?
- Can you think of any storage uses for empty egg cartons?
- Which egg cartons is better choice? Cardboard or Polystyrene? Why?
- Can you think of a less wasteful way to store & ship eggs?



Please us the Other Resources Page
before you start the art project



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Other Learning Resources

Websites About Recycling & Reuse

Recycling and Upcycling -

https://www.ehow.com/about_5370823_can-recycle-egg-cartons.html

Videos About Chickens & Eggs

About where eggs come from- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FY-2JtG-HAY>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85CIEiYT_m8

About Chickens- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYKJkHcaMzE>



Materials

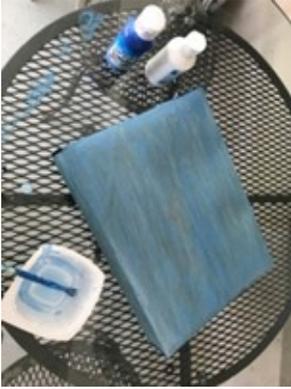
* Polystyrene Egg Cartons in any colors you choose

- Empty Cereal box
- Scissors, Pencil, Permanent Markers,
- Paint & paint brush
- Glue (can use hot glues with parents help)
- Button & Hole punch
- Ribbon
- Green yarn or pipe cleaners
- Smaller piece of paper



Instructions

Parents should help with parts in Green.



1. Gather all your materials.
2. First you should open the cereal box & put it back together inside out using hot glue. (You may need adult help with this)
3. Now paint (any color you like) the cereal box with just a light paint wash which is a thin mixture of paint & water. Let this dry, set aside.
4. Choose which color egg cartons you want to use for your flowers.
5. Cut the egg cartons apart at each egg section, decided how many flower you want & cut that number out. Each section can be one flower, but if you layer two colors for one flower, that would be two sections for one flower.
6. Each section is like a square. Picturing each section to be a flower, cut slits all around each section from the outer edge to the beginning of the inner circle creating your flower petals. You can round the petals or keep them pointy depending on what kind of flower you desire. You can also put 2 or more flowers together. Do this until you have as many flowers as you want for your bouquet.
7. Decide how you want to arrange your flowers on the decorated cardboard surface.
8. Glue in place. Using the glue gun is probably the best as the sections do not lay perfectly flat. You will probably need adult help!
9. Cut yarn or pipe cleaners for your flower's stems & glue one stem to each base of the flowers. If using Pipe Cleaners, hot glue will work best!
10. You can glue a button or hole punch circles from the egg carton and glue into the centers of the flowers.
11. Gather all the stems at the bottom of your page and tie a ribbon in a bow, placing a little glue underneath. The bow to hold it to the cardboard.
12. Feed the 2 foot piece of ribbon through the top side of the box & out through the other side. Tie the ends together. You can hang it by this!
13. Cut a small rectangle from a piece of paper, & write MOM or the gift recipients name on it, & glue to the base of the flowers. Bring Smiles!



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