



Recommended Grades: Grades 7-12
Estimated Teacher Prep Time: 5 Mins
Estimated Project Time: 30-45 Mins

Overview

This winter tree craft is made entirely from materials you can find at MECCA, including egg cartons, scrap fabric and wine corks. A sweet addition to your winter seasonal décor!

Copmlimentary Topics

- Sustainability
- Seasons

Prep

From M.E.C.C.A Teacher Resource Center (quantity needed to make 2 trees/student)

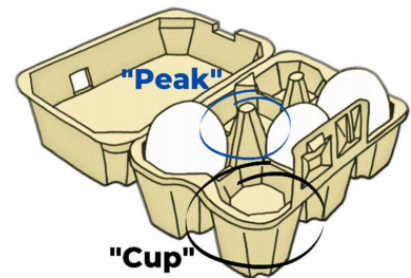
- One egg carton (preferably the kind with the tall peaks)
- Fabric scraps, about 2 sq. ft
- Wine corks, 2

Tools & Workspace Requirements

- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Glue sticks, about 5-6
- Small ruler (optional)

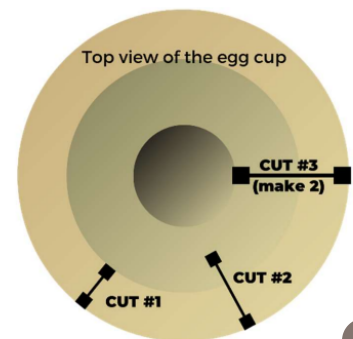
Project Directions

1. Begin with the scissors and the egg carton to make layers of “boughs” for the tree. Identify the cups (the area that holds the egg) and the peaks (the tall points that separate the cups) in the carton. Begin by cutting off three peaks from the carton: one that is about 3 inches, cutting all the way at the bottom of the carton; another that is about 2 inches tall, and the shortest which is about 1 inch tall. Next cut out four egg cups, keeping the sides as tall as possible.



1

2. Trim the top edges of the 4 egg cups to make the cup even in height. Then make cuts from the top edge of the cup toward the inside of the cup. Cut all around the cup, making each slit about ½ inch apart. Make one cup with Cut #1, one cup with Cut #2, and two cups with Cut #3.



2

3. With your scissors, cut several circles of different sizes from your fabric scraps. You can choose different patterned scraps or use the same fabric for the whole tree. Cut out 6 circles in all, growing in diameter from 2 inches up to 4 inches. These do not need to be exactly round—some edginess looks good on the tree.

4. Find the four “cup” pieces and fold up the prongs, away from the cup. The cups will be of different heights and widths.

5. Next, get ready to build your tree by lining up the peak and cup pieces and the fabric round pieces from smallest to largest. Starting from the top of the tree with the smallest piece of “peak” egg carton, begin to stack the egg carton peak pieces together, adding a fabric round (starting with the smallest) between each piece of the egg carton. Continue with the egg carton cup pieces, adding in the same order as the diagram below, and alternating pieces with fabric rounds.

Project Directions Continued

6. Use your scissors to trim up the edges of the fabric rounds if needed so that the tree grows in diameter from top to bottom, and that you can still see the egg carton rounds.

7. Once you are happy with the shape of your tree and have adult supervision nearby, glue all the pieces together using a hot glue gun. (Be careful not to burn yourself with the hot glue!

8. To finish your tree, hot glue the wine cork to the bottom to become the trunk. Before the glue dries, make sure the cork is balanced under the tree so it will stand up on its own.

If desired, repeat Steps 1-6 to make a second tree and notice how it takes on a different personality!

