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Winter 2024 £8.75

creative STEPS

HELPING KIDS
LEARN THROUGH
CREATIVE PLAY

Featuring



**Packed
with
Crafty
Winter Fun!**

creative
PLAY AWARDS 2024

WINNER

Winners Announced!

INSIDE! Quick Christmas Crafts Chinese New Year
RSPB Big Schools' Bird Watch Valentine's Makes
Make Art With Nature STEM Projects Prizes!

INSPIRATION FOR YOU...GREAT FUN FOR CHILDREN

EGG CARTON CONES

LEARNING ZONES: Expressive Arts & Design Science Mathematics Sustainability Recycling

Celebrate Christmas by making festive egg carton bells for your tree! Paint and decorate your bells, adding a personal touch while recycling materials for a greener Christmas!



STORE CUPBOARD

Egg carton cones
Cord / ribbon
Scissors
Paint
Brushes
Glue
Jingles
Toothpicks / skewer



- 1 Cut the cord to match the length of the cone.
- 2 Attach the jingles to one end of the cord and tie securely.
- 3 Make a small hole in the top of the cones, depending on the thickness of your cord.
- 4 Thread the cord through the egg carton cones to make bells.
- 5 Paint the bells however you like.
- 6 Add festive decorations to suit your design.

HINTS & TIPS

- Personalise your bells by writing a name or message, and customise them with paint, bio-glitter, ribbons, and beads to make each one special.
- Experiment with different designs by stacking, trimming, and cutting the cones to create your own style.
- **Adult supervision** is recommended when helping children assemble the bells using toothpicks



ICE CANDLE

Celebrate the Christmas spirit by crafting magical ice candles that "freeze" little objects in time. Explore how different materials behave in icy temperatures and make a beautiful centerpiece that captures the holiday glow!

STORE CUPBOARD

Large and small plastic cups/baking bowls

Water

Festive items (e.g. small pinecones, red berries, orange slices, mini ornaments, colorful beads)

Pebbles (to weigh down the small cup)

Food colouring (optional)

Battery-operated tea light

Freezer

HINTS & TIPS

Use a votive holder or a glass to hold the tea light for extra safety if you are using a tea light candle.

Adult supervision is recommended, especially for freezer use or if using a real tea light instead of a battery-operated one.



- 1 Place the small plastic cup inside the larger one.
- 2 Add a few pebbles to the small cup to keep it from floating.
- 3 Arrange the festive items in the gap between the cups.

- 4 Fill the gap with water.

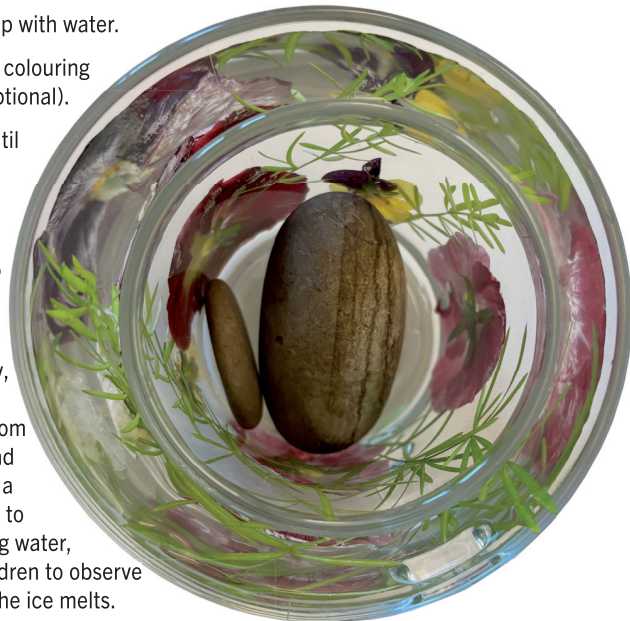
- 5 Add food colouring if desired (optional).

- 6 Freeze until solid.

- 7 Place a tea light in the center to enjoy the frozen glow.

- 8 Optionally, release the ice candle from the molds and transfer it to a shallow bowl to catch melting water, allowing children to observe the light as the ice melts.

- 9 Use your child's creation to decorate your festive dining table!



FUN FACTS!

Tea Lights Glow Brighter in Ice
Ice acts as a diffuser, softening and spreading the light for a cozy glow.

Ice Can Act Like a Lens
Ice bends light, creating interesting patterns and sparkles.

Melting Patterns

As the tea light warms the ice, beautiful channels and puddles form, creating an ever-changing effect.

Frozen Candles Without Heat

Battery-operated lights keep the ice intact, creating a safe, flickering glow.

Ice Magnifies Light Colours

Adding food colouring to the ice creates colourful glows when the tea light shines through!



GLACIER IN YOUR HANDS

Celebrate the festive season by creating a “glacier in a jar” with mini rosemary “trees” frozen in icy layers. Watch them rise in cold water, bringing a touch of winter magic to your home!

STORE CUPBOARD

Small container or glass

Water

Rosemary twigs

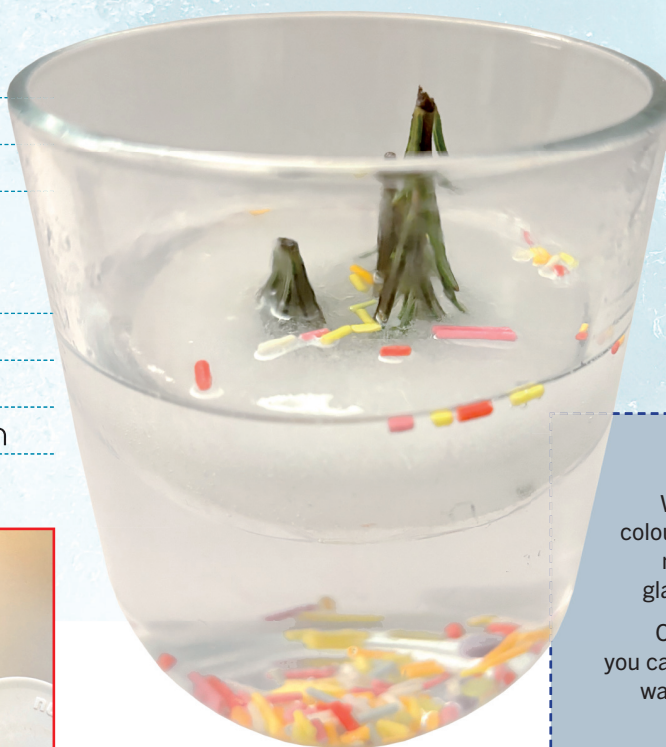
Food colouring
or edible decorations
(optional)

Freezer

Kitchen scissors

Water dropper or spoon

DESIGNED BY VIJAYA MADHURI



HINTS & TIPS

White edible snowflakes or colourful rainbow sprinkles can make the glacier in the glass jar look very magical.

Once the initial water is set, you can add another layer or more water to keep the glacier in the water for longer.

When using rosemary for a drink or activity, make sure it is fresh and well-washed.



1 Trim a few rosemary twigs to look like mini Christmas trees.

2 Arrange them in a container or glass and add a small amount of water (about 20% of the height of the twigs).

3 Freeze the container.

4 Take it out, fill halfway with ice-cold water or clear lemonade, and watch the “glacier” rise with the mini trees.

5 Add food colouring or edible sprinkles for a festive touch.

6 Enjoy this fun, frosty drink with family and friends!



FUN FACTS!

Glacier Water Helps Christmas Trees Grow! In summer, melting glaciers water Christmas trees like firs and spruces, helping them grow strong and healthy.

Christmas Trees Love Cold Places! Some Christmas trees grow best near glaciers, where the cold air and moisture help them thrive.

Glaciers are Nature's Fridge! Glaciers keep the air cool, just like a giant fridge, helping evergreen trees stay green all year long.

Glaciers and Trees are Home to Wildlife! Glaciers provide water, and Christmas tree forests offer cosy homes to animals like birds, squirrels, and mountain goats.