

Easter

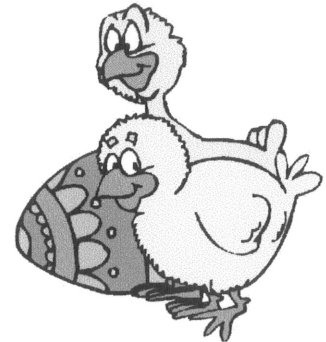


Easter Chicks

Chicks and Egg

Look through old wallpaper books and find a stripe or flower that would make a pretty Easter egg. Trace a tag board egg shape and cut it out. Then make a zig zag cut across the egg to make it look like it has cracked in half. Next paste the egg on construction paper with the zig zag cut towards the top. Make the shape of a chick (one large circle with a smaller circle placed on top but a little to the side and of course a triangle for a beak) coming out of the top of the egg.

The last part is time consuming but worth the effort. Have yellow tissue paper cut into small 1" – 1 ¼" squares. The children place a little liquid glue on a piece of scratch paper. Then they take a pencil with a good eraser. They place the eraser in the middle of one of the yellow tissue pieces, gently squeeze the tissue around the pencil and dip it in the Elmer's glue then carefully place it on the chick shape. The more they place on the chick the fluffier the chick appears. Have a few dark coloured tissue papers so the children can give the chick an eye. Then use markers to colour the beak orange.



Easter Chicks

Cut individual egg cups from an egg carton. Make V- shaped notches at the top of each to resemble half of a cracked eggshell. With markers, have the children write their names on the bottom of the cup and an Easter message on the front, if they choose. Put 2 teaspoons of powdered paint in a Zip-Loc bag with two cotton balls. Seal carefully and shake vigorously. Shake off any excess paint. (You could substitute yellow cotton balls if you want at this stage.) Cover the inside bottom of the cup with glue. Place 1 cotton ball in the cup for the chicks body. Place a drop of glue on top and add another cotton ball for the head. Punch out two blue dots and glue on for eyes. Cut a small diamond shape from orange paper and fold in half. Glue on for the beak.

Easter Eggs

Talking Eggs

Make construction paper eggs and decorate with lace, sequins, etc. On a speech bubble write what the egg is saying. A great bulletin board display!



Easter Egg Cut Outs

Ever wonder if there was something you could do with dried out markers?

Tape a piece of paper to the table on all 4 sides with masking tape (like a frame). Then do a wash over the paper with a paintbrush dipped in water. Then take dried up markers, dip them in water and make designs on the wet paper. The colours run together beautifully and when it is dried it is very effective Cut out egg shapes!

An Egg Book

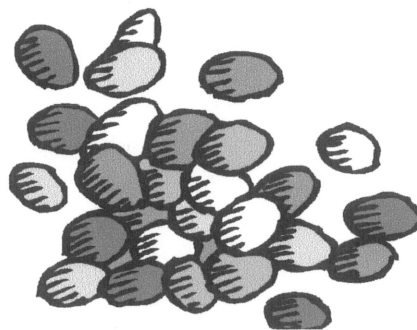
Create an egg shaped book with four pages in it. Decorate the cover to look like an Easter egg. Inside have the children write:

An egg can _____.
An egg can _____.
An egg can _____.
But an egg can't _____.

Each sentence should be on a different page. Brainstorm ideas and write them on the board first, and then the students can write their sentences and illustrate each page. Cute!

Crushed Eggshell Collages

Use crushed eggshells glued onto flower or bunny shapes for an interesting effect.



An Easter Gift

Carefully break off the large end of the egg, drain and wash it well. You can use manicure scissors to trim the edge, if the egg is fresh. Draw a face (a clown face is suitable) on the egg and colour it with felt-tipped markers. Fill the egg with moist soil and add grass seed to the top. Place it in an eggcup or a cardboard tube ring. Keep the soil watered and soon your egghead friend will have sprouted a full head of green hair!

OR: Start flower seeds early in the spring, and at Easter transplant one into each decorated or dipped egg shell.



More Eggs

If your children are dissatisfied with just doing a few eggs and want to dye more, cut out egg shapes from white construction paper and punch a hole in the top. Insert a paper clip and dip them in the dye. They can do as many as they like!

Egg Activities

Try drawing pictures of Humpty Dumpty for Easter.

Make bulletin boards Eastery by making them "Eggs-celent" and "Eggs-plosive". Do "Eggs-periments" and "Egg-stention" exercises, "Eggs-actly" right. You must want your class to "Eggs-cel"!

Have an "Egg Day", "Egg Week" or even an "Egg Month". Read stories about eggs, learn words about eggs (shell, yolk, white, yellow, chicken, duck, dinosaur, scrambled, fried, etc.), weigh and measure eggs for math, play egg catch outdoors, have an egg and spoon relay, do art using egg shells, plant grass seeds in an eggshell and paint on a face, dye eggs for Easter, learn about animals that come out of an egg, or cook with eggs.

Easter Egg Tree or Mobile

Find a small well shaped tree branch with plenty of side branches. If you wish, spray paint the branch white. Then place it in a decorated can and fasten it with pebbles, sand, plasticine or plaster.

Decorate the tree with paper egg shapes, coloured or painted brightly on both sides to match and hung from ribbon or thread.

OR: Hang a branch by a thread from the ceiling or a beam. Each child colours or paints both sides of an egg shape and all the eggs are hung by thread from the branch so they can swing in the slightest breeze.

Colouring Eggs

Every child should bring at least four eggs, hard boiled.

Of course there are dye tablets to colour the eggs or you can make your own dye by mixing 1 tablespoon of vinegar, 1 teaspoon of food colouring and 1 cup of hot water. Or try the natural dyes on the following page. Soup bowls or recycled margarine containers make good dipping dishes.

Spoon-dip a hard-boiled egg into the dye. See how the colour becomes more intense the longer it stays in the dye. Try dipping into two colours (this works especially well if you only have dyes of the primary colours. You can have a short lesson on the colours that will be formed). If the egg is dipped into three or more colours it will turn a muddy brown!

Draw or print with white wax crayon on the egg before dipping. The crayon will resist the dye and the secret message will become visible.

You can also add stars, seals, small pictures, etc., after the eggs are dry.

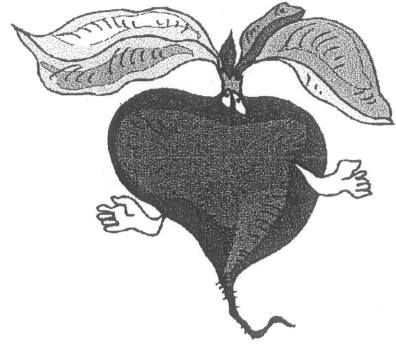
Hint: Cut 1" rings from a cardboard tube. The eggs will sit up in these to dry.



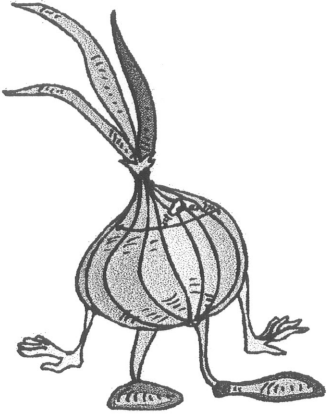
Natural Dyes

Here are some natural dyes to try. Students love this project!

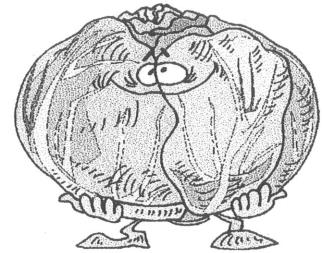
Beets - Boil the beets until soft and mash them. Add a bit of water. Soak the egg in this mush for a brilliant red.



Onion Skins - Peel the dry outer skins from red/yellow onions and wrap the skins around the egg with several layers. Secure them with cheesecloth or nylon stocking and boil the eggs as usual. This gives a beautiful tie-dyed effect. You can polish with vegetable oil for a nice gloss.



Red Cabbage - Boil the eggs with some red cabbage leaves and let stand overnight. The resulting egg will be blue-purple.



A School Easter Egg Hunt

Cut out construction paper eggs, more than enough for every child in the school. Each class could be a different colour if you wish. Number them from 1 to your total, twice on each egg. Cut the eggs in half so there is a number on each piece. On Easter, you scatter one basket of egg halves in a specified part of the playground or in the classroom if the weather is poor.

The children go hunting. They can only pick up one egg half. At an assembly the children hold their egg part. From the other halves numbers are drawn and the winning children get a large chocolate treat or stuffed animal. After these special prizes are given out, all the other children get a somewhat smaller treat by presenting their egg half.

Matching coloured eggs

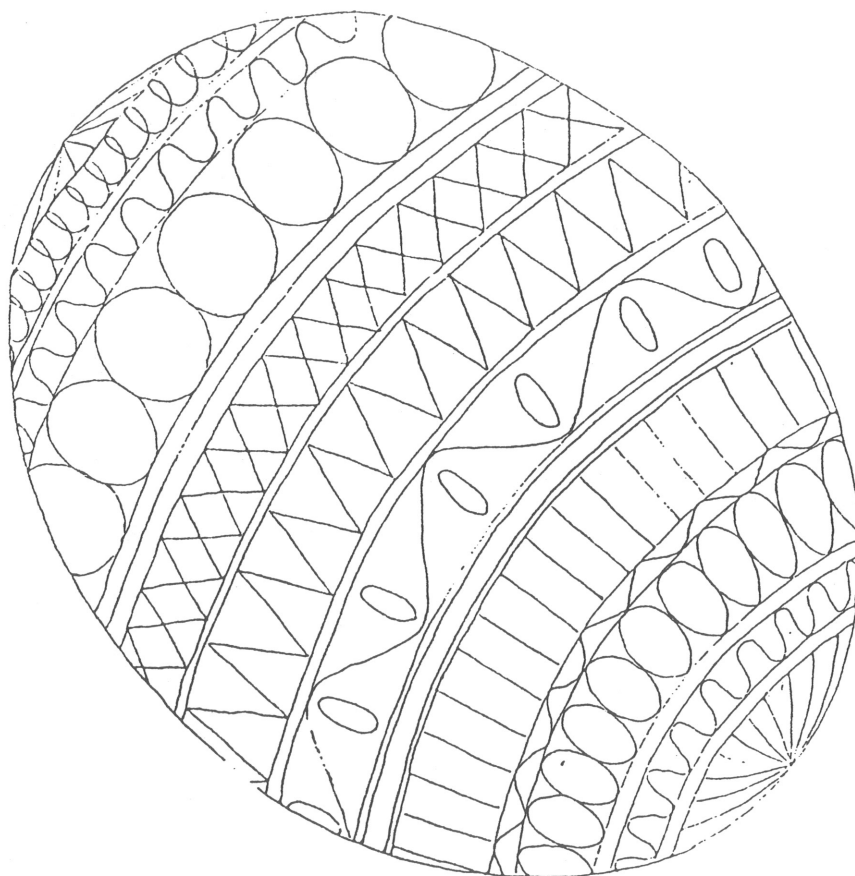
Cut out egg shapes from coloured tag. Make up "matching" questions to suit your grade level.

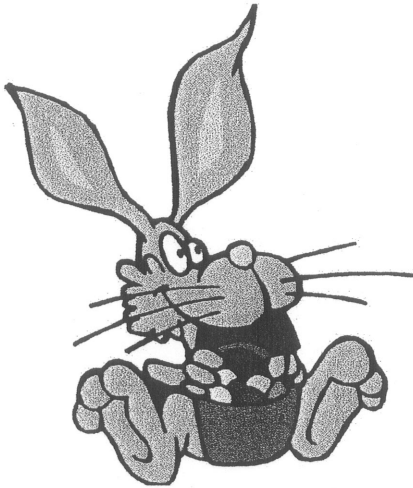


Fancy Easter Eggs

Many small children love to colour intricate pictures. This Easter egg, when enlarged 200%, will be a favourite. Because of the patterns in this egg, discuss colouring in patterns - Yellow, Yellow, Blue, Yellow, Yellow, Blue; etc.

This picture is good for colouring contests, and looks spectacular when brightly coloured and mounted in a brown woven basket surrounded by flowers.





Easter Bunnies

A Bunny in an Egg

Cut a large egg shape out of coloured construction paper. Draw and then cut a jagged line from the top to the bottom of the egg. make a bunny (smaller than the egg) by cutting a large and a small circle of white paper, gluing them to the background and adding ears. Poke a hole near the bottom of the bunny and also poke holes in the bottom corner of each egg piece. Use a paper fastener through all the pieces so the egg will open to show the bunny and then close.



3-D Bunny

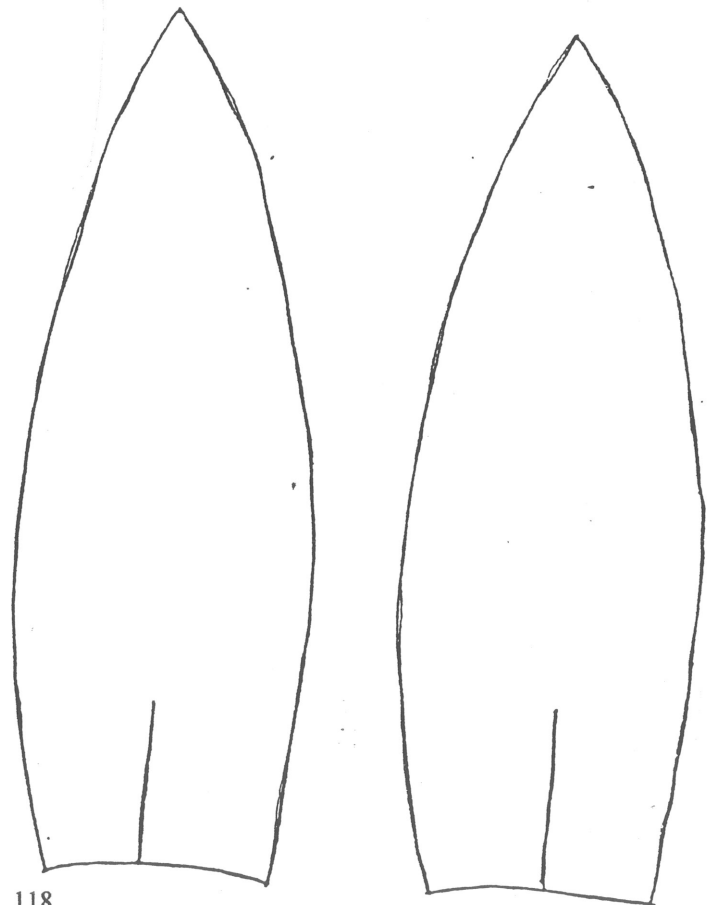
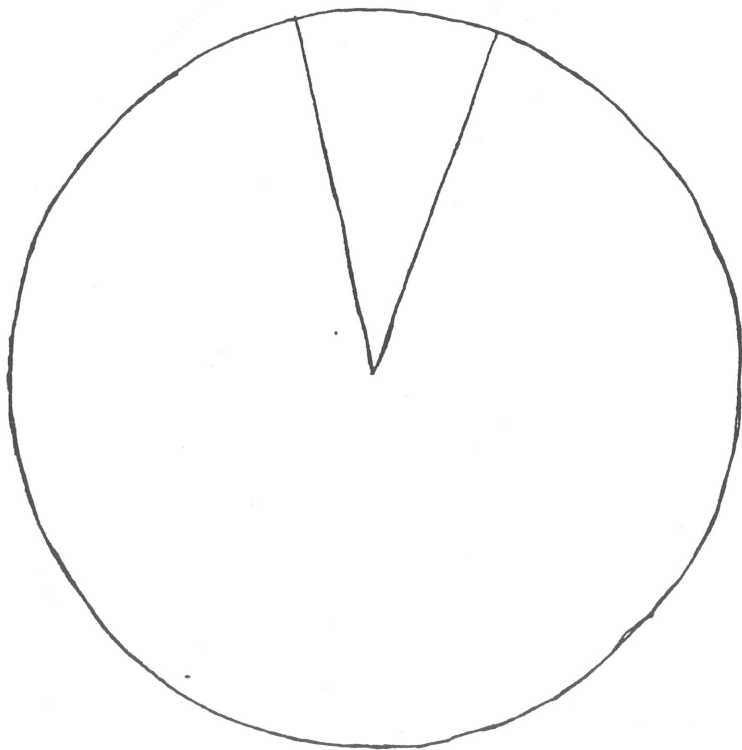
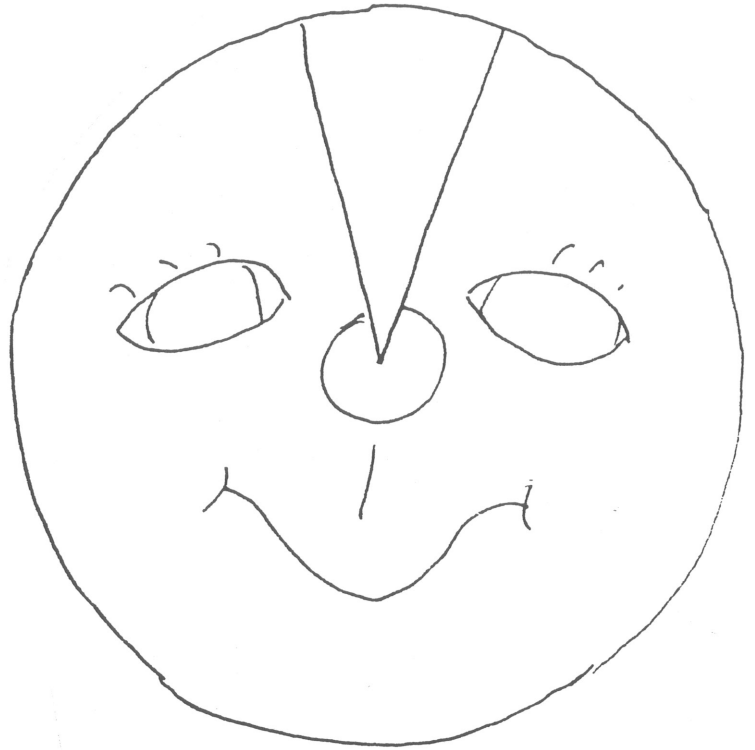
Draw a bunny face on the underside of a paper plate. Cut long ears, colour the centres pink and then cut a slit from the centre bottom of the ear up about 3" and glue one side of the slit behind the other to make the ears three dimensional. Add long whiskers of paper strips or pipe cleaners and a pink candy nose, if you wish. A ball of cotton batting can be glued to each cheek.



Rabbit Faces

Photocopy the head and ear patterns, enlarged 200%, onto manila tag or other light cardboard. Have the children draw and colour the face, as shown with the "V" straight upwards, add black construction paper whiskers, and then cut out the patterns, Cut along one side of the "Y". Put glue on the V and slide it under the other side so the nose becomes the centre of a slight cone. (If you are using cardboard or other material that does not glue well, staple the top of the V.)

Colour the centre of the ears pink. Cut out the ears, also cutting the perpendicular line at the bottom. Slide one side of the ear bottom over the other enough to make the ear have a slight depth inside and staple. Staple the ears in place. Optional: Adding some cotton around the perimeter can make the rabbit look soft and fluffy. A row of rabbit faces makes an attractive Easter panel above the chalkboard.





Easter Baskets

Bunnies in a Basket

Give each child two paper plates. Have them cut one of the paper plates in half. Insides together, glue one half plate to bottom of uncut plate. Colour the baskets. Fill with Easter grass. With a permanent marker draw bunny faces on the tops of plastic spoons. Cut ears out of construction paper. Glue on ears. Stick bunnies into basket. If you're really creative, you could hot glue little bows on the bunny's necks.

Milk Carton Basket

Cut off the lower part of a 1 or 2 litre milk carton. Cover it with white or light grey paper. Draw and colour a rabbit face on one side and add black pipe-cleaner or black construction paper whiskers. Staple ear shapes - pink inside - to the two upper corners of the face. A handle may be made from wool or a pipe-cleaner.

Strawberry Baskets

Collect strawberry baskets. At Easter weave paper strips or ribbon through the baskets. Add a ribbon handle, or a braided paper handle.

Egg Carton Basket

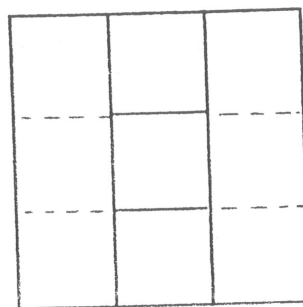
Cut an egg carton in half. Decorate the bottom half with Easter wrapping paper. Cut a long strip from the carton lid and staple to the basket for a handle. Wrap the handle with crepe paper.

Foil Pan Basket

You can use a foil pan as is, and staple on a handle. Add Easter grass and a bow.

A Paper Basket

Begin with a 12" square (or whatever size you like). Grade Twos can measure and make marks around the square at 4" and 8". Connect these marks to make lines dividing the large square into 9 smaller squares. Show the children how to cut and fold to form a basket.



Cut on the dotted lines and fold on the solid lines.

Glue a suitably sized picture on each side, or have the children decorate the basket with their own designs before the basket is glued together. Add a paper handle.

A Basket Display

Cut strips of brown paper and weave a huge basket for your tackboard. Fill with large decorated egg shapes the children have made. Cut small streamers of green crepe paper to look like grass showing from the top of the basket.



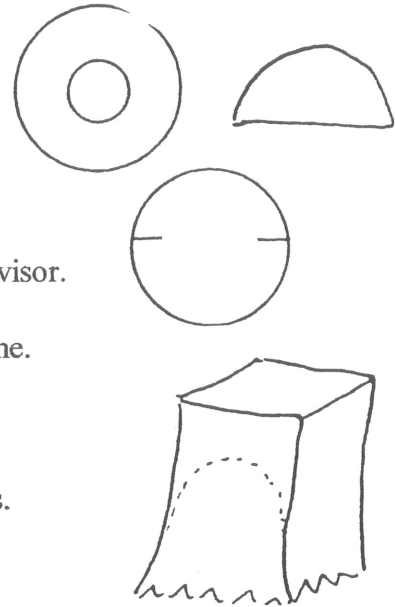


Easter Hats

If every child makes an Easter hat, you can have an Easter parade! Teach the song 'Easter Parade' and sing as you show off the hats around the school.

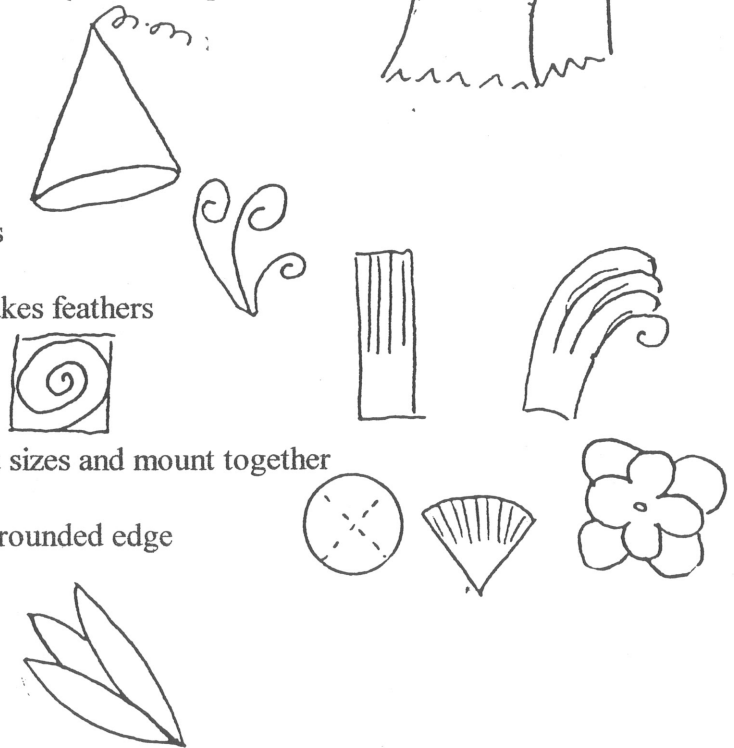
Some hat forms:

- A circle of stiff paper with a smaller circle cut from the centre for a picture hat.
- Half a circle makes a bonnet shape or a baseball cap visor.
- A circle cut on the heavy lines and pleated for a cloche.
- A long band makes a crown or headband.
- Cut a paper bag as in the diagram or try other shapes.
- Make a cone from a half-circle.

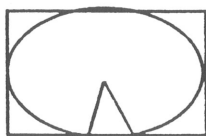


Some decorations for hats:

- Narrow strips curled make plumes
- A rectangle slashed and curled makes feathers
- A spiral makes a dangling plume
- Cut four-petal flowers of different sizes and mount together
- Fold a circle in four and slash the rounded edge
- Cut long leaf shapes for feathers



Another Hat Idea...



Cut an oval from manila tag or stiffer cardboard as shown. Staple the two long edges together so the hat form will be three dimensional. Put ties on by making two small holes about 6" apart and thread a ribbon through. Decorate with ribbons, pastel coloured facial tissue, flowers, feathers, glitter, or use some of the ideas from above.

Paper Plate Hats

- Turn a large paper plate upside down. Cover the bottom with decorations. Attach a long ribbon to each side or thread it through small holes.
- Cut the centre from a paper plate. Flatten some paper baking cups and staple them all around the rim of the hat.
- Cut a paper plate in half. Use only one of the halves and add crepe paper streamers to tie it under the chin.

Easter Flowers

Egg Shell Lilacs

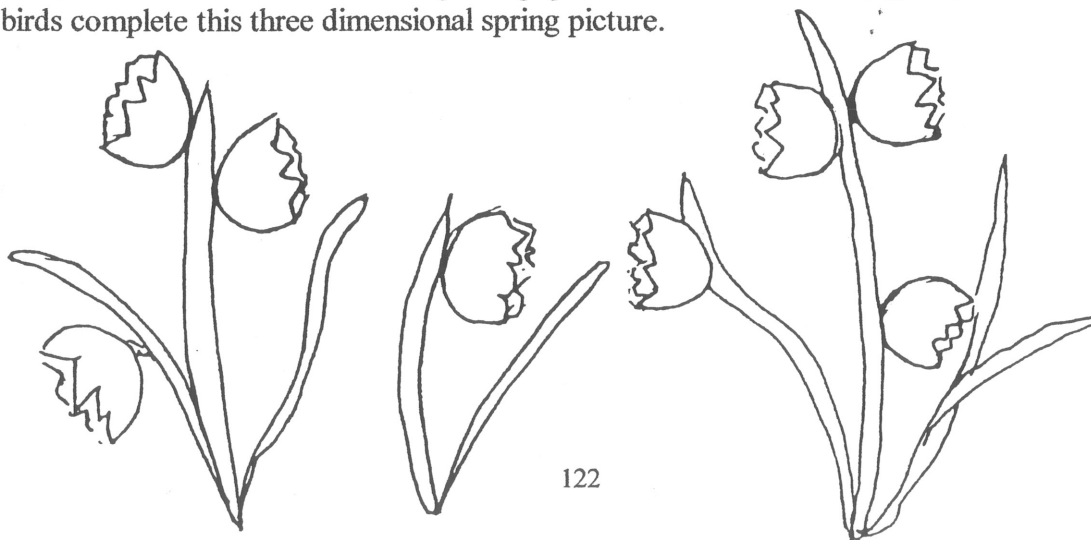
Have the children save rinsed eggshells for several weeks. Draw the stem and flower outline on 9" x 12" construction paper - try purple, not too dark. The children break their eggshells into small pieces. "Paint" the flower outlines, one at a time, with liquid glue. Pour the eggshells over, press lightly (wax paper laid over the egg shells will prevent the hands from becoming sticky), and shake off the excess after a minute or two. Add green heart shaped leaves.

If you wish, the eggshells could be dyed a lilac colour (pink or purple) before breaking them. Try this with a white or pastel background.



An Easter Garden

A colourful spring garden may be made on a tack board with coloured egg shells. Use eggshells broken in half in the usual manner, which children have dyed or painted with water-colours. Pin the shells on green paper stems. Some leaves, grass, butterflies and birds complete this three dimensional spring picture.

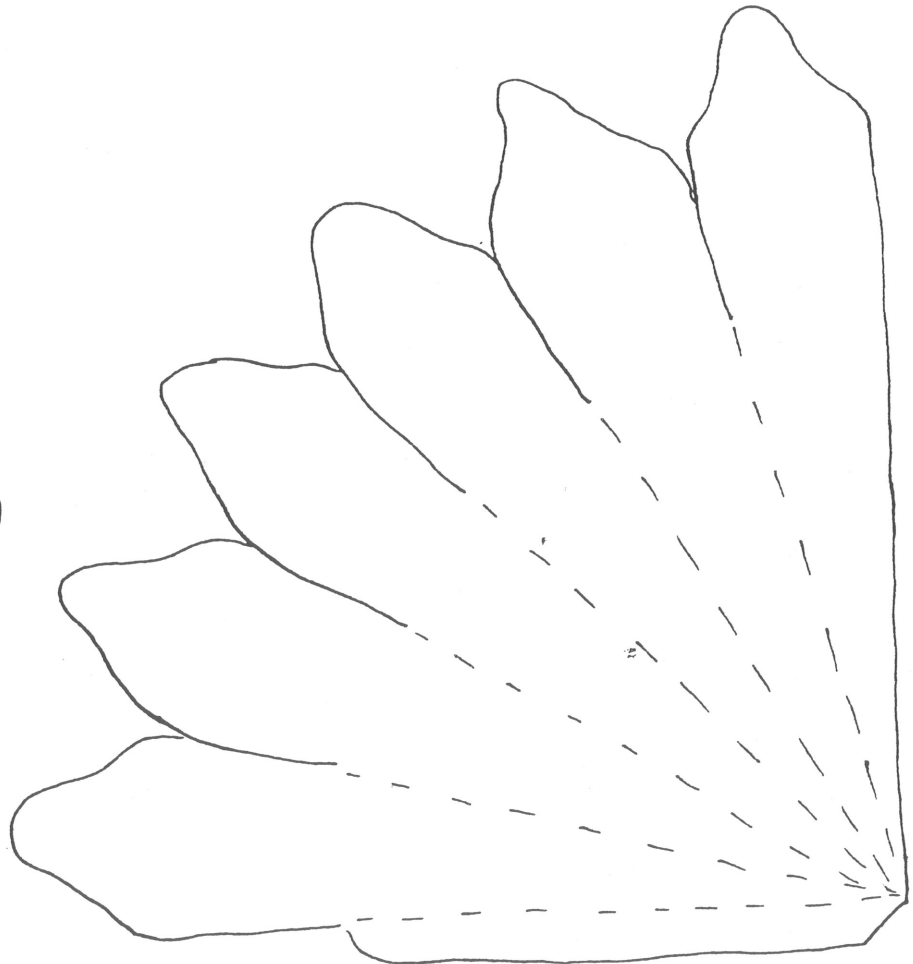
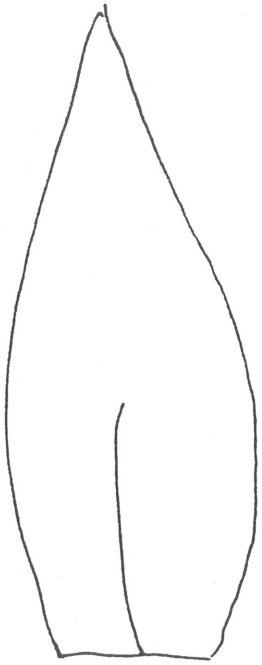




Easter Lilies

This project is most suitable for Grade Two children. These patterns may be used two ways.

1. Cut the flower from white copier paper (cut on the solid lines). Cut three orange stamens. Fold the lily on all the dotted lines to form a circle. Place the three stamens inside, with the square end out the bottom. Glue the lily closed with the tab, with the three stamens inside. Make three lilies in all. Glue a green stem to a piece of 9" x 12" yellow or lavender construction paper and cut out 3 or 4 green leaves. Cut up the centre of each leaf, overlap the edges, and glue to the lower stem. Put a smallish spot of glue on the back of each lily and glue to the top of the stem.
2. Have older children cut the lily from white crepe paper. Glue together with crepe paper stamens inside. Find a twig to use as the stem. Use glue or tape to fasten the flowers to the stem. Use green crepe paper for the leaves and form as #1. Glue or tape to the twig. Use a strip of green crepe paper to cover the stem.



An Easter Mural

If you have made large brightly coloured eggs, here is a pretty way to display them. Add paper flowers the children have made and bunnies, leaves and grass.



Easter Cards

"The students trace an egg shape and cut it out so that one side is on the fold and is not cut. Then they take glue that has been coloured with food colouring and decorate their eggs. When they dry they look like stained glass. They always turn out great!"

Easter Bunny Treasure Hunt (not art-but so much fun!)

Children work with a partner to find the Easter Bunny "treasure." Explain how the hunt will work: 1. Each partner has to help to read each clue. Model how to track as they read in unison. 2. Partners must walk and "stick together." 3. A reminder is given to stay within school grounds at all times.

Have clues printed on large laminated bunny shaped cards that you can put up when no children are on the playground. Attach the next clue to the next spot they have to go to find the card. The first clue is shown in the class to each pair to read together (secretly) before they start the hunt. (Pairs then leave at staggered times.)

Clue 1 - Go to the swings to look for clue number two. **Clue 2**- Go to the office and say please for clue number three. **Clue 3**- Go to the Gym door to look for clue number four. **Clue 4**- Go to the slide to look for clue number five. **Clue 5**- Go to where you do soccer tricks for clue number six. **Clue 6**- Go to the flag pole and look to heaven for clue number seven. **Clue 7**- Go to the Bus Stop Gate for clue number eight. **Clue 8**- Go to where we have our fine for clue number nine. **Clue 9**- You found clue number 10, go to our class again. The Easter Bunny has left something for you!

While they are on the hunt, set out a large Easter basket filled with a new Easter Book for the class, and bookmarks, stickers, chocolate eggs, or other treats to share when all partners return.

Church Windows

The children are each given a piece of wax paper about 18" long. They fold it in half like a book and then open it out. Have them choose 2 primary colours - e.g. blue and yellow or red and blue or red and yellow - and on one side of the wax paper put crayon chips made by scraping the crayon with opened scissors. The teacher uses an iron to press the "book" closed. The crayon chips melt and run together.

Give the children an outline of a church window with a wide outside frame. They cut this window out and staple the frame to the wax paper (glue will not hold). These look nice on your classroom windows for Easter.

Hint: To start cutting an enclosed space, first make a hole with a sharp pencil large enough to get the scissors started.

