

PREP + JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

3 TO 5
YEARS
TRADITIONAL

MUFFIN TIN YARN APPLES

MATERIALS:

- APPLE-COLORED YARN (RED, YELLOW, GREEN, OR WHATEVER COLORS YOU'D LIKE!)
- GREEN CONSTRUCTION PAPER
- WHITE SCHOOL GLUE
- WATER
- NON-STICK MUFFIN TIN
- APPLE PIE SPICE (OPTIONAL)

OBJECTIVES:

- COLOR RECOGNITION
- SEASONAL EXPLORATION: APPLES ARE A TYPICALLY FALL CROP
- ART EXPLORATION
- EXERCISE CREATIVITY
- LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT: PARTS OF APPLE (FRUIT, STEM)

INSTRUCTIONS:

- PREPARE BY CUTTING 12 TO 24 INCH SECTIONS OF YARN (DEPENDING ON HOW THICK YOU WANT YOUR APPLES TO BE)
- MIX EQUAL PARTS GLUE AND WATER IN A BOWL. ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO MIX AND STIR – THIS PART MIGHT TAKE A WHILE IF YOUR CHILD IS ENJOYING IT, AND THAT'S OKAY! CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD, HOW LIQUIDS COMBINE, AND ENJOY THE PROCESS OF STIRRING THE GLUE AND WATER TOGETHER.
- IF YOU WANT YOUR APPLES TO BE SCENTED, YOU CAN MIX IN THE APPLE PIE SPICE WITH THE GLUE AND WATER
- DIP THE PIECES OF YARN IN THE GLUE AND WATER MIXTURE. YOU WANT TO BE SURE TO COAT EACH PIECE OF YARN WELL, BUT NOT TO SOAK THEM SO THEY ARE DRIPPING.
- ASK YOUR CHILD TO PUT ONE PIECE OF GLUE-COATED YARN INTO EACH CUP OF THE MUFFIN TIN. THEY CAN DRAPE IT IN, SQUIGGLE IT AROUND, PILE IT UP. THESE WILL BE YOUR APPLES (ESSENTIALLY, YOU ARE USING THE MUFFIN CUPS AS A CIRCULAR MOLD FOR YOUR YARN). EACH APPLE WILL PROBABLY LOOK LIKE A SCRIBBLE, OR NOODLE CURLED UP IN THE MUFFIN TIN.
- ONCE YOU'VE MADE ALL THE APPLES YOU WISH TO MAKE, SET YOUR MUFFIN TIN ASIDE SO THEY CAN DRY. DEPENDING ON HOW MUCH GLUE YOU COVERED YOUR YARN IN, THESE COULD TAKE UP TO 24 HOURS TO DRY. IF YOU WANT TO SPEED UP THE PROCESS, YOU CAN POP THEM IN THE OVEN FOR 20 MINUTE INCREMENTS AT 150 DEGREES (VERY LOW TEMPERATURE) OR USE A BLOW DRYER. IF YOU CHOOSE THE OVEN METHOD, BE SURE TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR APPLES TO ENSURE THEY DO NOT BURN.
- ONCE YOUR APPLES ARE DRY, YOU CAN POP THEM OUT OF THEIR MUFFIN CUPS.
- USE THE GREEN CONSTRUCTION PAPER AND CUT OUT STEM SHAPES. TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT THE PARTS OF AN APPLE (STEM, SEEDS, FRUIT), AND DESCRIBE HOW THE APPLES ARE ATTACHED TO TREES BY THEIR STEM.
- GLUE STEMS ON DRIED YARN APPLES WITH A LITTLE BIT OF GLUE.

*ANOTHER OPTIONAL ADD-ON IS GLITTER! IF YOU'D LIKE TO MAKE YOUR APPLES SPARKLE, SPRINKLE THEM WITH GLITTER IN THE MUFFIN TINS BEFORE YOU SET THEM TO DRY!

We'd love to see photos of your at home learning! Tag us on Facebook and Instagram with hashtag #MeritSchoolAtHome

