



EGG CARTON CREATIONS!

HAVE YOU EVER MADE "SHRINKY DINKS"?

"SHRINKY DINKS" ARE A POPULAR ACTIVITY USING SPECIAL PLASTIC SHEETS.

WHEN THE PLASTIC SHEETS ARE HEATED IN AN OVEN, THEY SHRINK WITHOUT CHANGING THE COLOR OR SHAPE OF THE DESIGN ON THE PLASTIC SHEET.

TODAY, WE'LL BE MAKING OUR OWN VERSION OF "SHRINKY DINKS" SIMPLY USING A PLASTIC EGG CARTON AND PERMANENT MARKERS!



PLASTIC EGG CARTON

WHAT YOU WILL NEED FOR EGG CARTON CREATIONS...

PLASTIC EGG CARTON PERMANENT MARKERS

COLORED STRING

BEADS

OVEN
(USE WITH THE HELP
OF AN ADULT)

HOLE PUNCHER

HOW TO CREATE YOUR EGG CARTON CREATIONS

STEP 1

Get a helpful adult! Preheat the oven to 300 degrees.

STEP 2

Cut each of the egg carton cups to make 12 individual cups. Cut the edges to make them as smooth as you can.

STEP 3

Create any design you like in the individual egg carton cups using a permanent marker, like a Sharpie. Try to color the entire cup, leaving no clear space.

STEP 4

Punch a hole in each of the individual cups using a hole puncher. Make sure to do this before they go in the oven.

STEP 5

Put your egg carton creations on a baking sheet lined with wax paper in a 300 degree oven for 3-4 minutes.

STEP 6

Use decorative string and beads to create a necklace, sun catcher or hanging decoration! Enjoy!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Most plastics are described as being either *thermosetting* or *thermoplastic*. These terms refer to the reaction of a plastic to heat (*thermo* is Greek for "heat").

Thermosetting plastics soften with heat but stay soft only for a short time. They *set*, or harden, if the heat continues.

The process of making thermosetting plastics hard is called *curing*, which can also be accomplished by chemical means.

The plastic egg container is a type of *thermoplastic* or plastic that can be heated and reshaped which is known as a physical change (not chemical).

Thermoplastic materials also soften with heat but remain soft if the heat continues.

Thermoplastic material is set only when cool and can be softened many times by reheating.

LIBRARY DATABASE SOURCES

Britannica School - Middle

"Plastics." *Britannica School*, Encyclopædia Britannica, 7 Feb. 2020. school.eb.com/levels/middle/article/plastics/276450.

World Almanac Kids

"Polymers." *The World Almanac for Kids*, Infobase Learning, wak.infobaselearning.com/recordurl.aspx?wid=244249&nid=23930.



