ART ACTIVITY

POM POM FLIES

Artspace teamed up with the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences for another year of BugFest - this time as a Virtual Infestation! Learn more about this year’s bug - the fly - as you make a pom pom fly friend and mini fruit from familiar materials.

Age/Grade  K–12

Materials

• Several yards of black, gray, and/or brown yarn for body of fly
• Red yarn for apple
• Fork
• 1 Colored pipe cleaner for wings
• 1-2 Brown pipe cleaners for mouth and apple stem
• 1 Green pipe cleaner for apple leaf
• 2 Small red pom poms for eyes
• 2 Sets of small googly eyes
• Scissors
• Hot glue

Resources

Check out all of the exciting virtual programs offered at BugFest this year from other fun bug themed crafts to Bug Yoga!

Follow along with this instructional activity video, while learning more fun facts about the amazing fruit fly!

More to Explore

Fly Food: Flies love to feast on old fruits and veggies because of the sugar that is released during fermentation. Make a smaller pom pom fruit for your fly using the same process in the activity. You can create a smaller pom pom by wrapping around two fingers or a fork. Consider adding a decaying leaf and stem!
POM POM FLIES

Artmaking Directions

1. Hold the end of the yarn between your thumb and 4 fingers. This yarn will make up your fly’s body!

2. Wrap the yarn around your fingers in even layers until you have wrapped 60-80 times. Cut the yarn off from the skein once you have finished wrapping.

3. Cut a small length of yarn in the same color as the fly’s body.

4. Push the piece of yarn between the center of your fingers and pull it through.

5. Loosely tie the small piece of yarn around the center of the wrapped yarn. Carefully slide the yarn off of your fingers.

6. Pull the small piece of yarn tightly around the wrapped yarn and tie a knot to secure in place.

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Artmaking Directions

7. Slide your scissors between the loops and begin cutting. Be careful to not cut the piece of yarn holding the pom pom together.

8. Cut through the loops all the way around until the yarn puffs out.

9. Even out your pom pom by trimming the yarn until it is a rounded shape. Don’t worry about making it perfect!

10. Hot glue two pom poms next to each other for the eyes.

11. Glue googly eyes onto the pom poms, glue as many eyes in different sizes as you would like! Fun Fact: Did you know flies have 1,000s of eyes?

12. Cut a 1 inch piece of brown pipe cleaner.

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POM POM FLIES

Artmaking Directions

13. Fold the 1 inch piece in half to create the mouth.

14. Glue the mouth in place under the pom pom eyes.

15. Fold a piece of pipe cleaner in half for the wings and cut into two pieces.

16. Bend each piece into an oval, rounded wing shape.

17. Glue each wing onto the fly’s body behind the pom pom eyes.

18. Cut the remaining brown pipe cleaner into 3 even pieces to create legs.

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19. Fold each piece in half and bend the ends to make feet.

20. Glue each set of legs to the bottom of the fly’s body!

Fun Fact: The scientific name for the fly is Diptera, which means two wings!