

Wildflower festival 2022

Theme: Carnivorous plants

School project children aged 6+

Making a 3D carnivorous plant; *Drosera zonaria*

Drosera zonaria grows in sandy soils where there are usually lots of plants growing together. It has white flowers and a rosette of broad leaves that are often red on their edges. The leaves have lots of sticky hairs that capture any insects that land on them. The silver balls on the leaves of the sculpture represent the sticky substance on the hairs of the plant that capture tiny insects.



Materials:

- thin cardboard (cereal packaging) cut in three circles (use a saucer, side plate and breakfast plate size circle OR depending on level of difficulty, only one or two circles)
- paper plates (depending on level of difficulty, the plates in one, two or three sizes for one, two or three layers of leaves)
- yellow and blue paint to mix to green to paint the leaves, red paint for the edges of the leaves (OR use crayons, pencils or green & red markers)
- aluminium foil (to make small balls that represent the sticky droplets on the leaves of the plant)
- glue sticks or craft glue (to stick the aluminium foil balls onto the leaves)
- pipe cleaners, three green or red ones per child (for the stem of the flowers)
- sticky tape (to stick the pipe cleaners to the bottom of the plant)
- white thick paper (for the flowers)
- scissors
- pencil
- butchers paper or other paper (to make the sample shape/ pattern of the leaves)

How to:

1. Paint or colour in your circles with a green colour

2. Start with butcher paper or other paper, the size of your circle. Fold in half, fold the half over in one third, fold the other third over. You have now a triangle shaped piece of paper with fold on either side. Draw with your pencil the shape of the leaf and cut out, leaving the middle intact. Fold out, you will now have one layer of the plant in butcher paper. (x3 to make three sizes)

3.



Put your butcher paper pattern (one, two or three) on the size relating green painted thicker paper or paper plates. Trace the shape and cut out. (you will now have one or more green rosette shaped plant bases.

4.

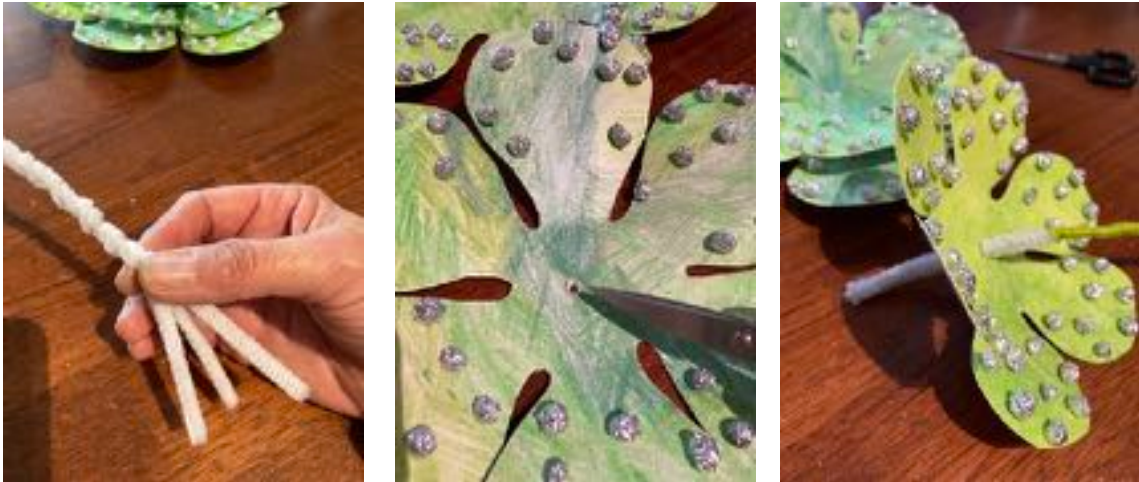


Color the edges or the rosette leaves red like in the photo of the actual plant above.

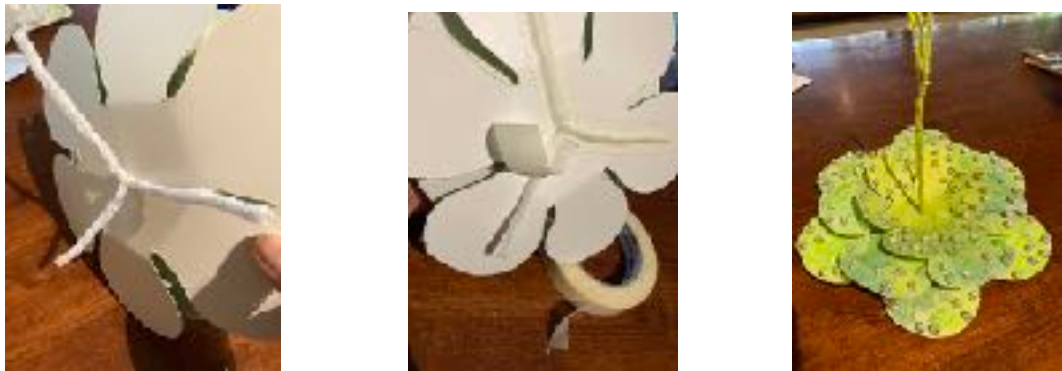
5. Make small balls out of aluminium foil and glue the small balls on the green leaves, leaving the middle of the rosette free of balls. Continue with all two or three rosettes.



6. Twist three pipe cleaners together for a bit (two thirds of their size). Make a small hole in the middle of the rosette(s) and poke the three untwisted ends of the pipe cleaners through the hole(s).



7. Bend the three ends of the pipe cleaner and put sticky tape underneath the last / bottom rosette to keep them in place. You can glue the rosette shapes together as desired, only in the middle, so around the pipe cleaner. Press together.



8. Fold the individual leaves upward a bit to give the plant more body and shape.

9. Cut the three ends of the pipe cleaners to the desired length and bend them outward. You can wrap the pipe cleaners in wool to colour the stems if you want to.

10. Cut three small white flowers out of thicker white paper. Make sure they have 5 petals. You can colour in the centre of the flower with a bit of yellow or pink to give it more detail. Make a small hole in the middle of the flowers and poke the ends of the pipe cleaners through the holes and glue together. Bend the pipe cleaners with the flowers on the end to your liking.

11. Here is an example of a finished plant with other coloured leaves flowers. This one has orange petals (*Drosera zonaria* blooms white but you can be creative) You can also add a little fly, mozzie or spider made out of paper or other material to add onto the plants leaves to show how the small insects are trapped onto the pretend sticky droplets (aluminium foil balls).

12. Have fun and please adjust to the ability of the children.

