

Make a Giant Easter Egg

This is a spectacularly messy activity, you will need plenty of aprons and a large messy area, but the children will love it

What you need

- Balloons (one very large one and/or several medium sized ones)
- Plain flour
- Water
- Bucket
- Newspaper - cut into 30cm strips
- Plain paper - cut into 30cm strips
- Strip of card
- Poster paints or similar

What you do

- Blow up the balloon/balloons and knot them (so they don't deflate)
- Mix the flour and water together in the bucket to make a runny paste (I find two parts water to one part flour gives about the right consistency)
- Dunk the newspaper strips in the paste (I just pop the lot in and leave them to soak)
- Cover the balloon(s) with layers of wet newspaper strips until you can no longer see any part of the balloon
- Repeat until you have covered the balloon(s) with about 3 layers of newspaper in total
- Now repeat again but this time using the plain paper strips
- Repeat with plain paper until the newspaper no longer shows through (about 2 layers should do it)
- Join the two ends of the strip of cardboard together to form a circular stand(s)
- Pop the papier mache balloon(s) on the stand and leave to dry (this could take up to 3 days)
- When dry decorate with the poster paints
- If you want two half shells or an easter egg that opens, stick a pin in one end to burst the balloon inside, and cut in half lengthways.