



ECO EGG DYEING

Did you know you can dye leaf patterns onto real eggs? And safely eat the egg!

It's easy and has been done in countries across the world for centuries.

Here are some simple things you can use to get started.



Collect what you need before you start.

- Fresh eggs (uncooked)



- Brown and/or red onion skins— just the outside papery section



- Small leaves

eg. Clover, small fern leaves, or any other small leaves.



- Chux towels or fine cloth cut into sections of approx. 20cm x20cm that would generously cover an egg and the foliage.



- Rubber bands or string.



- A medium to large pot depending on the number of eggs being dyed.

(the pot/saucepan will get stained with the onion skins dye but usually can be cleaned with a cleaner)

- Tongs



- Scissors



- Tap water



- Cooktop—supervised by an adult.



1. Take care handling the eggs as they are fresh. Cup the egg in your hand and carefully cover the egg generously with leaves.



2. Now cover the layer of leaves with onion skins. Be generous and an extra set of hands would be useful. Make sure the leaves are not visible and in contact with the egg.



3. Place bundle into a piece of cloth/chux. Carefully wrap into a firm bundle.



4. Secure the bundle with the rubber bands like the image. Make sure it is as compact as possible.



5. Use several elastic bands to secure and keep the leaves and onion skins in close contact with the egg.



6. Place bundles into a suitable size saucepan. Snip off any excess cloth if necessary.



7. Add cold tap water to the pan to just cover the eggs.



8. Bring the eggs to the boil and simmer for approximately 30 minutes.

Do not boil vigorously as the eggs may crack.



9. After 30 minutes remove and run cool water into the pan in the sink or allow to cool naturally.

The egg bundles will retain a lot of heat, so take care.

10. Carefully open the bundles and be aware of the residual heat.



Some plants print better than others. When cool, the eggs can be lightly oiled to enhance the patterning. Don't forget to refrigerate. The eggs are safe to eat and when peeled reveal a lovely marbled effect.

Enjoy your eco dyeing experience.