



***Botanically-Inspired
Decorative Eggs***

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The Goal

“A collection of eggs that I dye and decorate using fresh plant material, fungi, lichen, and pressed flowers...”

The Process: “Panty Hose Dying”



Dyes:

Red: madder (*Rubia tinctorum*)

Yellow: goldenrod (*Solidago*),
marigold (*Tagetes*), weld (*Reseda
luteola*)

Orange: shallot (*Allium cepa* var.
aggregatum)

Blue: morning glory (*Ipomoea
tricolor*),



shallot skins and goldenrod



madder and marigold



madder and morning glory



shallot skins and goldenrod

The Process: Wax Resist



Dyes:

Pink: blistered navel lichen (*Lasalia papulosa*), smooth rock tripe (*Umbilicaria mammulata*), surprise webcap mushroom (*Cortinarius semisanguineus*)

Yellow: Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*)

Orange: shallot (*Allium cepa* var. *aggregatum*)

Blue: Indigo (*Indigofera tinctorum*)



lichen and shallot skins



Osage orange, shallot skins, lichen, indigo



indigo



shallot skins

The Process: Decoupage





Abutilon petals and Dicentra leaves (on webcap purple)



mixed flowers (mostly pansies)



love-in-a-mist



cardinal climber leaves and tropical milkweed flowers

Final Touches



Lessons Learned

- Different eggs take dye differently
- Make sure dye is not too hot, or eggs will cook
- Blow eggs **AFTER** dying
- Remove white + yolk completely and rinse (a syringe is handy)
- Dry thoroughly before adding embellishments



Many thanks to Kingbird Farm for the duck and chicken eggs
and Daring Drake Farm for the goose egg!

