

Wisconsin Agriculture Ornaments

Supplies Needed:

Old soy crayons (or any crayons)
Microwavable bowl
Paper towels
Cookie cutter – farm related shapes

Toothpicks
Pot holders
Waxed paper
Yarn or string

Directions:

1. Remove all paper from crayons and sort into similar colors
2. Break crayons into small, 1" pieces
3. Heat soy crayon pieces in microwave safe dish for 3-5 minutes, stirring occasionally, until melted. Watch the dish so that it doesn't become too hot and melt!
4. Place cookie cutter on wax paper
5. Using the hot pads, carefully pour hot wax into cookie cutters
6. Wipe out wax from bowl with paper towel before it hardens
7. Let wax cool in cookie cutters. Using a toothpick, make a hole at the top before it gets too hard.
8. After the wax is hard, push the ornament out of the cutter
9. Use yarn or string to hang the ornament

Heating alternative:

Instead of using the microwave, remove the paper from a tin soup can. Put the crayon pieces in the can. Place the can in a kettle with water in it and heat it that way. When you are done with the project, the can be thrown away without the messy clean up! This also reduces the problems with a dish melting in the microwave.

Companion activities:

- Check the Wisconsin Ag Statistics website (www.nass.usda.gov/wi/) to learn more about that animal or crop and the economic importance in your county
- Define terms associated with the animal, crop, machinery or building
- Discuss the various breeds of animals and the characteristics of the breed
- Make a list of all the ornaments you created and rank them according to livestock numbers or acres raised and to the economic importance in the state or your county