

DRAGON EGGS



It's the Year of the Dragon. The only mythical creature in the Chinese Zodiac, the dragon represents courage and creativity.

Celebrate the Lunar New Year by making these magical dragon eggs to remind you to be bold and strong like a dragon.

Arboretum At Home
Nature Adventures
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SUPPLIES

- Aluminum Foil
- Air Dry Clay
- Food Coloring
- Beads
- Jewels
- Stones
- Seashells
- Thumbtacks
- Anything to embellish your dragon egg



DIRECTIONS

1. Crumple a piece of **foil** into the size and shape of your egg. Try to squeeze it as tight as possible.
2. Flatten some **air-dry clay** and wrap around the foil. You will want about a 1/4 inch layer on your egg. Use your fingers to smooth any bumps, lumps, or gaps. (If desired, add a few drops of **food coloring** to the clay and knead it in **before wrapping** around the foil.
3. Once you are happy with the shape and size of your egg, now it's time to **decorate**.
4. Use **beads, thumbtacks, jewels, or stones** to create your magical egg. Be **creative**, our supply list is just a **suggestion**.
5. Try using toothpicks or other tools to create patterns in the clay to add fun **texture**.
6. Let your egg dry and display.
7. **Happy Lunar New Year!**

Here be dragon trees...

Head to our Canary Islands garden to find the dragon trees. According to Ancient Greek legend these trees were named after Laden, a ferocious dragon with a hundred heads that guarded a tree with golden apples. Can you see why the tree looks like a hundred headed dragon. As one of his 12 tasks, Hercules was sent to steal the golden apples. He had to be very brave to fight such a fierce dragon.

Can you spy the red sap on the tree? In Medieval times, this sap was used as ink. Some books are said to be written in dragon's blood, but they are referring to the sap of the dragon tree.