



This activity uses boiling water, children must be supervised doing this activity at all times.

## How to dye chickens eggs



If you want to eat you eggs afterwards remember to keep them cool in a fridge.

This recipe will make up enough dye for six eggs, if you want to try lots of different dyes split up this dyeing water and decrease the amount of other ingredients you add by how many lots you divide your water mix into. For example if you split it into four, quarter the amount of colouring material you add, so for blueberries it would be one cup of blueberries

For the dyeing water take 1 litre of water and add 2 tablespoons of white vinegar, bring this mixture to the boil. At this stage divide it into how ever many different colours you would like to make. Then follow the steps for each colour in the boxes below. Don't forget to sieve out any bits from your dye mix before the 30 min soak.

Pre hard boil your eggs before putting them into the dye mix.

Mauve eggs



Add 4 cups of chopped up beetroot to the mixture, let it simmer for 30 minutes. For stronger colours leave the eggs soaking for longer

Blue eggs



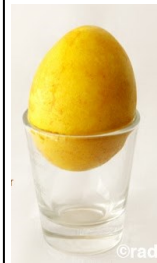
Add 4 cups of blueberries to the mixture, let it simmer for 30 minutes. For stronger colours leave the eggs soaking for longer

Orange eggs



Add 4 cups of brown onion skins to the mixture, let it simmer for 30 minutes. For stronger colours leave the eggs soaking for longer

Yellow eggs



Add 3 tablespoons of turmeric to the mixture, let it simmer for 30 minutes. For stronger colours leave the eggs soaking for longer

Patterned eggs



You will need a selection of leaves and flowers. Cut an old pair of tights into 10cm lengths. Tie one end up put in your egg and place on a leaf/flower, pull the tight snugly around the egg and tie up the open end. Put into your dye mix and leave in the fridge for at least 5 hours. Cut off the tights and remove the leaves.



Why not investigate other things to use as dyes, remember to only use things that you know you can eat safely.

Try taking eggs out over a period of time for different shades.

What colours can you make by mixing dyes together?