



Pukeko Chick Craft

Materials:

2 cotton balls
Blue food coloring
Water
Wiggly eyes
Tweezers
Red pipe cleaner or small scrap of red paper/card
Red string or wool
2 red beads
Glue



Instructions:

In a cup, pour 1/4 cup water and add in 6 or 7 drops of blue food colouring (of course pūkeko chicks are actually black - but these little guys look much better done in blue!).

Using the tweezers, dip each cotton ball into the blue-coloured water and then place onto an old folded newspaper to dry slowly (put close to the fire in winter or in the sun in summer).

When the cotton balls are dry, fluff them out again (some of the white will show through so not too much fluffing!). Glue the two cotton balls together, one on top of each other. If you want to add wings (as shown in the picture) make some extra coloured balls and cut about a fifth off each side and stick to the body.

Glue two wiggly eyes on the top cotton ball for eyes.

Either cut out a small triangle from the red construction paper or cut a red pipe cleaner into a 2cm long piece and bend it in half to make an open beak. Glue the beak on just below the eyes.

Cut a length of red wool/string about 7cm long. Thread a red bead 'foot' on to each end and tie a small knot to stop it slipping off (or cut small webbed feet from red paper). Glue the legs onto the base of the body, making sure an even amount of leg is showing on each side. It may help to provide a solid base by glueing the legs to a small circle of red paper/card and then sticking the body to this.

For display purposes, you can place your pookie chick into a clean, empty egg shell and use a fizz bottle top as a stand. To be true to nature, use a creamy coloured egg shell and a brown felt tip pen to add speckles to the shell (as per the photo below):



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