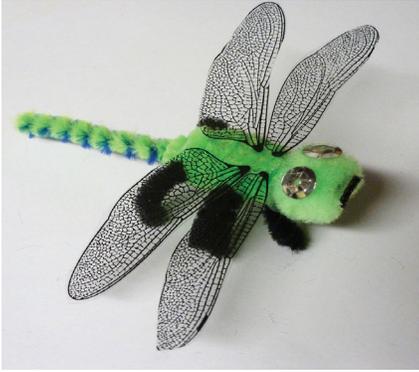


DRAGONFLY MODEL



Materials:

Each model will require:

- 1 3-inch (8 cm) piece of 3/16" or 1/4" dowel rod (can also use baked potato sticks sold in grocery stores, or even half of a pencil)
- One black chenille stem cut into three pieces
- Two colored chenille stems for thorax
- One "pom pom" for head
- Two large sequins for eyes (or small poms)
- One set of wings (pattern provided, copy onto a piece of transparency plastic)
- Some kind of small trim (or even cut paper) for mouth parts (kids can draw their own if they can draw small enough)

General materials:

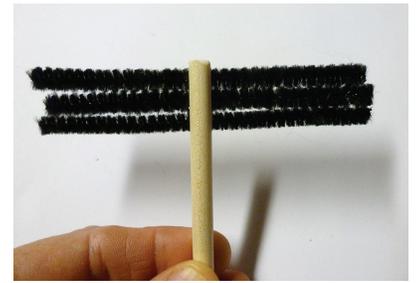
Hot glue (for instant bonding-- if instant is not an issue then cold (clear) craft glue is fine), acrylic paints in colors that suit a dragonfly thorax, (possibly acrylic varnish if it is important to you to have the abdomen be shiny like real dragonflies--acrylic varnish is sold right alongside the little bottles of colors), permanent markers (colored Sharpies) if you want to add color on wings, pictures of real dragonflies for inspiration (there are lots of variations in color!)

NOTE:

I tried to versions, one using a striped chenille stem for the body, and the other using a piece of dowel rod. I found that wrapping chenille stems around a chenilles stem was a bit tricky. For kid coordination, you are probably better off with using a piece of dowel. However, if you can't possibly work with wood, don't abandon the project, just use a chenille stem. If you don't have available you could even use half a pencil.

General instructions:

1) Hot glue three black chenille leg pieces to the bottom of one end of the dowel. You could also use a craft glue and allow it to dry ahead of time. If you don't use any glue, the legs will have a harder time staying in place as they wrap the thorax. However, if you don't want to use glue, go ahead and try it without.



2) Wrap the legs around once each way so that the legs are secure and pointing down.



3) Choose two same color chenilles and attach end to end to make a double long one.



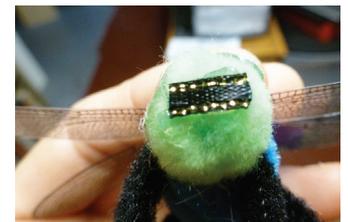
4) Wrap this long chenille in and around the legs to make the lumpy thorax.

5) Hot glue a pom pom on for the head. 3/4 inch pom is good, but a little larger or small will do.



6) Glue on sequin eyes. Could also use very small poms?

7) Optional- Glue small strip of trim for mouth. If the students can draw and cut small things they might want to look at a real dragonfly mouth and draw one. Use heavy paper if possible. A row of tiny beads top and bottom might work, too, but this could be too difficult for young hands. I just happened to find this trim with gold bands.



8) Paint abdomen. Use hair dryer to dry it quickly.



9) Use paint pens to put on colored rings around abdomen. (Varnish abdomen if you want it shiny and did not use shiny paint.)

10) Use Sharpies to add any color to wings. Some dragonflies have colored patches and some do not.

11) Hot glue wings to abdomen. If you use cold craft glue, make sure it is a type that dries clear.

12) Make final adjustments to legs, bending and trimming if necessary.



