



Creators of the *Make a Snowy Plover Chick*, Emma & Ella Peipert 2011

Group Project: Make a Snowy Plover Chick

This project is suitable for Elementary age through Middle school age children. It is recommended when doing project with a class or large group that some preparation is done ahead of time.

Supplies:

- corrugated cardboard (disassembled brown packing box will do)
- 1 bag of cotton balls
- 1 container of black glass beads (sold at craft stores)
- black sunflower seeds
- 1 container of wood toothpicks (kind with one end blunt)
- 1 can of black spray paint
- several of each black, brown & gray markers
- several bottles of quick dry tacky glue (sold at craft stores)

Preparation:

- Using an exacto or carpet knife and T-square cut corrugated cardboard into 3"x3" squares for the # of stands needed. To complete stand preparation write *Snowy Plover chick* on stand, draw a pair of feet in center of stand and pierce cardboard in center of feet. This step is a real time saver and definitely recommended for really young children.
- Paint toothpicks with black spray paint for legs, easiest way to do this is by taking toothpicks and sticking them into a spare piece of cardboard upright them paint.

Instructions: (skip to instruction #3 if using stands with feet & holes premade)

1. Draw a pair of bird feet on center of cardboard and if you want write "Snowy Plover chick" on cardboard.
2. Use the pointed end of a toothpick to make a hole in the center of drawn feet. Then put the **blunt end** of toothpicks in the holes and put a heavy glob of glue around them. Don't be shy with the glue, it will dry clear and will be better support.
3. Take one of the cotton balls and roll around between hands to make it smaller. This will be the head. Next using all three or two markers make many dots on one side of both cotton balls creating a speckled pattern.
4. Put a glob of glue at top of each toothpick and put larger cotton ball (the body) on top of toothpicks pushing down so the glue is covered by the cotton ball. Next put a glob of glue on the top of body and put white side of cotton ball (the head) on glue.
5. To complete the chick put a small glob of glue on opposite sides of head then place glass beads on. Lastly put a glob of glue on side of head that the feet are facing forward and place sunflower seed on with the pointed end facing out.
6. Let stand for at least 15 minutes to dry before handling.
7. Enjoy your Snowy Plover chick creation!