



IT'S LIT

MAKE YOUR OWN JAM JAR LANTERNS

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Experiment with art materials
- Design and make a lantern

45 MINS + DRYING TIME

INDEPENDENT LEARNING

DIFFICULTY: ★★★★★

YOUR MISSION

Autumn is well and truly here and the nights are beginning to draw in. AQUILA would like you to design and make some jam jar lanterns using a variety of different materials. Time to get arty!

Your brief is to make one or more jam jar lanterns on the theme of autumn.

GET STARTED

PHASE 1:

Think about what you want your lantern to look like. Draw what's in your head. If you're going to use tissue paper, experiment with patterns and shapes and think about building up layers to create different colours. If you're using food colouring to paint on the jar, consider how you might make various marks.

PHASE 2:

If you are using food colouring, mix a drop of colour with a blob of PVA glue. Add tiny drops of food colouring until you have a colour you are happy with. Keep the different colours separate so they don't mix together. Paint the outside of the jar and leave to dry thoroughly.

If you are using tissue paper, cut or tear your tissue paper into shapes. With a paintbrush, glue them onto the inside of the jar with PVA glue. Leave to dry. This should create a stained glass effect.

YOU WILL NEED

- Used, clean jam jars (Remove labels by soaking them in vinegar before washing in soapy water)
- PVA glue
- Tissue paper in a variety of colours
- Food colouring
- Dried flowers and leaves (optional)
- Sequins (optional)
- Battery-operated tealight candles
- Paintbrush
- Table cloth or protective covering for your table
- A plate or something to mix glue and food colouring on

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PHASE 3:

Now your jam jar is completely dry, apply your embellishments. Add sequins or dried flowers and leaves by painting a layer of plain PVA onto the outside of your jam jar and then applying them over the top. Mix it up, do what you fancy?! Leave to dry fully.

PHASE 4:

To finish your jar lantern, apply several coats of watered down PVA (1 part PVA to 2 parts water). Make sure you allow each coat to dry fully before applying the next one.

PHASE 5:

Add a battery-operated tealight to your jar and position it in your garden. If you make several, you can create a lantern-lit trail to enjoy at dusk!

We want to see your lanterns. Don't forget to send photos of your finished jam jar designs to the address on the readers' page of the AQUILA website, and we'll share as many as we can.

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

* What does autumn mean to you? Here at AQUILA, we think of pinecones, crunchy leaves, pumpkins and hot chocolate. Consider what the season brings to mind and base your designs on your thoughts.

* Consider what will happen when light shines through your lantern. If a colour is too dark, will the light be bright enough to illuminate it?

* **CHALLENGE:** Can you create a set of four jars with similar design features? Could you personalise them and give them away as gifts?