

## VALENTINE'S DAY NOODLE GARLAND



### Materials

Yarn or Ribbon  
Red & Pink Construction Paper  
Dry Pasta Noodles  
Red Food Coloring  
1 Teaspoon Vinegar  
Plastic Bag  
Waxed Paper  
Glue  
Scissors  
Hole Punch

### Directions

1. Toss dry pasta with red food coloring and 1 teaspoon of vinegar in a plastic bag. Shake to coat. Allow pasta to dry on waxed paper.
2. Have children cut out various hearts from red and pink construction paper.
3. Children then apply glue to the construction paper hearts and place the colored pasta on the glue.
4. Once the hearts are dry, punch holes in the top of the hearts and attach them to the yarn or ribbon to create a decorative garland to hang.

### Hints and Extended Learning Opportunities

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- Read as a group *Pete the Cat's Groovy Guide to Love* by Kimberly Dean
- Play Valentine's Roll and Color (attached). Children roll dice, count the dots, and color the appropriate number of hearts.
- Have children use pasta shapes to write letters on the hearts. Spell words while creating the garland.
- Have older children estimate how many pasta noodles it will take to fill each heart.
- For younger children, offer pre-cut hearts and promote fine motor skills by having them use a cotton swab to apply the glue to the heart shaped pieces.