

PATRIOTIC LUMINARIES



Materials

Glass Jars
Battery Operated Tealight
Food Coloring (liquid or gel)
Rubbing Alcohol OR Water
White Rice (not instant)
Plastic Ziploc Bags
Parchment Covered Baking Sheet OR Paper Plates

Directions

To Color Rice:

1. Place your rice inside the ziplock bag.
2. Add a few drops of rubbing alcohol or water inside the bag.
3. Add a few drops of food coloring, depending on how intense you want your rice color, into the bag.
4. Seal the bag and mix around.
5. Once your rice is fully coated, pour onto a paper plate or baking sheet and spread out to dry (gloves are a good idea for this step to avoid staining your hands).
6. Dry completely (about 10 minutes).

To Assemble:

7. Pour the rice into the jars in colored sections.
8. Place the tealight on the top and enjoy!

Hints and Extended Learning Opportunities

- To keep your color-dyed rice vibrant, store it in an airtight container and out of the sun.
- Read as a group, *F is for Flag* by Wendy Cheyette Lewison.
- Draw pictures or create artwork to send to members of the military. [A Million Thanks](#) is a nonprofit dedicated to connecting service people with people back home.
- Create a patriotic estimation jar. Place red, white and blue items in a jar. Have children guess how many are in the jar without taking them out. At the end of the day, count them as a group and see who guessed the closest.