

PECO Family Jams: Reflective Ornaments



If you'd like to follow along with our video, please visit <https://www.phillymagicgardens.org/public-programs/family-jams/>.

Materials needed:

- Scissors
- Cereal box (or cardstock or file folder)
- Craft glue or school glue (Mod Podge or Elmer's)
- Paintbrush
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Human heart-shaped image

Instructions:

1. Open the cereal box along the seam and glue down your heart. Let it dry. You may want to set a heavy book on top of your heart to help it dry flat.
2. Cut out the heart. You can follow the heart shape as closely or loosely as you like.
3. Trace the top onto another piece of cereal box. This is going to be the bottom of your box. Remember, the side that is facing up will be inside your box when you are finished.
4. Cut out the bottom piece. If you want to make a more complicated box, you can follow the shape of your lid exactly. If you want a simpler box, make sure it fits inside the shape you have traced. The simpler the shape, the easier the box will be to construct.

5. Now you have the top and the bottom for your box. It's time to make the sides. Cut out two strips from your cardstock or file folder. The width of the strip will determine the depth of your box. You want to add $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in width so that you can glue the sides down.
6. Measure a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch along the length both strips. Fold and crease them.
7. Snip the entire length of the $\frac{1}{4}$ inch side, stopping when your scissor tip touches the crease. It should look like a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch fringe of small, bendable tabs when you finish.
8. Trace the bottom on the inside of the lid (if top and bottom are the same shape, you can ignore this step.)
9. Add glue to the bottom of the fringe on one strip. If you let the glue sit for a minute or two it will become tacky and easier to work with.
10. Glue the strip to bottom of the box, shaping the side and pressing the tabs down as you go. Your lid will need to be a tiny bit larger to fit over the bottom of the box so leave a small lip along the entire edge. Glue the ends of the strip together when they meet. If you are working with a complex shape, crease the strip in order to make sharp turns. If you are working with a complex shape or larger box, you can glue multiple strips together before gluing them down to the base.
11. Repeat Step 9 for the lid but do not leave a lip.
12. For added sturdiness, you can run a bead of glue around the seams on the lid and bottom of the box.

Share your creation with us on Facebook and Instagram at [@PhillyMagicGardens!](#)

PECO Family Jams are family-oriented programs held on the second Sunday of the month.

