



# Pinecone Succulents

Take & Make Kit #5

August 2020

### Included in Kit

Pinecones – whole/half (5)  
Acrylic paint (5)  
Spanish moss  
Floral foam

### Items to Return

**Paintbrushes (2)**

**MUST BE RETURNED IN THIS BAG  
TO THE LIBRARY DROPBOX**

### Additional Supplies Needed

a container\* (see note below)  
Hot Glue gun and glue sticks OR  
craft glue  
paper towels  
paper plate (for paint mixing)  
a cup for washing brushes  
a sharp knife

For help in completing the project, attend **Crafting at a Distance: Pinecone Succulents (Virtual) on Thursday, August 20 at 6:30 pm.** Register at <http://berlinpeck.org/calendar>

To complete on your own, see directions on back.

\*The container for your succulents can be anything – a thrift store teacup or saucer, a small wooden box (check the Dollar Store), an old tin, etc. Check around your house for something you can repurpose!

Questions? Call us at 860-828-7126 or email Anne Henriques at [ahenriques@berlinpeck.org](mailto:ahenriques@berlinpeck.org).

### **The Best Artists are Mimics:**

Take some time and look at pictures of succulents. (You can find many of them by doing an internet search for “succulents” and choosing images.) They come in a surprising range of colors – green, blue, purple, pink, red, yellow. Notice how many succulents have a different color or shade on the tips of their leaves. To make your succulents come alive, plan to paint them a base color and accent the tips of each “leaf” with a lighter shade or another color.

### **Mixing Colors:**

You may need to mix colors to get the shade you want – lighten darker shades with white, mix shades of blue and green to get something in between, etc. Start with a little bit of each color to see if you like how they look mixed together, then add more of each to get a greater quantity. Remember that they will look slightly different once dried, and may not look as strong when painted on the dark pinecones.

### **How to Paint:**

The pinecones have already been cut in half – notice how both the top and the bottom of the pinecone have their own little artistic flower-like details. When you paint and arrange these, think about how you will combine them to show off the differences. Using a medium sized brush, paint the pinecone in a base color of your choice, using the brush to get deep down in the center of the pinecone. Set aside to dry. Once the pinecone is dry, choose another shade or color for the tips of each leaf and, with a smaller brush, add some accent color to the edges. The best way to do this is to use a dry brush technique. Pick up a little paint on your brush, and then brush it almost dry on a piece of paper or paper towel before applying paint to the edges of your pinecone.

### **How to Finish and Arrange:**

Depending on the container you choose, you may need some floral foam in the base of your container, so the pinecone halves will sit near the top of your container. Use a sharp knife to cut your foam to fill the container to the right level. You can also use wadded up paper. Cover the foam with some Spanish moss, securing with glue if desired. Play with your pinecone halves, deciding what arrangement looks best. Once you’ve found what you like, add a bit of glue to the bottom of each pinecone and secure in your container.