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## Worm Marionette

*Designed by Kathleen George - Project Courtesy of [The Dow Chemical Company](#)*

### MATERIALS NEEDED

#### STYROFOAM\* Brand Foam:

Balls: 4", one; 2-1/2", eight

#### Other Materials:

Acrylic paints, colors of choice  
Chenille stems, color of choice, five  
Felt, color of choice, 9" x 12" sheet  
Thick yarn, color of choice, 7' length  
Pom poms, color of choice, 3/4", three  
Wiggle eyes, 1", two  
Wooden dowel rod, 3/8" x 24"  
Serrated knife  
Candle stub or paraffin  
Ruler  
Wooden skewers, several  
Stiff-bristled paintbrush  
Disposable palette  
Water basin  
Paper towels  
Scissors  
Wire cutters  
Hole punch (optional)  
Low-temp glue gun and glue sticks  
Thick, white craft glue



### CRAFTING TIPS:

**Painting.** Paint with water-based craft paint. Paints containing solvents may damage the foam. (See paint manufacturer's instructions for details.)

**Gluing.** For a fast, sure bond, use a low-temperature glue gun. Hot glue guns can be used but might melt a small portion of the foam. (Please follow manufacturer's safety instructions when operating a glue gun.) White craft glue is a tried and true favorite for STYROFOAM Brand Products; use florists' picks or toothpicks to hold pieces together while drying.

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Wax serrated knife with candle stub or paraffin. Cut small slices from one side of 4" (head) and one 2-1/2" foam ball (neck). Twist cut sides together until snug; glue to secure. Insert wooden skewers into head and remaining foam balls (body segments).
2. Holding skewers, paint head and body segments as desired. Place skewers in heavy glass jar; let dry.
3. Use wire cutters to cut four chenille stems into quarters. Fold one length in half, forming a loop. Noting position of head in photo, glue and push ends of chenille stem loop into center of neck, leaving 1/4" protruding. To connect first body segment to neck, fold second chenille stem section in half. Insert one stem end through loop sticking out of

neck. Glue ends of second loop into one side of body segment. Repeat until body is complete.

4. Glue wiggle eyes and pom pom nose to face. Cut mouth, eyebrows, tail, and "hair" from felt, if desired. Punch circles from felt for spots. Glue features and spots to worm.

5. Cut two 6" lengths from chenille stems for antennae; glue into top of head. Glue remaining pom poms to tips of antennae.

6. Cut one 3' and two 2' lengths from yarn. Glue one end of each 2' length into top of head and tail. Tie 3' yarn length around center joint of body.

7. Fold top 12 inches of center yarn length down and knot around remaining yarn length, forming loop. Center dowel inside loop. Tie remaining yarn lengths tightly around dowel.

8. Make worm "inch along" by pulling up center yarn loop to create hump in worm. Move marionette forward while releasing center yarn. Repeat.

*Project reprinted courtesy of the Dow Chemical Company, Manufacturer of Genuine STYROFOAM<sup>(R)</sup> Brand Foam. For more free project ideas, please visit [www.styrofoamcrafts.com](http://www.styrofoamcrafts.com).*