Corsages from Dried Materials

Members:
Six red or yellow chenille stems or pipe cleaners.
Six milkweed pods (two are extras).
Three-foot piece of yellow, brown, or gold ribbon.
Small tube of household cement or fast drying model cement.
Bag or basket to carry materials to meeting.
Record sheet R-7-3.

Procedure
Have members separate and set materials on table.
Demonstrate making a crescent milkweed pod corsage.
1. Take a milkweed pod, and gently make a small opening in the base of it. This is where the chenille stems are glued. Do the same with three others. You have two extras in case of breakage. The others are for repeating the demonstration.
2. Put glue on the pod around the small opening, and lay a chenille stem in place, with an inch of the stem above the opening.
3. Lay aside to dry.
4. Make bow as directed in leaflet H-7-3c, or as you learned in home department or from florist.
5. Take up milkweed pods and arrange them in a pleasing crescent form (see picture in leaflet H-7-3c).
7. Tuck bow into place to finish corsage.
3. Fasten bow, and tell how corsage is worn — narrow points of pods upwards.
4. Cut off stems that are too long.
5. Repeat the same procedure again, but after each step wait until youngsters have accomplished the step. Suggest that those who work quickly help their partners. Junior leaders who have had the work before also might help you keep the youngsters going. Making the bow may be a trouble spot. See pictures in leaflet H-7-3c for one method of making a bow. This is only one way that works; you may have another method easier for children to learn.

After members have finished their dried corsages, have them answer the following questions:

1. Are the stems or pipe cleaners stiff enough to hold the pods upright?
2. Are the pods bound together so they do not move?
3. Is the bow the right size for the corsage?
4. Is the bow securely fastened?

If all answers are "yes" and the corsages pass your inspection, start cleaning up.

Remind youngsters they need eleven more corsages for activity completion.

Record the corsage in the record sheet.

Three activities in Indoor Gardening complete a project.