



ST. JOHN'S EASTER PEEP DIORAMA CONTEST

OFFICIAL RULES



1. Choose a Bible scene.

All entries must clearly depict a Biblical scene, event, action, concept or character. It does not have to be related to Holy Week or Easter.

2. Containment.

The diorama must be self-contained in a way that is easily transported without having to set up pieces. It is highly recommended that all parts be glued in place. A shoe box or other small box is commonly used, though foam board, wood, and cardboard may also be used. Characters and scenery may extend outside of the box as long as they are attached. Maximum width and depth of all components is 24 inches in either direction. There is no height limit.

3. Creative license.

There is no limit on the number of Peeps used, nor are you bound to any color or type of Peep. You may use any medium, material or resource that fits your vision. Peeps may be cut, melted, molded, combined, glued, dressed, or otherwise mangled. Dioramas that utilize artistic license, humor, and are exciting to view are encouraged.

4. Limitations.

All submissions must be G-rated. Although non-peep props, scenery, dress, and minor characters may be utilized, peeps must be the main characters. Dioramas may not be interactive, and no explosives or dangerous items may be used that could maim an observer.

5. Title and description.

Each diorama must be titled, contain a scripture citation (e.g. John 3:16), a scripture quote, and all Contributors' names. This may be incorporated into the diorama or displayed on a placard in front of the diorama. Puns are welcome and encouraged.

6. Submissions are due by Palm Sunday, March 29, 9 AM.

Originality of concept and skill in execution will increase chances of winning. Winners will be announced on Easter Sunday, April 5. Pictures of peep dioramas may be posted online for admiration by the general public.

7. Prizes.

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st place finisher in each of two age categories: 2 months through 14 years old and 15 through 109 years old. 2nd and 3rd place finishers will be acknowledged. Competitors shall not assume their participation in this competition will earn any heavenly favor, though they may attain the admiration of everyone else.

8. Indemnification:

Contest is sponsored solely by St. John's Episcopal Church. By entering the competition, you agree to release St. John's Episcopal Church from liability for injury or infection resulting from construction of a diorama or consumption of Peeps. Names, characters, places, events, and incidents are either the products of the author's imagination or used in a fictitious manner. Any resemblance to actual chicks or bunnies, living or dead, is purely coincidental. (Guidelines inspired by Hosanna Lutheran Church.)





TIPS FOR MAKING A PEEP DIORAMA



PREPARING THE PEEPS FOR THE DIORAMA

Cut off the bottom of rabbits so that they stand flat. Rather than snipping and cutting, and use a good, sharp knife dipped in water. Dry peeps work best, so buy them ahead of time and take them out of the package for a week. Oven drying is not recommended.

HOW TO GENERATE AN IDEA AND SKETCH IT OUT

Make sure the scene and costumes convey your scene and story. It's tricky to draw facial features on Peeps, though it can be done. Most people use the rabbit Peeps because at least they stand upright and look a little more like people. But, if you can think of a diorama in which chickens look good, go for it. You want the scenery to do most of the work for your diorama. In choosing your scene, remember that you'll need to find something instantly recognizable.



GATHER MATERIALS

Set-up: You can use a cardboard box for the frame or just build it on a board with a backdrop. You want as much light as possible, so avoid having a ceiling unless it's absolutely necessary to your scene.

Background: You may choose to construct the entire setting yourself, and will likely get recognition for it. However, if your time or skills are limited, you can also look around on the internet for photos, then print out pictures for the backdrop and the floor

Props: You can go the more expensive, but quicker route of buying miniatures to complete your scene. If you look around at a craft store or online, you can find most anything. To save on money, take a look around your home (especially in the junk drawer) to find small objects that might serve as props. Clay is also versatile and can be molded into anything you need.

USE THE RIGHT MATERIALS TO ATTACH

For the backdrops and the floor, use any a non-wrinkling glue such as a glue stick, spray adhesive, or rubber cement. For gluing props together, hot glue work great. However, keep in mind that marshmallow Peeps melt with hot glue.

DRESSING THE PEEPS

Peeps are sugary little fellas, so markers don't work terribly well for coloring them, though you can use a fine-tip Sharpie to make facial features, tattoos, etc. Many people use fabric. Try thin synthetic knits. Often you can find reduced-price packages of fabric that are odd-sized pieces left from the ends of bolts, or use old clothing. Try not to get too fancy with the details of clothing for the Peeps. For most characters, you can, cut a small rectangle and tie it with a cord or piece of fabric around the "waist." To make it super fast, pin the clothing into the Peeps.

