

EVERHART MUSEUM
TRADITIONS AT HOME

BEGINNER PYSANKY

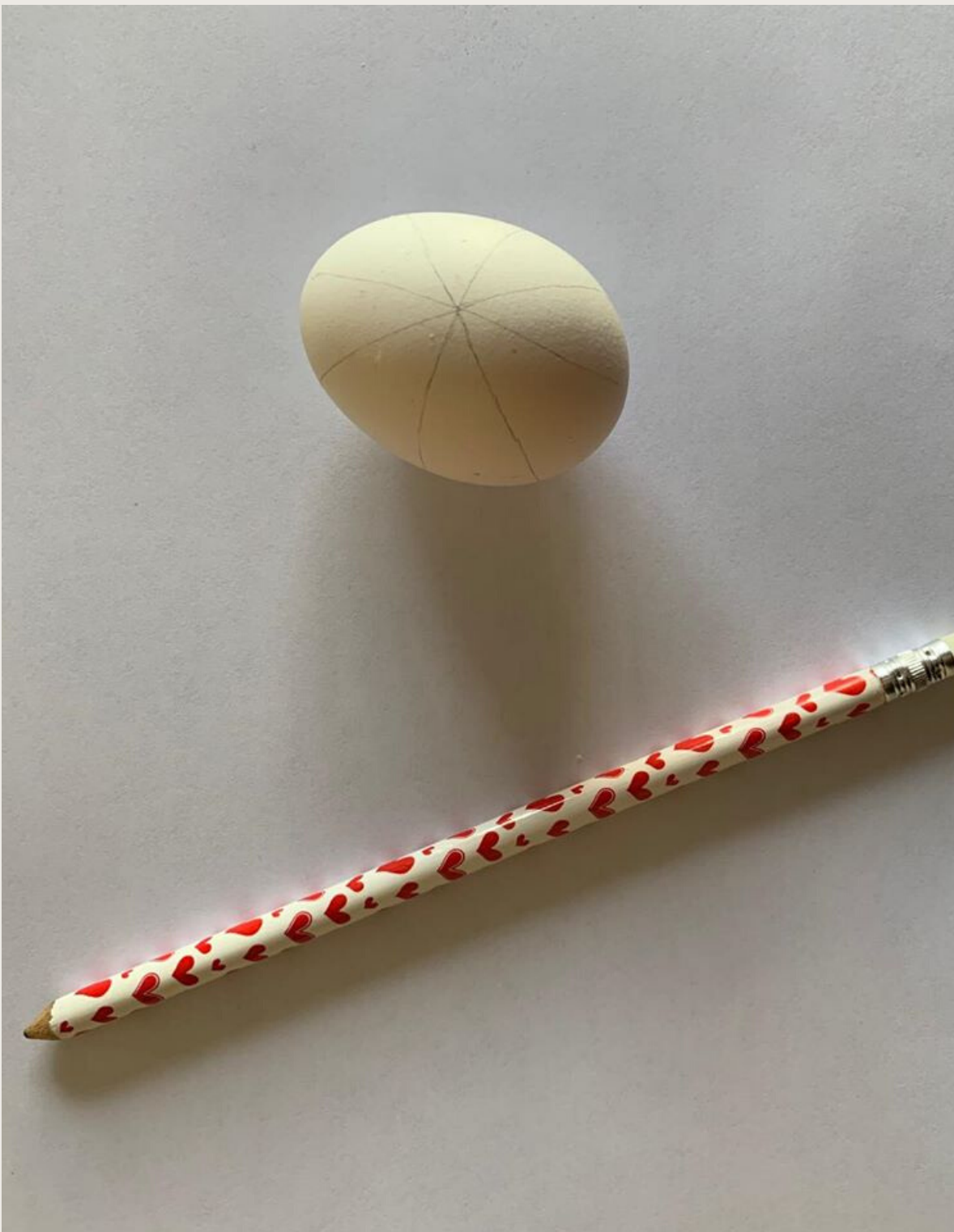




YOU WILL NEED:

1. A KISTKA OR TRADITIONAL PYSANKY TOOL (ALTERNATIVE- A PENCIL WITH A SMALL NAIL AT THE END. A LIGHT CRAYON WILL ALSO WORK FOR VERY YOUNG ARTISTS!)
2. A SMALL CANDLE
3. BEESWAX
4. AN EGG
5. EGG DYE (ALTERNATIVES- KIDS EGG DYE FROM KIT OR NATURAL PIGMENT SUCH AS TEA)

STEP 1



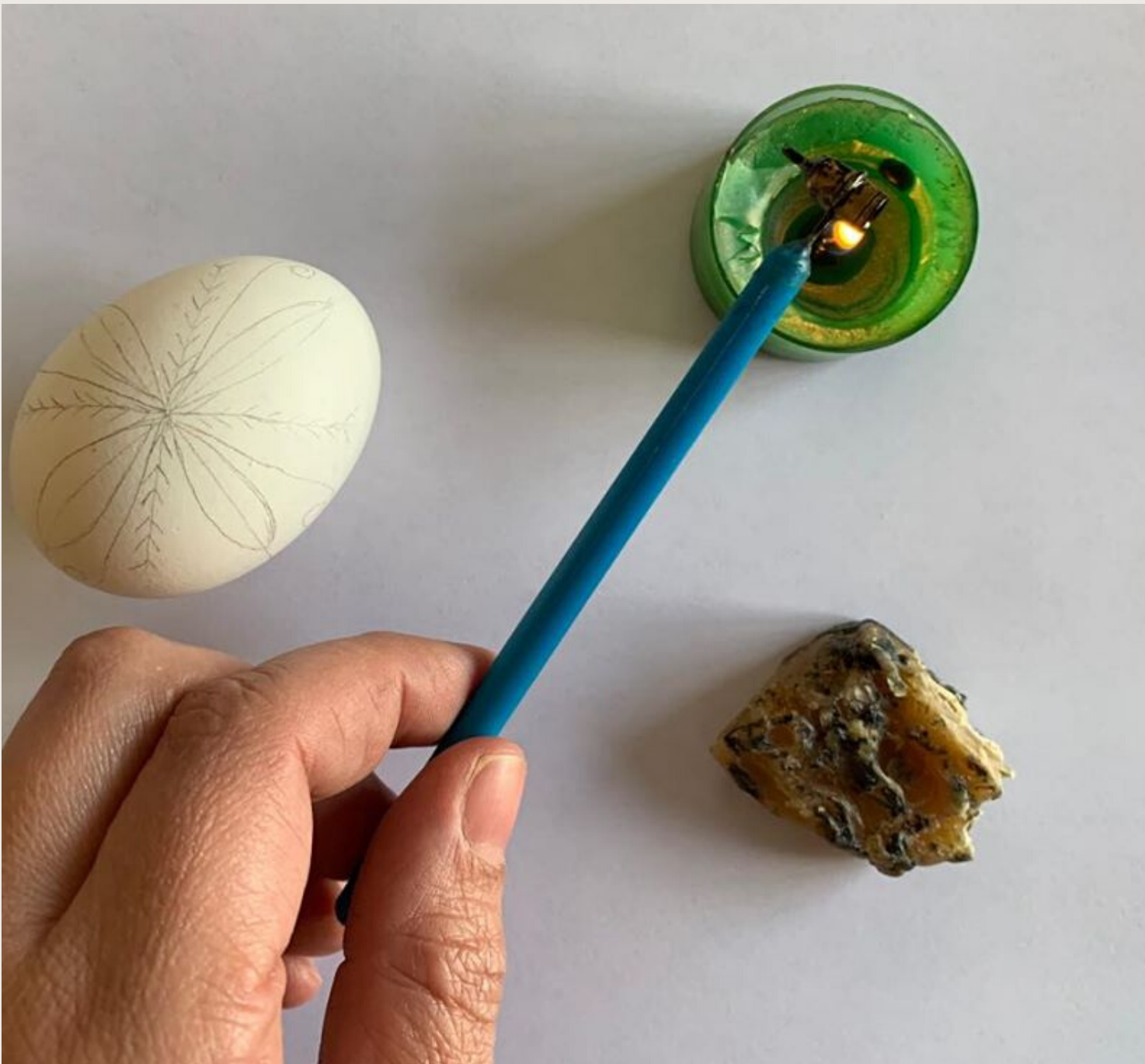
DRAW GUIDELINES ONTO EGG.
ONE HORIZONTAL LINE, ONE
VERTICAL LINE AND TWO
DIAGONAL LINES WILL KEEP
YOUR DESIGNS SYMMETRICAL

STEP 2



CHOOSE AND DRAW DESIGN.
PICTURED ABOVE ARE:
1 PINE NEEDLES- HEALTH
2. CURLS- PROTECTION
3. FLOWERS/PLANT- REBIRTH

STEP 3



ADD WAX.

IF YOU ARE USING A KISTKA, FILL THE CHAMBER WITH BEESWAX AND WARM OVER FLAME. WITH A PENCIL, DIP NAIL OR PIN INTO MELTED WAX AND APPLY WAX TO EGG.

STEP 4



COMPLETE LAYER 1 COLOR (WHITE)
EACH APPLICATION OF WAX WILL
HOLD THE COLOR OF THE EGG.
THESE LINES COVERED WITH WAX
ARE WHITE, OR THE COLOR OF THE
NATURAL SHELL.

STEP 5



COLOR PROCESS:

IT IS BEST TO START WITH THE LIGHTEST DYE COLOR FIRST. AFTER EACH LAYER OF COLOR, ADD A LAYER OF WAX TO HOLD COLOR OF YOUR LINES.

SKETCHING YOUR EGG DESIGN IN ADVANCE WILL HELP YOU PLAN THE COLORS OF YOUR LINES. EVENTUALLY YOUR ENTIRE EGG WILL BE COVERED IN WAX.

DO NOT REMOVE WAX UNTIL COLOR PROCESS IS COMPLETE.

STEP 6



WAX REMOVAL AND REVEAL

ONCE ALL LAYERS OF COLOR ARE COMPLETE, YOU MAY BEGIN TO REMOVE THE WAX BY HOLDING THE EGG SLIGHTLY ABOVE YOUR CANDLE FLAME, MELTING WAX. WIPE EXCESS WAX WITH CLOTH.

WAX IS UNFORTUNATELY NOT VERY FORGIVING, SO ONCE THE WAX HITS THE SURFACE IT WILL HOLD THE COLOR UNDERNEATH. SCRATCHING EGGS SURFACE IS POSSIBLE FOR WAX REMOVAL, BUT DIFFICULT.



PASSING TRADITIONS

PYSANKY IS A TRADITIONAL ART I LEARNED FROM MY GRANDMOTHER STARTING AT THE AGE OF 7. THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPH OF ME SITTING IN FRONT OF A COAL STOVE, CAREFULLY APPLYING WAX WITH MY HOMEMADE TOOL. I'VE TAUGHT BASIC PYSANKY TECHNIQUES TO MY CHILDREN (4 YRS AND 5 YRS) USING TRADITIONAL KISTKAS. ITS BECOME A GREAT BONDING EXPERIENCE FOR US AND WILL HOPEFULLY CONTINUE THROUGH THE NEXT GENERATION.

CREATE AND SHARE!

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM
YOU! SHARE YOUR FINISHED
PRODUCT WITH US BY EMAILING
PROGRAMS@EVERHART-
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OR BY USING THE HASHTAG
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