

Harvest Mice

By Conny Jones

Materials Required:

Fimo soft clay: Deep Green, Mid Green, White, Conker Brown, Red, Black, Pale Yellow and Beige.

Plastic work board.

Non-stick baking parchment or tracing paper.

Craft knife.

Cocktail stick.

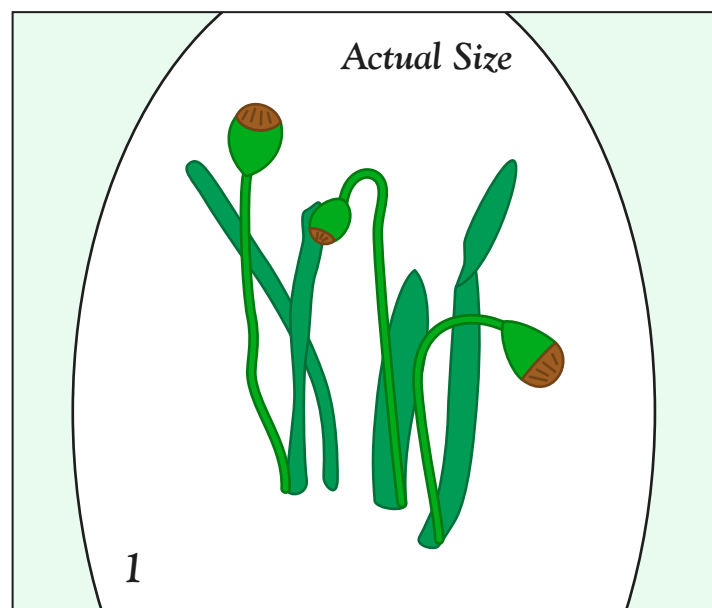
P.V.A. Craft adhesive.

Card mount: SF03P-OV-30, White/Grey oval.

To Make The Card:

Always work the clay until it is soft and pliable. For a more professional finish when adding details such as eyes, noses etc. to a piece, make a small indent with a cocktail stick first, this allows the item to 'sit into' the object it is placed onto. The diagrams are all actual size so you can easily check the sizes and shapes of your pieces as you mould them. Small variations will not matter to the finished design.

Picture 4 shows the completed design, place a piece of non stick baking parchment over the picture and assemble the pieces onto it as you make them, you can simply pop the whole thing into the oven after assembling without having to transfer it to foil.



Picture One:

Using deep green clay mould the wide grasses as shown. The blade of grass on the right hand side should be made straight then given a twist close to the top.

Roll some mid green clay to make a long round strip about 1mm wide and make the poppy stems by cutting lengths off and bending to shape. Mould the poppy seed heads using mid green with conker brown for the tops, use the cocktail to stick indent the lines onto the tops.

Picture Two:

Make the poppy petals from red clay, place the four outer petals together overlapping the edges very slightly then place the centre petal over them as shown. Make nine tiny black dots and add to the centre petal, mix a tiny piece of beige with a little pale yellow to make the circle

in the very centre. After placing the poppy onto the tracing assembly use the cocktail stick to gently lift and shape the edges of the petals in several places to give it some depth.

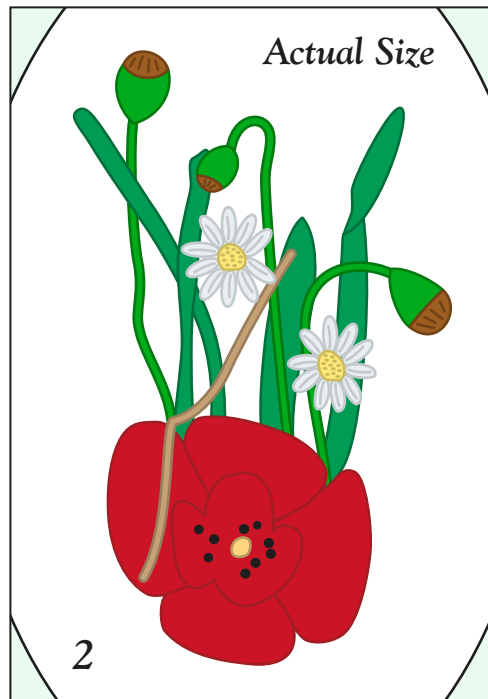
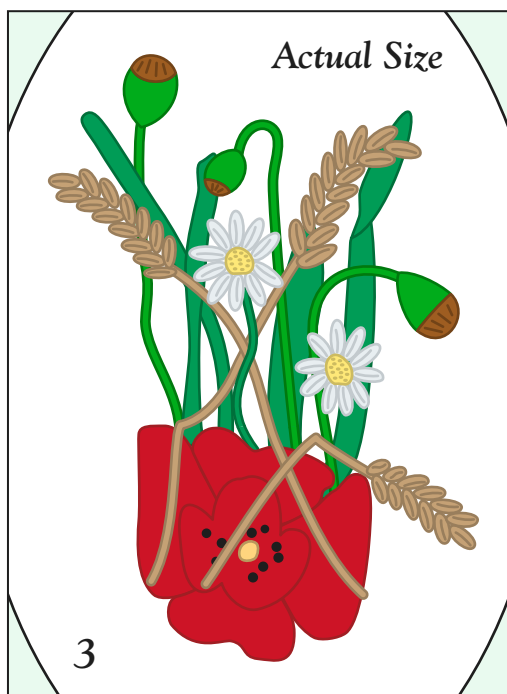
Roll some beige clay to make a long round strip about 1.5mm wide. Make the wheat stem by cutting a length off and bending to shape. Save the remainder of the strip for the other wheat stems later.

Make twenty small white ovals with slightly pointed ends for the daisy petals, use the cocktail stick to mark a line down the centre of each as shown. Make two rough circles from pale yellow and place ten petals round each pressing gently together to make the two daisy heads.

Picture Three:

Make the last two wheat stems from the remainder of the beige strip. Roll a short length of deep green to a 1mm wide strip, bend to make the daisy stem and cut to length. Tuck the top end just under the daisy petal and the lower end under the poppy flower.

Make 40 small beige ovals with slightly pointed ends for the ears of wheat, a little variation in the sizes will help to make the wheat look more natural and the centre ear is made with slightly larger pieces overall than the other two. Press the pieces gently together to form the wheat ears shaping as shown.



Picture Four:

Remove the parchment assembly from the last picture while you make the mice, you can replace it to position the mice later if required. Mould the mice bodies from conker brown, these should be rounded so they are approximately 5mm to 6mm deep. Make four small flat conker brown ovals with flat bottoms for ears. Attach two to each mouse curling them round to shape. Make four tiny black dots for the eyes and press them into place. Mix a little white with some red and make two pink noses, press these onto the mice. Roll a strip of conker brown to 1.5cm wide and make the two mouse tails gently attaching them to the bodies.

Put the assembled design into the oven and refer to the packaging for baking instructions, it's usually about 30 mins at 130°C. If you were using tracing paper, remember to remove the work and place it onto foil instead for baking.

Once the fimo has cooled, glue it onto the card placing it centrally inside the oval shape.



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