

# Mondays at the Museum

(at home!)



ORANGE REGIONAL MUSEUM

This week we are looking at the **flowers of eucalypt trees** to learn more about the plants and animals that live on Mt Canobolas.

The white flowers shown in the photograph below are similar to the flowers (or blossoms) of the Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*). The Snow Gum is one of the important plant species found on Mt Canobolas. It can be found growing in cool climates right across south eastern Australia.



Image: Eucalyptus flora species Mt Hay Road, Blue Mountains National Park. Stephen Alton/DPIE.

# Snow Gum Blossoms

This week we are going to make Snow Gum blossoms.

What you'll need:	Substitute
1 fork	
White yarn or string	Yarn or string of any colour
Brown and green pipe cleaners	Other bendable wire
Scissors	

## Instructions



1 Hold the fork and a pipe cleaner together in one hand, with the pipe cleaner at the left.



2 Take the yarn and put it between two prongs on the left. Hold the short end of yarn at the front with your thumb and have the long end at the back.



3 Wind the yarn around the fork and pipe cleaner 30-40 times to get a nice, fluffy blossom. Cut the string.



4 Bend the pipe cleaner. Remove the yarn carefully from the fork and pinch together where the string and the pipe cleaner meet.



5 Twist the brown pipe cleaner tightly. Take a small length of the green pipe cleaner and wind it around the base of the blossom.



6 Cut the string loops carefully with scissors. Make a few more blossoms and twist the stems together to create a cluster of blossoms.



**Extra Time:**

1. Did you know that different types of eucalypt trees have different coloured flowers? Some are yellow, pink or orange. With the help of an adult, can you look for pictures of different types of eucalypt trees and their blossoms.
2. Can you make another gum blossom in the colours of the new eucalypt you researched?

