

# The OCTOPUS

Have one meeting night at the start of the contest set aside to make your Octopus'. Each member that wants to participate in the contest will make their own Octopus.

To make them... take a large styrofoam ball that you can buy at any craft store. Cut a LOT of yarn (probably at least 24) to a length of twice the circumference of the styrofoam ball or longer. Hold them all together at one end and tie a knot. Put that knot on top of the ball and arrange the yarn down the ball. Gather the ends at the bottom of the ball and tie a small length of yarn around it securely. What you should have is the ball covered with yarn and the ends of the yarn hanging down at the bottom end. Those ends you will divide into 8 sections. If you used 24 pieces of yarn, you will have 3 ends in each section. braid each section and secure the ends with a small piece of yarn. These 8 braided sections are the Octopus Legs and the ball covered with yarn is his body. Now you decorate your octopus any way you want. You can put wiggly eyes on him. You can buy little hats at craft stores or make your own. Or you can put a bow on the head. You can put ribbons on the end of each leg. Whatever you want to do to make YOUR octopus special. You want to make sure that each member makes their own so they feel attached to their little work of art.

What we are planning on doing is supplying the styrofoam and yarn and wiggly eyes but asking each member to go out and buy whatever extra stuff they want to decorate their own octopus with and bring them in before the meeting night we make them.

Now... the point of the contest... The contest will start the following week. Each week the Octopus' will be lined up on a table in the meeting room. If you come in the next week with a loss or a turtle, your little Octopus buddy gets to stay just like he is. But if you GAIN..... during roll call you have to go up and CUT a leg off your poor little critter! After making him and decorating him and getting attached to him, you are NOT going to want to cut one of his poor little legs off. Contest runs for 8 weeks.