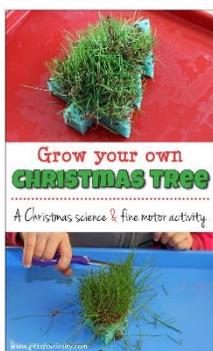# Grow Your Own Christmas tree sponge

From: www.giftofcuriosity.com

How would your kids like to grow their own Christmas tree sponge this year? They can have their chance if you decide to grow a Christmas tree sponge!

Growing a Christmas tree sponge is a great way to combine science (e.g. botany) with a fine motor activity (e.g., scissors skills).

If you want your Christmas tree sponge to be ready by December 25, I suggest you get this activity started sooner rather than later! (Although it might be just as fun to have a mini Christmas tree the kids can take care of even after the holidays are over.)

<u>To do this activity, I gathered the following materials on a tray</u>:

A small container of grass seed (although other fast sprouting seeds would probably work as well)
A sponge cut into the shape of a Christmas tree
A water bottle (not pictured)

I started by soaking the sponge in water.
Then I invited my kids to cover the Christmas tree shaped sponge with our grass seeds.

Once the sponge was covered in seeds, they used the spray bottle to ensure the seeds were quite damp.

My kids continued to spray the sponge every day. (I also poured water on the tray as another way of keeping the sponge wet.)

About two and a half weeks after we started the project, our tree had a noticeable amount of grass growing on it. At this point some of the seeds had sprouted very tall blades of grass, while others had just begun sprouting.

A week later (so about three and a half weeks after we started the project), the grass was full and bushy. At this point, our tree was ready for a haircut!

Oh boy did my kids love this part! I handed them pair of kid-friendly scissors and invited them to trim the Christmas tree sponge. My daughter started by trimming just a bit from the top.

But ultimately, my daughter was having so much fun that she just kept cutting and cutting until the grass on our Christmas tree sponge was quite short.

Fortunately, grass grows quickly. We waited another week or so until it grew back, and then we were able to trim it again.