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Ghoulish Goblin Heads



IF YOU HAVE a younger brother or sister, you know it's simply *impossible* to keep the little pest out of your bedroom. Luckily, a solution has arrived: create a collection of ghoulish goblin heads, display them prominently in your room, and tell your sibling all about the dangers of annoying the "Chief Goblin Slayer." (Or just let your "wares" speak for themselves.)

What You'll Need:

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| large apple (the larger, the better—
it will shrink quite a bit) | 1/2 cup salt |
| paring knife | 4 to 6 cups water |
| vegetable peeler | 2 to 3 tablespoons lemon juice |
| toothpicks | large paper clip |
| paper towel | string |
| | baking sheet |

What to Do:

1. Peel apple. (You may leave a little bit of peel at top and bottom.)
2. Using the paring knife, carefully carve a face in the apple. Make the features large, but not too deep. Shrinkage will reduce the features but magnify the cuts.

Always keep the tip of your knife away from your eyes. Set it out of reach of younger siblings.

3. Use toothpicks to carve details on your goblin face (eyebrows, ears, etc.).
4. Mix salt, lemon juice, and water. Immerse goblin head in mixture for 24 hours.
5. Remove apple from mixture and dry with paper towel.
6. Straighten paper clip and create loop at one end; stick clip through top of apple.
7. Preheat oven to 200°F. Place apple on baking sheet on center rack of oven for 3 hours.
8. After removing baking sheet from oven, pass string through paper-clip loop and let cool. Hang apple in a dry place for 2 weeks or until completely dry.
9. You can then add fake hair or any other interesting variations to make your goblin look even more ghoulish.

HOW DOES THIS WORK? Salt has long been known to be a drying/preserving agent for foods. The lemon juice in the mixture acts as an antioxidant, which means that it prevents foods from rotting or developing brown spots. This rotting occurs when foods combine with oxygen in the presence of light, heat, and some metals. So the salt and lemon juice soak the moisture out of the apple, which reduces its size and creates a ghastly goblin head to display in your room.

