



Fly in my Email Dennis Stead



Safety Pin Flies

8/5/2019

Every year in the middle of August the Missouri Department of Conservation holds an event that is called Inset-O-Rama. Members of MTFA Springfield and Branson tie flies on safety pins for the kids that come to the event. It is a lot of fun and who knows maybe someday one of those kids will become a fly tier or fly fisherman. You get a chance to use up some of your old materials and the safety pins will cost you 1 to 3 cents.



I like to paint the pin and the eyes. I use Neon colors acrylics from \$1 to \$2 per bottle at Walmart. At the Dollar store you can get 12 paint brushes for \$1.00



The kids are not fussy and you can tie with just about anything. Let me share what I do.

A package of 200 pins bought at Hobby Lobby with a 40% coupon cost me \$3.88 which is about 2 cents a pin.



I then tie on the eyes and paint the eyes and pin.



I have a lot of Soft Ball yarn that I can use and a bunch of foam strips. Patti Hayes does foam butterflies.



I like to put eyes on the pins and Walmart sells beads in the craft department \$1.99. A \$2.00 investment will give you 360 pair of eyes or 1/2 cent per set.



Then add my materials. I have a lot of marabou and Paul Sheppard gave me the set called Magic Tool, so that is what I will be using to tie my pin flies



This might be a fun program for your club to do. The cost is next to nothing and it is a way to use some of your old materials.

The kids like I said are not fussy and you can start tying a week or two before the event to build up a supply. Get creative and watch your flies fly off the table.

Missouri Department of Conservation's Springfield Conservation Nature Center presents:

Our annual celebration of insects and the important role they play in nature!

INSECT-O-RAMA

Friday August 16
6:30 - 9:30 PM

All ages
No registration required

The Springfield Conservation Nature Center is located at 4601 S. Nature Center Way. All programs and activities are free of charge. For more information, call 417/888-4237 or visit mdc.mo.gov/Springfield

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