

# **The Bay Area Discovery Museum presents Festive Winter Creations**

Around the world various cultures have a winter tradition of bringing greenery into their homes in the bleak of winter when snow is deep and the cold is bitter. Many cultures believe that this brings on the beginning of spring, and symbolizes life's triumph over death.

So, don your rain boots, put on a slicker and take a bag to collect treasures for creating your own winter themed decorations. The Bay Area is brimming with life in the winter. At this time of year, festive, bright red toyon berries are coming to fruit, winter storms fell budding branches of greenery and the rains bring on the winter flowers.

Below are some of the Museum's tried and true tricks for creating your own festive decorations.

## **Some Ideas**

- 1.) Fallen sticks tied together are perfect for creating a mobile. Dangle flowers, feathers or evergreen clippings and hang outside to watch them dance in the wind. How do the different pieces move in the air currents?
- 2.) Spruce up your table with a bouquet of eucalyptus leaves, branches and buttons. As they begin to dry, enjoy the fragrance and notice how the colors change over time. Do they wilt like flowers or dry like spices?
- 3.) Collected rocks arranged in a ceramic dish with a candle can add a beautiful centerpiece to your holiday table.

Always remember that whatever you do, only collect what you'll need and return all the extras for natural recycling when you are done.