ARTIFICIAL VEGETABLES

- APPROXIMATE COST OF MATERIALS:
  - 6 yd. coil of 5" wide twisted paper $1.59
  - Plastic-foam shapes, $.70 to $4.00 each
- TIME IT TAKES:
  - 30 to 60 minutes each

THE BASICS

- These vegetables are made from plastic - foam balls and cones and Paper Capers Twisted Paper by Plaid Enterprises (available in crafts stores). You will also need scraps of raffia and thin wire for some, white glue, a small flat paintbrush, a serrated or straight - edged kitchen knife, a small bowl and scissors.

1. SHAPE the vegetable by slicing and scraping off excess plastic foam, little by little. Refine the surface by rubbing with a scrap of foam (the hard, outer skin works better). With a pencil, poke a ¼" deep hole in center top or bottom, if indicated, for tucking in paper ends.

2. MEASURE the height of the shape from center of bottom to center of top. Cut twisted paper at least 1" longer. Then untwist and flatten as much as possible.

3. POUR a small amount of glue into a bowl. Working in one direction, section by section, brush glue onto the foam and pat paper in place. (Don't try to smooth out all the wrinkles.) Trim and add paper as needed. Overlap and glue seams. Glue paper ends into hole. Apply glue lightly when putting it on the paper.

ONION

- YOU WILL NEED: 4" foam ball; cornhusk - color paper; raffia; tie wire.

1. SHAPE ball with flattened top and hole in pointed bottom. Cut paper allowing 2" extra for stem.

2. COVER with paper, twisting ends together at top to make 1 ½" long stem.

3. CUT several 3" to 4" strands of raffia. Divide them with your fingernail to make finer strips. Fasten with wire at one end and glue into bottom hole.
TOMATO

- YOU WILL NEED: 4" ball; scarlet and forest green paper.

1. SHAPE tomato with shallow grooves radiating from top, flattened bottom. Poke hole in center top.

2. COVER with scarlet paper.

3. CUT 3" wide green paper circle and cut irregular points for calyx (see diagram). Push and glue center of calyx into hole. Cut a 1 ¼" long twisted green stem and glue into hole.

CARROT

- YOU WILL NEED: 9" or 10" cone; orange and forest green paper; tie wire.

1. SHAPE foam carrot with hole in top.

2. CUT a 3” x 8” triangle of orange paper for the root. Apply glue lightly from tip to 1” below wide end of triangle and twist tight. Brush glue onto small end of carrot and attach the top of the root.

3. COVER the carrot with orange paper.

4. CUT four 2” x 5” strips of green paper. Wire together at one end and glue into hole. Retwist each loosely.
EGGPLANT

- YOU WILL NEED: 12” x 4” cone or 13” x 9” foam egg: wine and forest green paper

1. ROUND off top and bottom of cone and shape curved side. Poke hole in top and bottom.

2. COVER with wine paper, gluing ends into holes. Cover bottom hole with a ½” circle of green paper.

3. CUT a 6” length of green paper for stem and calyx.

4. IN lower 2 ½ “ of strip, cut five uneven points. Fit piece over narrow end of eggplant, twisting 1 ¾” long stem at top. (Cut a sixth point from paper to fill any uncovered space.) Glue top in place, leaving points free.

CORN

- YOU WILL NEED: 12” cone; yellow and sage green paper; raffia.

1. CUT a 1” slice from bottom of cone and set aside. Shape the ear of corn and glue yellow paper thoroughly to the surface. When the glue is dry, score kernels on one side, using dull side of a knife.

2. CUT several 12” lengths of raffia for corn silk. Divide strands with your fingernail to make them finer, leaving a few inches undivided at one end for gluing. Apply glue to the upper 5” at the back of the ear of corn and attach the lower 5” of the raffia strands.

3. CUT five 5” x 18” green paper “husks.” Starting around middle, taper sides to point at top; round off lower corners. Glue four husks overlapped to back and sides of corn, stopping glue 1” below top of corn for first husk, 2” below for second and progressively less for each, so outer leaves are looser. Attach fifth husk over first.

4. CUT a 1” diam x 1” high disk from the excess cone for the stalk. Cover with green paper and glue to the bottom.
MUSHROOM

- YOU WILL NEED: 3" to 3 1/2" ball; natural color paper.

Cut the ball in half. Hollow out the flat side and round off edges for cap. Cover with paper. Cut a 1" x 3" (or any size) stem with irregular sides. Cover and glue to underside of cap.

RADISH

- YOU WILL NEED: 2" foam ball”; forest green, white and country red paper; tie wire.

1. SHAPE radish with pointed bottom, hole in top.

2. CUT a 5 1/2” strip of white paper for root. To form a triangle, open paper flat then fold in half lengthwise. Trim sides diagonally from fold at one end to outer edge at opposite end. Applying glue lightly, twist from point to 2” below top of triangle for root. Spread and glue 2” top around bottom of foam.

3. CUT 2 1/2” length of red paper, making cut diagonally so that when you untwist the paper the lower edge will be irregular. Glue to top of radish with irregular edge overlapping the white.

4. CUT two 2” x 7” strips of green paper. Twist one end for stem and cut an ovoid 2 1/2” long leaf shape at other end. Wire stems together and glue into hole.

LETTUCE

- YOU WILL NEED: 6” ball; forest green and Kelly green paper.

1. SLICE 1/4” off the ball to flatten the bottom.

2. CUT large irregular shapes from the lighter green paper and cover the top half of the ball, turning under and gluing some edges to resemble tightly overlapped leaves.

3. CUT leaf shapes 4” to 5” long and wide with rounded tops; make a short twist at bottom to insert. Punch hole into side of overlapping edges and making leaves progressively larger and darker toward the bottom of the ball. Glue sides in place where needed to hold them in.
4. CUT a ¼” high x 1 1/2” diam disk for stem. Cover with paper and glue to bottom.

Taken from “Paper Vegetables” in Woman’s Day Magazine

Note: To hang these vegetables in your sukkah, add a tie wire if necessary.