

Reusing Waste Activities

We're so used to looking at our rubbish simply as being rubbish: as stuff that we just throw away. But there are plenty of things you can do with your rubbish before you get rid of it.

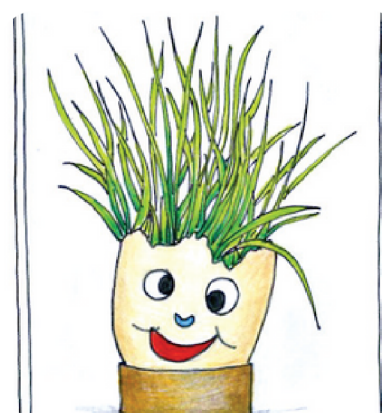
We don't want you to go through the rubbish bin to get your making materials. Food scraps, broken glass, and dirty bits and pieces are meant for the rubbish bin. But there are some things that can be turned into new goodies. You'll soon come to realise that the bin is full of fun!

Eggheads

Turn old egg shells into new friends! Clean out broken egg shells, fill with a little soil and plant some watercress into the soil, add a little water and watch the hair grow.

You can even decorate your egg head with a face.

We suggest cutting a slice of toilet roll tube as a stand for your egg head.



Magazine mosaics

Most of us have probably seen those great pictures that are made up of hundreds of tiny tile pieces. The colours in the tiny pictures are used to shade the colours in the big picture. Cool. So why not make your own?

Begin by cutting squares (or other shapes) out of old magazines or newspapers, grouping the squares into colours. Cut a large piece of cardboard to the shape you want (eg. if you're making a boat, cut the board to that shape, otherwise just a large square or rectangle). If you're extra creative just get busy sticking; if you're like us and like a bit of order, draw some outlines first.

Cardboard cubby house

The cardboard cubby house is loved by kids all over the world. Big boxes (like the ones for that fridges or washing machines come in) are definitely the best, but smaller ones will also work. You'll just need to use a bit more sticky tape and will need to think of ways of building with cardboard. Some of the things you might want to think about when building your cubby house could be:

- Doors
- Windows
- Roof
- Using sheets or blankets to create rooms



You should also think how you might like to decorate your cubby house. Will you go for a house look or something else, like a castle, rocket or ship?

If you don't have a box big enough to climb in or you don't have space to build, maybe you could get your class to make houses for their favourite toys or pets instead. Your class can still have a lot of fun building a crazy house and decorating it with crazy colours!

Glass jar lanterns



Glass jars make the perfect lantern because they won't get too hot or melt. Turn old glass jars into lanterns by wrapping paper cut-outs around the lantern, by sticking pieces of tissue paper onto the outside of the jar, or by painting the jar with acrylic paints. Light a candle inside and you have a beautiful lantern!



Preparation

Rescue some tin cans from the recycling bin (ask for parents to help you out here). Try and find ones that are big enough to give your herbs a bit of root space (400g cans are a good size). Remove the label and soak the can to get rid of all the glue. You'll probably find that the rim of the can is a bit sharp so be sure to cover the sharp bits with masking tape before the class gets their hands on them. Turn each tin can upside down and make several holes in the base with a small chisel or by hammering a nail into the base.

Paint the tin cans! We recommend giving the can a coat of white paint first so that your class' colourful decorations are better seen. Once your paint is dry it's time to plant your herbs.

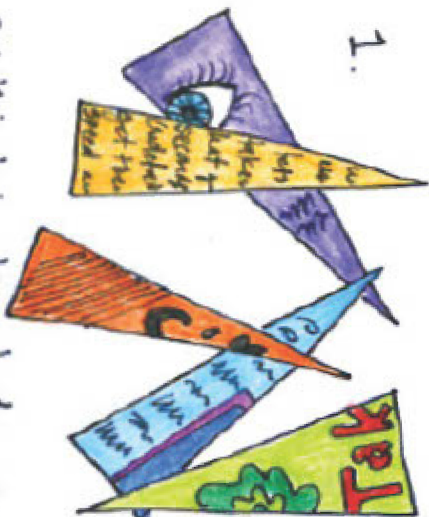


Sprinkle a few pebbles in the base of the can to help the water drain out of the can, then fill with soil and your herb seeds or seedling. Keep your tin can herb pot on the windowsill. Remember to water it occasionally and watch it grow!



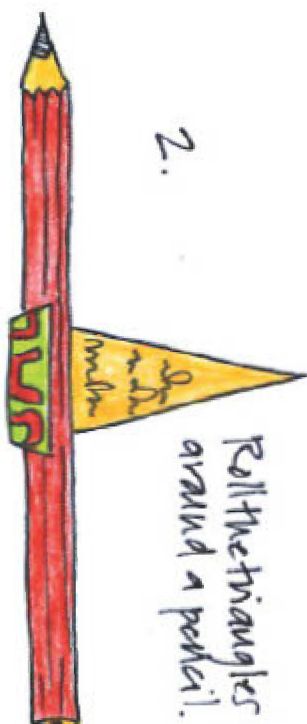
*PAPER NECKLACES

1.



Cut thin triangles out of magazines or newspaper.

2.



Roll the triangles around a pencil!

3.



Stick the ends of the triangles down with glue or tape and slide off the pencil.

4.



Thread your paper beads onto string to make your paper necklace.

