

Looking for ways to reuse your old recycled items? Here are some fun crafts for adults and kids alike!



Recycled Garden Activity

1. Have everyone collect paper scraps (trash) from your home, over the course of several days. Each day, whatever they collect is tossed into one big, communal box in the corner of your room.

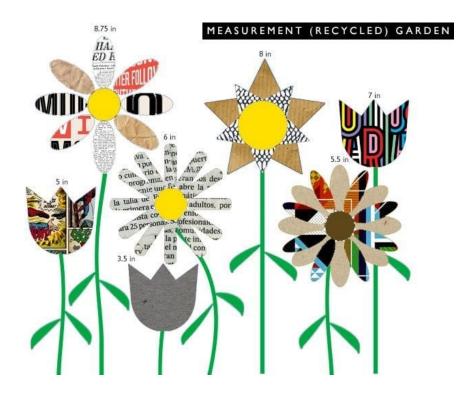
2. On the big day, have each person design his/her dream flower, using a piece of paper and colored pencils. What would they like their unique, individual flowers to look like? (While they are designing, empty contents of their paper-scraps box onto a table.)

3. Have everyone head to the "scraps table" that contains all the materials the class collected to be upcycled. Which pieces will best make their flower vision a reality?

4. They build their flowers, minus the stem.

5. Once their flower is created, randomly assign each person a length for their flower stem. The person must then create a stem of that length for their flower, using a ruler to measure and check their stems.

6. Finally, have fun cooperatively creating a paper garden on a wall in the house.





Plastic Bottle Bird Feeder

Materials:

- Plastic bottle
 Scissors
- Paint brushes
 Fake leaf
- Glue Bird seed

Small knife Twine Red paint (or any color) Glue gun

- Cut the bottle so that the bottom is 3 1/2in tall and the top is 5in tall.
- Put the top piece of the bottle into the bottom piece. Use the blade to cut a hole into the side of the bottle. The circle should be about 2 in above the bottom so there is room for the bird seed.
- Put a strip of glue around the inside where the bottles meet. Move the two pieces around a bit to distribute the glue. Let this dry overnight.
- Paint the birdhouse red, or any other color.
- Cut a length of twine at least 2 feet long. Use the hot glue gun to secure the ends of the twine to two sides of the birdfeeder.
- Take the end of the roll of twine and glue it around the bottom of the "stem" area one or two times.
- Put some glue on the bottom of the artificial leaf and secure it into the twine.
- Continue using the glue gun to secure the twine as you wrap it the rest of the way up the "stem". Trim and secure the end with glue.
- Fill with bird seed and hang in a tree!

Plastic Bottle Flower Vase

Materials:

- Plastic Bottles Primer Paint spray (any color) Scissors
- Tape

- Make sure the bottle is clean and dry.
- Cut the top of the bottle.
- Add tape around the rim so you avoid scratching yourself when filling the vase with flowers. Make sure you use strong tape.
- Prep the bottles for painting by spreading some primer.
- Spray paint the bottle and leave to dry.
- Enjoy your new DIY flower vase!





DIY Snack Box

Materials:

- Two same sized plastic bottles
- Glue gun

Zipper about 7in long Scissors or small knife

- Measure a couple of inches up from the bottom of the bottles to find where the circumference is about 6 1/4—6 3/4. Cut both bottles at this point.
- Wrap the zipper around the opening of one of the bottles to ensure that it covers the entire area and actually overlaps a bit (1/4in).
- Use the glue gun to adhere one side of the zipper to the inside of one of the containers. Start with the top end of the zipper and overlap the bottom end of the zipper.
- Use glue gun to adhere the inside of the other bottle bottom to the other side of the zipper.
- Go around the edges and make sure that the zipper is adhered well to the bottom parts and that the parts around the ends of the zipper are especially sturdy.
- Fill with snacks!

Newspaper Pirate Hat

Materials:

- One section of newspaper (min 4 pages)
- Stapler
- Paint/decorations

- Have the person decorate/paint both sides of the newspaper.
- Fold the paper in half, and the corners down.
- You may need to tape the corners down if the newspaper is thick
- Now fold the bottom up, and secure with a staple, or if you are disorganized , get creative!
- Pop it on and go pillage something!





Toilet Paper Roll Shaker

Materials:

Paint

- Paintbrush Toilet paper roll/Paper towel roll
- Pasta/rice for inside Packing, duct, or masking tape

- Paint your roll!
- Let the roll dry completely.
- Cover one end with tape. Go across the opening first one way, then the other, then around the tube.
- Pop the pasta in the tube, don't worry if some sticks to the tape.
- Repeat the tape on the other end, and make some music!

Pop Out Flowers

Materials:

•	2-3 toilet paper rolls	Piece of heavier paper	
•	Markers or paint	Scissors	Glue

- Start by cutting your rolls into smaller pieces.
- Cut vertically into the roll and fan it out to make petals.
- Color the petals with markers or paint.
- Add glue and place flowers on your paper.
- Pop on the paper and let dry. Let it dry for about 4-5 hours before moving it.





Sailboat Craft

Materials:

•	Paper towel roll	Top of an egg carton	Tissue paper	
•	Glue	Paint	Scissors	Таре

- Paint the egg carton.
- Next up is the paper towel roll mast!
- While the person is painting, cut the tissue paper into a sail.
- Glue onto the mast.
- Add a layer of tape on top to keep the sail in place. You don't have to do this, but the tissue paper is so flimsy, you can add 3 layers and glue it on the bottom and tape the top.
- Glue the mast onto the boat. Let dry.
- Voila, your boat is beautiful and environmentally responsible!

Recycled Rocket Craft

Red, yellow, and orange foam/paper

Paper grocery bag

Materials:

Clean juice bottle 2 toilet paper rolls

Crayons Recycled bottle caps

- Sparkles
 Washed out applesauce container
 Scissors
- White paint Hot glue gun Glue

- Start by pouring sparkles into your bottle (optional).
- Add your paint, yes you need a lot.
- Pop the cap on tight and shake to cover the inside.
- Let dry in the hottest place you can find, it can take a while.
- While that is drying color your toilet paper rolls with crayons.
- Next cut a small square out of a grocery bag or other scrap paper and color it.
- Cut it into 2 triangles for wings.
- Cut the foam into flames.
- Tape them into the bottom of the toilet paper rolls, layer them for effect.
- When the bottle is dry, it's time to warm up the hot glue gun.
- Glue the rolls on the back.
- Glue the bottle caps on the front.
- Glue the wings on.
- Glue to applesauce container on the bottom so that the flames of the rocket (toilet paper rolls) don't get in the way of the rocket standing up on end.
- Play!



Egg Carton Wreath

Marker

Materials:

Card stock

• Egg carton Scissors

Paint (any color)

Paper plate Paint brushes

• Ribbon for hanging White glue

Stapler

- Start by cutting your egg carton into flowers. This is harder than it looks and takes a few steps. First, cut the cups off the carton, then make four cuts, and then trim the edges to make it more flower like.
- Gather your troops to paint!
- You can add sentence strips to your wreath. Have the person write a sentence or greeting on a sentence strip.
- Cut the middle of the paper plate out.
- Staple the sentence strip on and trim the edges.
- Let the flowers dry at least part way before adding glue to the paper plate and gluing them on. This can take teamwork!
- Let dry and hang up.

Paper Towel Tube Snake

Googly eyes

Materials:

•

•

Paper towel tube •

Paint and paint brushes

Hot glue gun Uncooked rice

Small red strip of paper for the tongue Non-fiction snake book

- To make the snake, glue the ends of the paper towel tube closed (making sure to seal the tongue out of • one end and adding a tablespoon of rice as well).
- Paint the snake as either a specific snake, or make one from imagination. Or do both! •
- Have children read the snake book with their new props in hand! •





Recycled Milk Jug Watering Can

Materials:

- Milk jug
 Nail and hammer
- Optional materials for decorating: paint, glue, ribbon, fabric, paper, buttons

- Rinse the milk jug out really well.
- Have fun decorating it however you want.
- Poke holes in the lid (from the inside of the lid, with a hammer and nail) to make holes for watering.

Homemade Wind Chimes

Materials:

Cleaned out tin cans Paint String Hammer
Nail Metal washers or nuts Glitter Tape

- Check over your cans for sharp edges. You can tape around the rims of the cans to prevent any cuts.
- Paint the outside of the tin cans with paint.
- After the paint dries, punch holes in the bottom of the tin cans using hammer and nails.
- String a long piece of yarn through the holes and tie two washers onto the end of the string, inside the tin cans. One washer is used to hold the yarn in place, the other is placed at the end of the string to make a lovely clanking sound when it hits the tin can. You can use nuts or rocks instead of washers; something that is hard enough to make a noise when it hits the can.
- Once you've tied on your washers to the wind chimes, test out the noise it makes!
- Hang up the tin cans so that they overlap each other.
- Let the wind do its thing and enjoy the wonderful clanking of your homemade wind chimes!





Homemade Garden Sprinkler

Materials:

• Soda bottle

Thumbtack or pushpin

Таре

Hose

- Grab your soda bottle and use a thumbtack or pushpin to make a line of holes about an inch apart along the length of the bottle.
- Then rotate the bottle and repeat the process. Do this three or four times so you get a decent spread of water when the bottle is attached to the hose.
- Go outside, push the hose into the bottle opening, use the tape to seal the bottle on the hose, and turn on the water.
- With luck, you'll get a decent stream of water from the holes you punched once the bottle is good and full-enough to keep your plants happy or give children a little something to play in the yard with!