



## Recycling Fun Crafts



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& Mom to Irene, Ian, and Zoe, 6 yrs old, & Audrey 4 yrs old

Here are some fun things to do with all those plastic cups we use in the summer. Most of the ideas come from 2 great books about recycling and the environment for kids. These books are excellent resources for kids from preschool to teens!

**Earth Book for Kids, Activities to Help Heal the Environment**, by Linda Schwartz

**Young Discovers Garbage and Recycling, Environmental Facts and Experiments**, Rosie Harlow & Sally Morgan

### ❑ Recycled Cup Animals

These little characters are great additions to the garden. Try some owls to scare birds from your veggies!

#### Materials

- Clean & dry plastic disposable drinking cups
- Acrylic craft paint and thick paintbrushes
- Scissors
- Craft glue and Clear packaging tape
- Wiggly eyes (or you can paint them on like we did)
- Any recycling odd and ends like scrap fabric, popsicle sticks, bottle caps, pipe cleaners, etc.

#### How To:

1. Paint the plastic cups or leave them as is. Let dry.
2. Cut wings from another plastic cup or foam sheet and glue to your plastic cup
3. Paint or add eyes, beaks and other features.
4. Hang from a stake or fence in your garden



### ❑ Cup Totem Poles

#### How To:

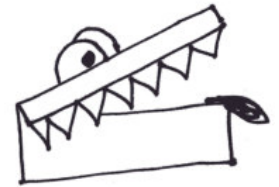
1. Glue together bottom to bottom, 2 plastic cups that are the same size. Repeat again.
2. Glue the 2 sections together to stack all 4 in a totem pole. Glue one more to make the base. The mouth of the last cup is bottom or stand.
3. Paint the plastic cups different colors or designs. Add faces and features as desired Let dry.
4. Hang in your garden or inside.



### ❑ Box Alligator

#### Materials

- Cardboard shoe box
- White paper plates
- Glue or clear tape & scissors
- Acrylic craft paint and thick paintbrushes
- Rubber bands
- 2 plastic Easter egg bottoms for the eyes or 2 little paper cups cut in half.
- Any recycling odd and ends for decorations



#### How To:

1. Tape the lid to the bottom on f the box on one end so that it can open and close
2. Paint your box green
3. Glue the 2 plastic Easter egg halves on the top of the box and paint to look like eyes.
4. Cut a strip of jagged teeth from a paper plate and glue on each side of the lid of the box to look like alligator teeth.
5. Cut a tongue out of a paper plate and paint it red. Glue to the front end of the bottom of the alligator mouth.
6. Use your alligator as a puppet or use it as a fun storage box!

### ❑ Box Kangaroo

#### Materials

- One large box, 1 small box, and 1 box that is just big enough to hold the little box.
- White paper plates
- One paper cup
- Glue or clear tape & scissors
- Acrylic craft paint and thick paintbrushes
- Permanent marker



Ian made his Blue Kangaroo for the science fair. He used a Cheerios box (Mom), a cut quart carton for the pouch, and a children's Motrin box for the baby or Joey. He added a tiny Teddy too out of a Nerds Candy box.

#### How To:

1. Paint all the boxes any color.
2. Cut ears, paws, and kangaroo tail, large and small from the paper plates, paint them, and attach to the box
3. Paint one paper cup for the kangaroo nose.
4. Cut the medium box as the pouch and glue to the big box.
5. Glue ears on the little box, and draw on features to make a baby kangaroo. Put the baby in the pouch.
6. Add eyes, nose, and smiles with a permanent marker.