

# Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Craft Ideas

## Making Paper (WEEK TWO)

**You will need:** basin/bowl, kitchen tray, old towel, j-cloths, sponges, plastic tapestry mesh, blender, glitter, scrap paper.

In advance:

1. tear up scrap paper and cover with water in a basin/bowl, you will need approx one piece for each child/young person
2. leave for 2-3 hours
3. blend with a hand blender until it is of porridge-like consistency
4. add another litre of water and stir

With the children:

5. add decoration, such as sequins, flowers, glitter etc.
6. place a J-cloth on top of a folded towel
7. dip a piece of tapestry mesh in the bowl of pulp, lift the mesh out so it is flat – there should be a layer of pulp trapped on top
8. allow excess water to drip off then slowly tip the mesh – pulp side down – onto the J-cloth
9. use the sponge to dab off excess water
10. gently lift the plastic mesh away from the pulp and leave to dry

## Mini Greenhouses (WEEK FOUR)

**You will need:** 2litre plastic bottles (1 each), scissors, compost, seeds, tape, labels, pens

- Cut the bottle in half.
- Scoop compost into the bottom of the bottle – you could make your own compost (well) in advance
- Plant seeds in the compost
- Place the top back over the base and push down hard, then tape over the join to prevent compost escaping.
- Place the cap back on and be sure to label each bottle.
- Remember to water your seeds and place in sunshine for maximum growth.
- When it gets too big, carefully cut open the bottle and plant it out in the garden or in a larger pot.

### Recycled Windmills (WEEK THREE)

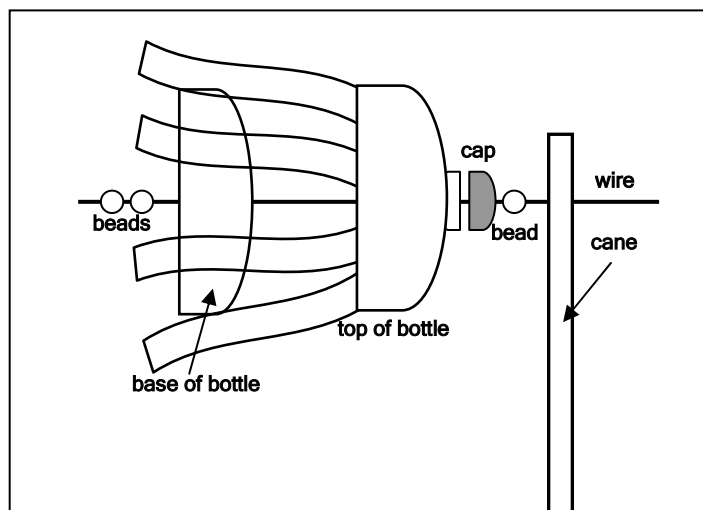
**You will need:** canes, wire-2mm, beads, 2 litre bottles, duck tape, glass pens, scissors

In advance:

- drill the canes with a 2mm hole
- cut wire into 40cm lengths and bend one end into a loop
- drill a 3mm hole in the middle of the cap and the base of the bottle

With the children:

- take the lid off the bottle and cut the bottom off (about 2/3 of the way down, so that the top 'half' is bigger than the bottom)
- cut from the raw edge on the top 'half' of the bottle to create sails. These should be approx the same width.
- Bend the sails out to make the bottle look like an octopus, then decorate with glass paints/pens
- Decorate the base in the same way
- To construct see the following diagram:



- Wrap the excess wire around the cane and secure with duck tape

### CD Christmas decorations (WEEK SIX)

This is a great way to use up old, scratched or unwanted CDs/DVDs. Be sure to start collecting in advance!

**You will need:** two old CDs each, string or wool, scissors, glue, sticky tape, permanent coloured pens, sequins/shiny stars/Christmas shapes

- Take the two CDs and decorate the plain, shiny side of each using the permanent pens (careful with clothing/surfaces etc) and foil stars/sequins etc.
- Place one of the CDs label side up and attach, with sticky tape, the string/wool in a loop at the top.
- Glue the label side of each CD together, trapping the loop of wool between them. Leave to dry.