

Recycled Planters

Use a recycled bottle to create your own self watering planter!

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- A washed two-liter bottle
- Marker
- Utility knife
- Scissors
- Potting soil
- Seeds



WHERE SHOULD I GO?

Find an outside craft space.

PARENTS CORNER

This craft requires cutting plastic bottles. Some campers may need assistance. Herbs are fun to grow at home.

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Find an empty two liter plastic bottle. Wash the inside of the bottle and remove the label.
- 2) Draw a line around the bottle 5 inches above the bottom.
** An adult may need to help with the next step.*
- 3) Next, use the utility knife to poke a hole on the line you drew. Then cut all the way around with the scissors until you have two pieces.
- 4) Flip the top portion over (with the cap still on), and fill $\frac{2}{3}$ with potting soil.
- 5) Read the instructions on your seed packet. Add one (or more if directed) and cover with soil. Lightly press soil to cover seed.
- 6) Add about an inch of water to the bottom part of the bottle (enough to cover the bottle's spout).
- 7) Unscrew the cap and place the soil half into the water. (The water should cover the opening.)
- 8) Spray the top with a little water and place in a sunny spot.
- 9) Follow any instructions on your seed's packet.



How Cool is Water?

Can water prevent a balloon from popping?

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Adult Permission
- 2 Deflated Balloons
- Water
- Tea Candle or birthday candle in dessert :)



WHERE SHOULD I GO?

This activity is best performed outside with an adult helping.

PARENTS CORNER

This activity includes a popped balloon and a burning candle.

WHAT DO I ALREADY KNOW?

- 1) What effect does water have on temperature?
 - 2) What all should you do before lighting a candle or starting a fire?
 - 3) Why is water important on Earth?
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- 1) Share anything else you already know and understand.



INSTRUCTIONS

Make sure that you have an adult's permission or supervision for this activity.

First, hold a balloon filled with air over the candle. How much time passed before the balloon popped?

Next, fill the other balloon with tap water. Hold that balloon over the candle like before. How much time passed before the balloon popped?

*If you do not have a tea candle or other candle in a jar, a birthday candle in a cupcake or Girl Scout cookie also works well.



INSTRUCTIONS (continued)

Why did the balloons react differently?

So the second balloon probably did not pop in your experiment. If it did, it likely took a very long time. This is because of water's high heat capacity; basically water is better at handling high temperatures than air.

Water has a heat capacity 4 times higher than air. The water filled balloon did not pop because the water helped absorb the heat that the plastic balloon felt. The air filled balloon could not absorb all of that heat, so it popped.

Water is important to our planet for so many reasons. But could you imagine just how much hotter our planet would become without oceans, rivers, and other water sources?



WHAT DID I LEARN?

1) What is heat capacity?

2) Why is the heat capacity of water important for Earth and how we live?

3) What is something you can remember from this activity? Or what is something you want to learn after completing this experiment?



Paper Making

Learn how to recycle your scrap paper into new paper!

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Scrap Paper
- Water
- Blender
- Bowl
- Grease Splatter Screen



WHERE SHOULD I GO?

You may want to do this activity in the kitchen. Don't forget to clean up afterwards.

PARENTS CORNER

This is a great way to get rid of papers that need to be shredded.


girl scouts
of middle tennessee

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Tear your paper into small pieces and put them into a bowl.
- 2) Add just enough water to cover the paper pieces. Push any floating pieces into the water until all are soaked.
- 3) Soak the paper for a couple hours until it's mushy.
- 4) Make a thick pulp by blending your mush. (add water if it is really dry)
- 5) Put your splatter screen over your baking sheet.
- 6) Scoop the pulp onto the screen into a thin layer.
- 7) Use your hands, a flat dish, or spatula to gently press excess water out of your pulp.
- 8) Pour the water out of the baking sheet and allow the paper to dry overnight.

You can use your new paper to send encouraging notes, make bookmarks, or other crafts and gifts.

Be creative with colors. Try using construction paper. You can even add glitter or flower seeds (to plant).



INSTRUCTIONS (continued)

Paper is traditionally made with a tool called “a mould and deckle” that allows the creator to make a more uniform paper.

However, the materials to create this tool are not common in every home, but supplies to make one can be found in many stores.

If you loved this and are interested in trying to make your own mould and deckle, get a parent’s permission to research this first.



Compost Creation

Make your own bag of compost for Earth Week!

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- Sandwich ziploc bag
- 4 inch cut straw
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup chopped “brown” material
- $\frac{1}{3}$ cup chopped “green material
- water



WHERE SHOULD I GO?

Ask an adult where they would like you to try this cool experiment.

PARENTS CORNER

This activity can be put together quickly. However, it takes a few weeks to fully become rich compost.


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of middle tennessee

INSTRUCTIONS

Compost is made from decomposed organic matter like dried leaves, grass clippings, leftover fruits and veggies and more. Compost contains a lot of good nutrients for plants and helps them grow.

Compost needs a mixture of “greens” and about twice as much “browns”. Adding some soil and a little bit of water to make the mixture damp, helps the compost break down correctly.

“Brown” material contains high levels of carbon. Examples include, dry leaves, cardboard egg cartons, sticks, bark, etc.

“Green” material contains high levels of nitrogen. Examples include grass clippings, fruit and veggie scraps, etc.

Air circulation is crucial so make sure to mix your compost often.



INSTRUCTIONS (continued)

- 1) Gather your “brown” and “green” composting material.
- 2) Cut a straw into a 3-4 inch piece. Tape it on the inside of the bag so that part of it stick out of the top, creating a air opening.
- 3) Chop your brown material into tiny pieces until you have $\frac{2}{3}$ cup. Pour it into your bag.
- 4) Chop your green material into tiny pieces until you have $\frac{1}{3}$ cup. Pour this into the bag also.
- 5) Add just a little bit of water to make the mixture mushy.
- 6) Zip the bag closed around the straw and squish the mixture around.
- 7) Squish the mixture a few times a day and keep the contents damp.

You should have compost that resembles soil in a few weeks! You can add it to a plant to help it grow.



Earth Day Cake Bites

Bite sized cake bites that look like Earth... what is left to say?

WHAT WILL I NEED?

- 1 Box of Cake Mix
- Blue and Green Food Coloring
- Vanilla Frosting
- Optional: Green and Blue Candy Melts
- Chocolate Candy coating



WHERE SHOULD I GO?

Head to the kitchen.

PARENTS CORNER

The cake can be made and cooled ahead of time.


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INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Mix cake mix according to directions on the box. Divide batter into two bowls. Dye one bowl green and the other bowl blue. Mix well.
- 2) Bake each cake according to directions.
** Cake can be baked and cooled ahead of time.*
- 3) After both cakes have cooled completely, crumble each cake into separate large bowls.
- 4) Separate frosting into two small bowls. Add green dye into one bowl and blue in the other. Mix well.
- 5) Combine green frosting into bowl of green cake. Combine blue frosting into bowl of blue cake.
- 6) Cover a baking tray with wax paper.
- 7) Roll a pinch of blue cake and a pinch of green cake into a ball and place on tray. Repeat with the rest of the dough. Chill in the freezer for 20 minutes.
- 8) Melt chocolate coating (or brown candy melt for vanilla taste) into a small bowl.
- 9) Dip cake bites into chocolate and chill in freezer.
- 10) Optional: Melt green and blue candies in separate bowls. Drizzle over bites and chill again. Enjoy!



Donut Shop

Well I walked around the corner
And I walked around the block
And I walked right into a doughnut shop
Well, I picked up a donut right out of the grease
and I handed the lady a five cent piece!
Well she looked at the nickel and she looked at me
She said you're money's no good to me
There's a hole in the middle and
you see right through
I said lady there's a hole in your doughnut too.
Thanks for the doughnut good-bye!

Tea for Two

Written by: Casey "Firefly" Sullivan

Gotta little grass in my shoe, gotta little tea for two,
Gotta little something in my pocket I wanna give to you.
Gotta little bounce in my step, gotta little love in my head,
Gotta lotta walking left to do before I get back in bed.
Gotta lotta luck, gotta lotta charm, gotta lotta little dots on my arm.
Gotta lot to say, gotta to think, gotta a lot to do.

Gotta love the stars, gotta love the moon,
Gotta love an old Bob Dylan tune,
Gotta love the paint that's peeling off the walls in the old piano room.
Gotta love the day, followed by the night,
Gotta love the leaves dancin' in the light,
Gotta find a way, gotta seize the day, gotta fight the (good) fight.