

Paper Products

Over 26% of the trash people place in the garbage or recycle bins is a type of paper product. Does your family discard newsprint, packing material, cardboard boxes, toilet paper rolls, egg cartons, cereal boxes and popsicle sticks?

To help reduce the amount of paper products placed in the trash, try some of these recycled crafts. You will be helping our environment.

Starter Flower Pots- Make some now in preparation for spring planting.

Supplies



Jar with straight sides- no lid required

Half of a 2- fold newspaper page. Tear the paper in half down the fold. You now have 2 pieces of newspaper for 2 pots.

Directions

- Fold the sheet of paper in half-length wise (hot dog fold).
- Make a good crease in the fold you just made.
- With the bottom of the jar up, roll the newspaper around the jar. Don't roll it too tightly or it may be difficult to remove.
- Take the extra paper at the bottom and push in to the jars opening.
- Gently remove the jar from the paper roll.
- Place the pot on a flat surface and push down the paper to flatten it in the bottom of the pot.
- Fill with soil and seeds.
- The whole pot can be planted in the garden as the newspaper and cardboard will degrade.



- Cut a paper towel roll to a desired length or use a toilet paper roll.
- Cut 4 slits in the roll.
- Fold them down to make the planter bottom.
- You may use tape if the 4 strips won't hold together to keep the soil in the pot.

Fill paper egg cartons with soil and seeds. Water and watch the seedlings grow. You could also plant the seeds into eggshells.



Place soil and seeds in a shoebox. Leave it open or cut a hole in the lid so the seedlings may grow through the top.

Weed barriers

Are you planning a new garden for next year but don't want to dig up all the grass in the area? Here is an easier way to eliminate the weeds.

- Place cardboard or newspaper over the ground. Make sure there are no cracks between pieces so light cannot penetrate through.
- Spray the paper product heavily with water to prevent them from blowing away.
- Place rocks on the paper to prevent it from blowing away.
- Water as necessary. After about 3 weeks check to see if the grass has died off. Take up the paper or cover with soil. There are many options. What will you choose?



Bird Feeders



Supplies

- 50 popsicle sticks
- 1 large popsicle stick (tongue depressor)
- Bag of bird seed
- 2 long pieces of hemp to hang the feeder
- 1 glue
- Painting supplies if you wish to decorate the top



Directions

- Line up 12 popsicle sticks. Glue 2 sticks (for support) across them to connect all of the sticks. Turn it over.
- Repeat for the second row. Glue the support sticks going in the opposite direction of those you just did. Glue the bottom supports together.
- Glue the tongue depressor down to make a perch.
- Alternate the sticks around the top. Glue down each corner as you go. Let everything dry.
- Paint the top sticks if you wish.
- Have your parents connect the hemp to your feeder.
- Hang it outside and let the birds enjoy the feast.

Peanut Butter and Bird Seed Feeders



1. Punch holes in the cardboard for the hanger and the perches.
2. Spread peanut butter onto the cardboard.
3. Sprinkle or roll the tube in bird seed.
4. Let dry and then insert perches and hanger.