

Recycled- Bug Buddies



Level of Difficulty: **Easy**- Minimal Parental Supervision required

Estimated Completion time: 15-60 minutes to construct. Some drying time for paint

Theme: **Earth Month**- Re-use materials to create whimsical bugs.

April is Earth Month. What better way to celebrate earth month than by making “Bug Buddies” re-using materials that you would normally throw away along with some basic craft materials that you should have around the house. We will focus on Bugs since we will soon be outside again enjoying the outdoors. You can create a whole creature colony and play with your creations as well.

When you are done, we’d love to see what you made. Please go to our gallery and upload your finished masterpiece! We can’t wait to see what you have come up with. If you like to Blog, send us a comment and tell us about your experience.

List of Materials you will need:

This list is just a suggestion. The possibilities are endless and the variations on what you can make will depend on what you have around the house at the time. Make sure you wash out any recycled materials you use before starting.

Recycled materials:

*Paper plates and bowls, Paper cups, straws, paper towel rolls, cereal boxes, plastic grocery bags, frozen food containers, coffee containers

Optional Craft Materials you might have around the house:

*Chenille stems, wiggly eyes, florist wire, glitter, glue, tape, paint, markers, yarn, pom poms

Instructions:

Following are some simple project ideas for you to follow. You can create any type of bug you want but these will give you some inspiration. You can also substitute whatever materials you have on hand.

Ladybug



Materials: Paper bowl, paint, chenille stems, wiggly eyes, glue

Instructions: Paint the bowl, let dry. Poke a hole in the top with a pencil and stick the chenille stems through the top. Curl the ends. Stick the eyes on with some craft glue.

Butterfly



Materials: Cereal box, straw, paint, glitter, glue, chenille stems, scissors, tape

Instructions: Draw the wings and body on the side of an empty cereal box. Make a top set of wings and a bottom set of wings like shown in the photo. Make the body a separate shape. Cut the shapes out with scissors. Paint the wings. Let dry. Push two chenille stems up through the straw. Curl the ends. Place some glue shapes on your wings and sprinkle with glitter. Let dry. Cover the body with glue and sprinkle with glitter. Let dry. Tape the straw to the back of the two sets of wings then tape the body to the front of the wings. Glue on some eyes

Fly



Materials:

Cereal Box, small paper cups, chenille stems, pom poms, paint, small pebbles or macaroni, tape

Instructions: Cut two holes in each of the cups on opposite sides. Push the chenille stems through the holes to make the flies' arms and legs. Add some pebbles or macaroni to the cups and then tape them together to form the body. Cut wings out of the cereal box and fold them up in the middle. Paint a design on the brown side of the cardboard. Tape or glue the wings to the body. Add two small pom poms to the larger pom pom to form the eyes and head. (You could always use colored cotton balls for this as well). Add a chenille stem to make the antennae. Tape or glue the head to the end of the cup. Let dry. The pebbles or macaroni inside give the bug some weight and also it makes noise when you shake it as you play with it!

Caterpillar



Materials: Plastic grocery bags (about 6), masking tape, paint, wiggly eyes, chenille stems.

Instructions: Take your plastic grocery bags and roll them into the smallest ball you can. Use a piece of masking tape to hold the ball together. Make 5 more balls around the same size. Take a chenille stem and tape the balls to the chenille stem in a row using the masking tape. Add small pieces of chenille stem to the bottom with tape for the feet. Add a set of feet under each ball. Paint the bags with one coat of paint and let dry. The first coat won't completely cover it. Add a second coat (in another color if you want) and let dry. Tape some chenille stems to the head for antennae. Glue on eyes. Paint a mouth and polka dots in a contrasting color. Let dry

