

Time for some spring cleaning of your craft stash? This month the Arts Team bring you a collection of ideas for easy ways to use up some of those odd bits. Of course junk models and collages are great final activities ... and then you won't feel so guilty throwing the very last bits away!

Have fun and remember to share what you have done!



Spring wreaths

Use up odd bits of craft materials to make a cheerful spring wreath for your home or meeting place.

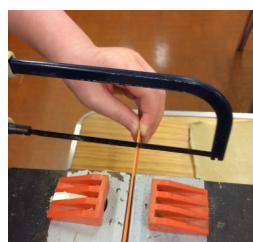
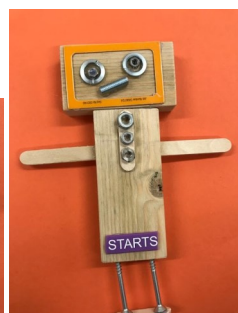
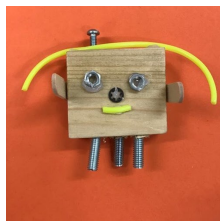
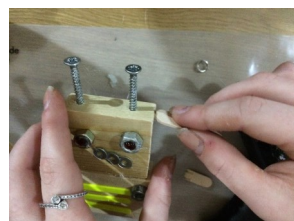
Start with a paper plate and cut out the centre. Cover the ring with strips of green paper/card/crepe/fabric. Wrap long lengths around, stapling the ends to secure, fold and tie or glue shorter pieces over the ring, trimming the ends to form leaves.

Next use pipe-cleaners, paper, egg cartons, plastic bottles, pom poms, buttons etc to make flowers and decorate your wreath. Glue or staple into place and add a hanging loop if desired.



Random robots

Tidy out the garage or shed and practice using hammers, screwdrivers, saws and drills!



Use scraps of wood and any odd washers, nails, screws etc to build a 'robot'. Make sure that you have adult instruction/supervision and a safe way to hold your wood, then get creative! Sand the block and fix the other items to create your 'bot'. Use screws, nails, PVA (or a glue gun if you aren't patient!) For younger girls the cutting and drilling could be pre-done.

Lanterns or suncatchers

Tissue paper scraps team up with glue, glass jars or sticky backed plastic to make great seasonal decorations.



Using PVA or decoupage glue, cover clean, empty



jars or the bases of plastic bottles with torn scraps of tissue paper, if you've left -over glitter stir that into the glue. Add a silhouette shape from black paper if you like. Finally tie on a string or wire handle decorated with any beads or charms then illuminate with an LED tealight.



Old CDs look great decorated with those odd jewels and sequins, scraps of sticky back plastic (or white tissue paper) form the basis of simple suncatchers to stick to or hang in the window as you begin to see the spring sunshine.

Pots and planters

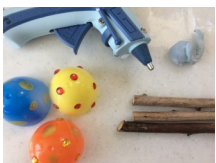
Transform cardboard tubes, tin cans, old containers, or plastic bottles



If using cans,, open with a tin opener that doesn't leave a sharp edge, or cover this with duct tape. Tape card circles over the base of tubes, paint if desired. Using any scraps, cover and/or decorate your containers, double sided tape (remember to tear rather than cut this) or a cool melt glue gun are efficient ways to assemble everything.



Fill the eggs with some rice or dried peas and tape closed to make shakers.



Upcycled eggs



Glue or blu-tac a stick into decorated egg halves to add a bit of quick magic to your pots or garden.



Remember that all the previous Arts Team ideas can be found in the leaders' area of the Girlguiding Birmingham website and videos can be found on our YouTube channel.

The Arts Team hope you've enjoyed all these activities.

Please let us know how you have got on - we would love to see pictures of your creations too!

Please email :countyoffice@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk
post on the Girlguiding Birmingham Facebook page
or tag us on Twitter or Instagram, @GirlguidingBham



Comments/suggestions? email :countyoffice@girlguidingbirmingham.org.uk

Take it further: lots of these activities can also be used towards various challenges, skill builders, unit meeting activities and badges.

We hope you have had fun ... remember to share what you have done!