

Making a bird feeder with recycled materials:

There are lots of different ways of making your own birdfeeders.

You can use plastic milk bottles, juice cartons, plastic drink bottles and many more, see pictures below:



Here is one I made at home:



You will need:



- A juice carton
- 2 milk bottle tops
- Wool, string or wire
- Scissors
- All-purpose glue
- Sharpie (I used red and black)
- Short stick
- Bird food (I ordered a 5 litre tub of wild bird food online, about £7, but you don't need anywhere near as much!)
- An adult who can help you use tools safely!

Optional:

- Outdoor acrylic paint (to paint the whole container before cutting – see first picture above)
- Stickers
- Outdoor glue

Preparation: wash out your juice carton and let it dry (best to do that the day before, place it upside down for the water to run out)

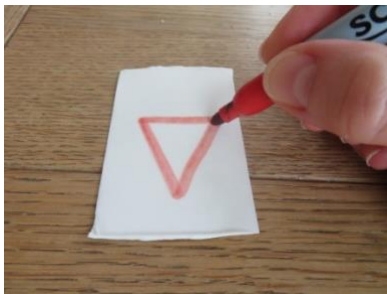
The next day:

First use scissors to cut out the openings. Don't go too low or you will lose seed storage space and room to fit in the perch. Ask an adult to start you off with a little hole before cutting. Note: the rectangles on the sides need to stay attached (wings)!



Next, use the rectangle you just cut out to draw the beak in a shape of a triangle (not too small), colour it in and cut it out.

From the same rectangle you can cut out two circles about 2cm in diameter for the eyes.



Then you can draw funny eyes onto the circles using a Sharpie and glue them onto the insides of the



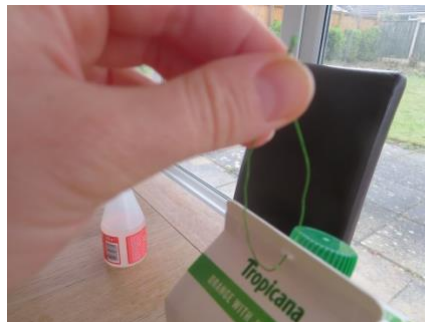
milk bottle tops.

Once you have done that, you make the perch for the birds.

Ask your grown up to make a small hole about 3cm below the window at the front of your carton (I used a pointy corn-on-the-cob skewer to make the hole), then you can push in your stick.



Now you need your grown up again to make a small hole at the top of the juice carton so you can thread the piece of wool/ string/ wire through – as you can see I used wire.



Your next step will be to glue the eyes and beak onto the carton – see picture below:



Next, you can use a Sharpie to draw some more details onto the juice carton.



And finally, you can scoop the birdfood into your birdfeeder using a spoon, right up to the bottom end of the window at the front of the juice carton.

You can hang your birdfeeder up in your garden, onto a tree, bush or fence, or you may have a balcony where you can attach it to somewhere.

Well done! I hope you enjoyed this activity as much as I did!

Mrs Smith

