

Get play CRAFTY

Let your kids be creative and learn about recycling at the same time

When it comes to making arts and crafts with your children, the only limit is your imagination. There is no need to buy expensive materials – with a little ingenuity, common household items are easily turned into fun toys or cool crafts!

Making recycled crafts is also a great way to help your kids learn all about the 3Rs – reduce, reuse and recycle.

Almost anything can be repurposed – plastic take-out containers, used juice boxes, straws, paper bags and more.

Stuck for ideas? Old magazines can be turned into creative collages. One-litre milk boxes can be turned into lightweight stacking cubes.

Or take the humble toilet paper roll, for example. The cardboard roll can be transformed into a multitude of items. Here are a few ideas:

➔ FANTASY FOREST

Materials Toilet paper rolls, cardboard milk cartons, paint, scissors

Turn the cardboard roll into a nifty base for a tree of your own design! Cut a tree shape out of the cardboard carton, paint the shape green and decorate (add fruit, birds or flowers). Trim the roll to the desired tree height, and then cut two slits at the top of the roll, 180° apart. Stand your tree up in the slits and you're done!

➔ TP NINJAS

Materials Toilet paper rolls, coloured straws, paint, markers

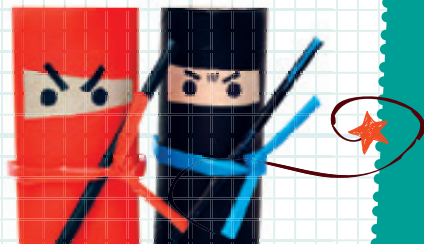
Paint an empty cardboard roll black, leaving a small rectangle for your ninja's eyes. Use a black marker to draw in a pair of eyes and eyebrows – make them as scary as you want! Tie a coloured straw around the roll to create the belt, tuck a short black straw into the belt to act as a sword and *voilà* – a tiny ninja! ♥



Fun Fact

Do you know the life cycle of a hen?

➔ Egg, Chick, Hen



CRAFTY BENEFITS

Art and craft projects can be a great way to enhance your child's development as well.

- Craftwork makes your child use both hands at the same time. This improves bilateral coordination and is essential for developing self-help skills such as buttoning, dressing and even being focused.
- Using scissors and drawing shapes improves fine motor skills.
- Not all craft projects are speedy. Waiting for paint to dry or glue to set teaches self-control and patience.
- Best of all, doing crafts is one of the best ways to bond and have fun with your child!