

# ECOMARINES EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM: EASY 'GREEN GIFTING' IDEAS



## 1. CD BIRD DETERRENT

These fun-looking devices aren't just decorations they're also used for scaring away birds! You can hang these up on trees in your garden patch within your school or at home to prevent birds from eating your harvests.

### What you will need:

- Old unwanted CDs (make sure the shiny sides are facing outwards)
- String
- **Optional:** twigs/sticks (to make a more elaborate device)
- **Optional:** bottle caps (to make your deterrent more colourful)

### Instructions:

**Step 1:** Gather up all the items you would like to use for the deterrent device. Just make sure to include a CD since it is the key component of the structure that will scare off the birds.

**Step 2:** Use string and twigs to build the skeleton of the structure. Use the above photo as an example of how you can structure your deterrent.

**Step 3:** Tie in your CD and any other accessories, such as bottle caps. You may need to punch holes into the bottle caps – be careful with this part!

**Step 4:** Test it out! Hang the finished deterrent on a tree or a pillar somewhere near the garden patch you would like to protect from birds.

**\*Tip: This deterrent works best in the sun!**



### Get Creative!

You can create so many variations of the CD deterrent: Here are some creative photos for inspiration:



## 2. WATERING CAN

Here's a resourceful way to make use of old plastic bottles – from milk bottles to water bottles to clothing detergent bottles – that you were planning to dispose of in the recycling bin anyway!

### What you will need:

- Old plastic bottle(s) (works best if they have a screw-top lid)
- Craft paints
- Sewing needles/pins (adults will need to supervise kids)
- **Optional:** old scraps of material (to bedazzle the exterior of the bottle)
- **Optional:** glue (to paste any other decorations onto the exterior of the bottle)

### Instructions:

**Step 1:** Collect old unused plastic bottle(s). Try looking through your recycling bin, there's bound to be an empty plastic bottle that you can use! Clean out the bottle with dishwashing detergent and some warm water – we need to ensure that the bottle is hygienic enough to use, and the inside does not have soap residue as we are using the bottle to water plants.

**Step 2:** Make lots of spaced-out holes in the bottle cap using the sewing needle or pin. You can decide on how big you want these holes to be. This will become the head of your upcycled watering can. Maybe even test out the bottle cap's function by pouring a cup of water onto it and notice if water can drip out of the holes. If there isn't a consistent flow of water making its way through the holes, then we suggest making the holes bigger. Now that you've checked that the bottle cap works now you can screw it back onto the bottle.

**Step 3:** Start decorating! You can design the bottle however you'd like with paints or gluing on fabric to make it look pretty! You have the creative freedom! Just make sure that all the decorations have dried and set onto the exterior before using the watering can.

**Step 4:** Get watering! Now you have a beautiful upcycled watering can to use within your garden at school or back at home.



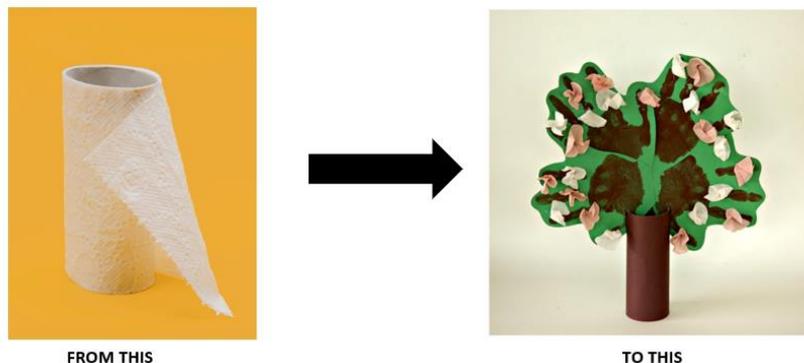
Source: <https://www.kixcereal.com/kix-cereal-6-earth-day-crafts-from-recycled-materials>

**Want more inspiration? Check out the photos below:**



## 4. TOILET PAPER ROLL TREE

Ever thought of how you could make better use of those used toilet paper roll cores? Well, here's a creative way to put these cores to use and even make them look like pretty cardboard trees that you can decorate the house with!



Source: <https://www.kixcereal.com/kix-cereal-6-earth-day-crafts-from-recycled-materials>

### What you will need:

- Old toilet paper roll cores
- Scraps of cardboard
- Markers/paint (any colouring tools you have)
- **Optional:** scraps of fabric (to accessorise your tree)

### Instructions:

**Step 1.** Collect any old toilet paper roll cores you find lying around – it's probably best to ensure that people within your household put aside the paper roll cores for you. Strip the core of any toilet paper residue so you have a clear canvas to colour. Colour the exterior of the core with whatever colour tools you have e.g., brown marker/non-toxic paint. Wait for the colour to dry.

**Step 2.** Now that you have the 'trunk' of your tree, you can work on the leaves and flowers of the tree. You can cut out cloud-like shapes from the cardboard scraps you have at your disposal – these can act as the leaves of your tree. You can accessorise these cardboard sections however you'd like, for example you can add small 'flowers'/'fruits' made from other cardboard/fabric bits. Glue the cardboard pieces together so that they collectively look like a treetop.

**\*Tip: try not to add too many accessories that may weigh down on the treetop because it will make it harder for the whole tree to stand on a flat surface.**

**Step 3.** Assemble the tree with all its components. Cut 2 slits onto the paper roll core – make sure the slits are on opposite sides of each other. Now it should be easy to slide in the other cardboard pieces that are acting as the leaves. You should have yourself a beautiful looking tree!

**Get creative with the different types of trees and decorations! Here are some ideas:**

