



ACTIVITY

Make a Basket

Make a useful basket out of a plastic milk bottle to store labels, pens or seeds, or to carry pots or produce.

Estimated time: 30 minutes

Location: Outdoors & Indoors

School term: All year round

Level of experience: No experience needed

Subject(s): Art&DT

Learning objectives

- ✓ Learn how to design and make a useful basket from a plastic milk bottle.

Step by step

- 1 Use a pen to draw a line just below the handle, all the way around the bottle.
- 2 Use the sharp pencil to puncture a hole into the bottle on the cutting line. This hole is the starting point for scissors to cut carefully along the line to make the basket.
- 3 Make the handle by cutting a 2cm wide strip of plastic from the remaining top section. A looping handle is achieved by cutting $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way around the milk bottle, see photograph.
- 4 Use a sharp pencil to make the holes in the plastic basket and handle for the fasteners to go through (adult supervision/ help needed for this).
- 5 Attach the handle to the basket using the brass fasteners. Place these on opposite sides of the basket.
- 6 Decorate the basket using permanent pens, stickers or use PVA to stick on pictures cut from old gardening magazines.



Preparation

- Wash out milk bottles thoroughly and dry well.

Equipment needed

- Plastic milk bottles – 1 pint or 4 pints
- Permanent pens
- Sharp pencils
- Scissors
- Brass fasteners
- Old gardening magazines, seed catalogues or Stickers
- PVA glue

Hints & tips

- 💡 4 pint milk bottles will hold paper pots with young plants, a good enterprise project.
- 💡 Make plant labels with the left over plastic. These can be cut into 10– 15cm strips, 2cm wide with a pointed end.
- 💡 Use this activity as part of grow **Your Own Lunch, Supermarket Sweep and Flower Power** class growing topics