

ACTIVITY: TRASHLESS PENCIL CUP

Supplies Needed:

- Cup, use one of the following
 - a juice can with the lid removed
 - a plastic container such as one holding Crystal Light
 - a Play-Doh container
 - a tin can with the top removed (remove any sharp edges)
- Craft glue
- Water
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- Materials to cover and decorate the cup, try one of these ideas
 - pieces of used colored tissue paper
 - leftover wrapping paper
 - small scraps of fabric

Process:

1. Go on a scavenger hunt at home to find a suitable cup and materials to decorate the cup.
2. Mix equal portions of white craft glue and water so it is paintable but not too thin.
3. Brush it on a section of the cup and place pieces of paper or fabric on the section.
4. Brush over the top of the paper or fabric with the glue mixture.
5. Cover the entire cup with the decorative materials and glue mixture.
6. While the cup is drying collect pencils to store in the cup.

Suggested Adult Interactions:

- Encourage your child to select the materials and design he/she wants to use on the cup remembering that it is the process rather than the product that is importance for art activities with young children.
- Let your child know that they can take care of the earth by doing simple activities such as reusing and recycling.
- Sort your recycled trash together so your child gets a clear idea of what can be recycled.

Skills Developed:

- Problem solving and organizational skills
- Fine motor skills
- Creative expression

Reading Books:

- *Michael Recycle* by Ellie Bethel
- *Gregory the Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharmat
- *Recycle! A Handbook for Kids* by Gail Gibbons

Adult References:

- *Recycled Crafts Box* by Laura Martin

Next time you are here:

Head up to *Trash Bash* on the 4th floor so your child can use recycled and reused materials to create art and music and participate in imaginative play with cardboard boxes of all sizes.

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Smart Play

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