

EASY AT-HOME BUG CRAFTS

Build-a-Bug

(ADULT SUPERVISION RECOMMENDED FOR CUTTING)

Materials:

- Cardboard Egg Cartons
- Paint
- Paint Brushes
- Scissors
- X-acto Knife
- Googly Eyes
- Pipe Cleaners
- Glue
- Newspaper or painting surface

Step 1: Cut out egg cartons so that each “bug body” has three parts.



Step 2: Cover your work area with newspaper, or any other material you don't mind getting dirty. Decorate your egg cartons.



Step 3: If you don't have paint, you can always use markers. Customize your bug with glitter, stickers, or whatever is laying around!

Step 4: Use a craft knife to poke three pairs of parallel holes for the legs and one pair of holes for the antennae. Then, string pieces of pipe cleaners through.

Step 5: Glue on googly eyes for the finishing touch.



DIY Bug Jar

(ADULT SUPERVISION RECOMMENDED FOR POKING HOLES)

Materials:

- Clean Plastic jar (nut butter jar or spice bottle)
- Thumb tack or awl

A bug jar is an absolute must when trying to observe bugs for an extended period of time. A bug jar allows you to watch bugs move without it escaping. You can buy bug jars online, or at your local toy store.

There are many ways to make a bug collection jar. This is a good one if you don't want your child to carry around glass. Simply clean out a small plastic spice or nut butter jar. The only two features that make a jar a "bug jar" are a lid and breathing holes, so make sure you keep that lid. Use a thumb tack or an awl to make holes all over the surface of the jar. DO NOT allow small children to do this, as it requires a substantial amount of pressure to poke these holes. Decorate as you see fit!



Bug Hotel

(ADULT SUPERVISION RECOMMENDED FOR CUTTING)

A “bug hotel” is a structure filled with natural materials, such as twigs and dead leaves, that provides shelter for a variety of different insects.

Materials:

- Natural materials (twigs, dead leaves, cut bamboo or knotweed, pinecones, etc)
- Small Plastic bottle
- X-acto Knife
- Twine
- Scissors

Step 1: Have an adult help you cut the round top of the bottle off, so you are left with only the cylindrical bottom.

Step 2: Wrap a long piece of twine around the bottle and tie a double knot. Make sure it is secure so the bottle will not slip out.

Step 3: Fill the bottle with your natural materials until it is packed tightly. If you are using bamboo or knotweed, make sure the hollow parts are facing outwards so bugs can crawl in and out.

Step 4: Hang from a tree branch near a meadow or in your backyard and wait for the bugs to come!

