

Carton loads of fun for the family

Before recycling their finished cartons, parents can have a lot of fun with their kids this holiday, by turning empty paper cartons in to credit-crunch-busting toys and games.



Versatile milk and juice cartons can be transformed into all sorts, from ten pin bowls and puppets, to mobiles and garlands. Follow these easy step-by-step instructions to get started, or get creative and come up with your own ideas!

For carton art instructions and more ideas visit www.tetrapakrecycling.co.uk/cartonart. And if you've got an arty design of your own to share, upload it to <http://www.flickr.com/groups/tetrapakrecycling/>.

When it comes to the environment, cartons have a great story to tell. They are made mainly from a natural renewable resource – wood. This helps lower the carbon footprint of the package. Cartons are widely recyclable across the UK and Ireland too. Now they can also be recycled from businesses and schools. So when you are finished transforming your cartons, you can recycle them. Check out the other great environmental credentials of your cartons, or where to recycle them, on the website www.tetrapaksustainability.co.uk



10 pin bowls

You will need:

- 10 tall Tetra Pak cartons (one litre ones, like innocent smoothie cartons or the square-based Moo Milk cartons)
- Coloured paper, old wrapping paper or paints to decorate
- Rice or sand to weigh down
- Scissors
- Glue or sticky tape
- Ball to play the game



1

Decorate the cartons either by painting them or covering them in coloured paper. To save money, you can also reuse old wrapping paper, and cut used Tetra Pak cartons into shapes to stick on.



2

Fill each carton with 1cm of sand or rice to stop them falling over easily, and reseal.



3

Arrange the cartons in the 'ten pin bowling' formation, and find a large ball e.g. a football or a basketball – you're now ready to play!



Cat hand puppet



You will need:

- Tetra Brik carton (the rectangular ones you get Ribena in)
- Non water based paints or coloured paper to cover
- String for whiskers
- Scissors
- Glue or sticky tape
- Marker pen for drawing face details

1

Cut off the bottom of a Tetra Brik carton and give it a good wash, taking care not to get the newly cut edges of the carton wet.



2

Paint the surface of the carton (non water based paints are better suited to this) or cover it in coloured paper.

3

Draw a cat face onto the front of the carton, using string for the whiskers, and mark a tail on the back.



4

Point the corners of the base of the carton up to make them look like ears. You can paint these too.

5

Use the same method to make other animal hand puppets to play with. Sticking on string and pipe cleaners can make them more fun as they wiggle as you move the puppets!



Shapes mobile

You will need:

- Tetra Pak carton with silver insides (like the Pomegreat cartons)
- Marker pen for drawing shapes
- Scissors
- Glue or sticky tape
- Coloured paper, old wrapping paper or paints to decorate
- Kebab skewer or pencil
- Ribbon or string for hanging



1

Cut the top and bottom off a carton, give it a good wash, taking care not to get the newly cut edges of the carton wet, and unfold it out flat.

3

Cut a slit from the centre to the outside edge of both shapes. Slide one inside the other to make a 3D shape.



2

Draw your chosen shape onto the carton and cut it out. Use this shape as a template to draw around to make another shape of the same size. Cover the printed side of the shape with wrapping paper or paint.



4

Take a length of ribbon or string and tie one end to the middle of a kebab skewer or pencil and make a loop at the other end of the ribbon or string to hang your mobile up by.



5

Fix a length of ribbon or string onto one edge of each 3D shape and hang them from the kebab skewer or pencil.





Party garland

You will need:

- As many cartons as you can find for this. The more you have, the longer the garland!
- Scissors
- Stapler, glue or sticky tape

1

Cut the top and bottom off a carton, give it a good wash, taking care not to get the newly cut edges of the carton wet, and unfold it out flat.

2

Cut thin strips of equal length and width out of each carton.

3

Using the silver side of the carton to look shiny in the light, make each strip into a loop and stick both ends together.



4

Make a chain linking each loop into the next.



Finger puppets



You will need:

- Tetra Pak cartons with silver insides (like the Pomegranate cartons)
- Scissors
- Glue or sticky tape
- Marker pen for drawing face details
- Wool, fabric and other materials to decorate your characters

1

Cut the top and bottom off a carton, give it a good wash, taking care not to get the newly cut edges of the carton wet, and unfold it out flat.



2

Cut out squares of 5cm by 5cm. Roll each square up so it fits snug around your finger to make a finger puppet. Secure it with sticky tape, making sure that the silver side faces out.

3

Draw faces on each finger puppet and decorate with different materials and fabrics to make different characters for your play. You can use a story you know already or invent your own!



Finger puppet theatre



You will need:

- Tetra Brik carton (the rectangular ones you get Ribena in)
- Black paper or non water based black paint to cover
- Red paper or fabric
- Kebab skewer or pencil
- Scissors
- Glue, sticky tape and blu-tac

1

Cut a rectangle hole, big enough to fit your hand in along the long edge of the carton and give it a good wash, taking care not to get the newly cut edges of the carton wet.



2

Cut a rectangle out of the front for the stage and paint or cover the carton in black paper.



3

Fold the paper or fabric like a fan and thread it onto the kebab skewer or pencil curtain rail.



4

To attach your mini-theatre curtains, use blu-tac, glue or sticky tape to fix both ends of the kebab skewer or pencil above the hole cut for the stage.

