

This activity contributes to the following badges:



Beaver Global Issues Activity Badge



Beaver Teamwork Challenge Award



Cub Environmental Conservation Activity Badge



Cub Teamwork Challenge Award



Scout Environmental Conservation Activity Badge



Scout Teamwork Challenge Award

Beavers | Cubs | Scouts

Try junk modelling

Earth Day, 22 April Your section will learn all about the importance of recycling and that they can work wonders with a load of rubbish

Time 60–90 minutes

Equipment

- recyclable refuse items, eg cardboard tubes, egg boxes, cartons, plastic bottles and food trays etc
- scissors
- tape
- glue
- paint
- pens

Instructions

1 Encourage your section to gather recyclable items over a number of weeks. Advise them that this should be done safely and sensibly and that they should not collect glass, items with sharp edges or anything that could injure them if broken. Ask them to clean anything that is sticky or dirty beforehand.

2 Pile all of the gathered items into the centre of the room. Talk to them about the importance of recycling, both on a local and global level, and ask them to imagine what their community would be like if these items couldn't be recycled.

3 Divide your section into teams and challenge them



to create an innovative junk model with the refuse in front of them – it can be of anything they like, from wild animals or imagined monsters to robots, computers and super-villains' lairs! They could even focus on endangered species to tie in with Earth Day's theme this year.

4 Supervise their constructions, ensuring responsible use of scissors and glue, and then encourage them to finish the model with coloured paints or pens. When all the models are finished, why not arrange them for display and invite parents, carers and local residents to view them and perhaps even vote for their

favourite? You could charge a small fee for entry to your gallery to raise money for a charity or community project.

5 When the models are no longer needed, get the section to break them down and separate them into recyclable and non-recyclable items, and make sure they are recycled.

Take it further

Encourage your section to share what they've learned about recycling with the wider community, perhaps by starting a poster campaign, or to launch a new recycling project of their own that would benefit the local area.