




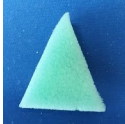

Make a Sea Turtle Marionette out of Trash

One way to save our oceans from plastic waste is to recycle plastic packaging and containers. They can be made into products like fleece jackets, reusable shopping bags, or playground benches.

Or you can reuse these items, along with trash that cannot be recycled, for fun craft projects like this sea turtle marionette.

From: <https://makezine.com/2007/06/10/make-a-trash-puppet-sea-t/>

What you will need:

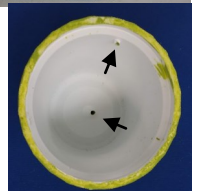
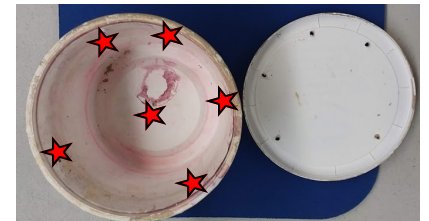
- 1 clean small yogurt or juice container (6 ounce size) for the head
- 1 clean yogurt or food container, with lid (16 ounce size) for the body
- 2 soda can pull tabs 
- 4 plastic spoons
- 5 twist ties (like those used to close a bread bag)
- 4 corks from wine bottles 
- A 1 inch square piece of foam cut into a triangle
- A plastic bottle carrier (or popsicle sticks glued together in a cross shape)
- 4 eye hooks 
- Thin string or fishing line
- Acrylic paint or permanent markers (in two to four colors, dark and light)
- Hot glue
- A drill
- Wire cutters or strong scissors
- Googly eyes



Prepping the materials:

You may want to ask an adult to help you prepare some of these materials so you can color and assemble them.

1. Drill five small holes in the body container along the rim and one in the bottom center of the container as marked with red stars.
2. Drill five small holes in the lid to match the holes on the rim. These will line up when the turtle is assembled so be sure they match.
3. Drill two holes in the head container as shown with black arrows, one on the rim and one in the bottom center.
4. With the wire cutter or strong scissors, probe a ½ inch deep hole into one end of each of the corks.
5. Cut the ends off of the plastic spoon handles so that they can fit into the holes in the corks. Glue the spoons into the corks with hot glue to make the legs.



6. Screw the eye hooks into the other end of each of the corks until just the ring is showing.
7. Paint or color the outside of the body (including the outside of the lid), head containers, and legs with the base tone of acrylic paint or permanent marker and allow to dry. Paint the darker color pattern over this to look like the scaly pattern of a turtle.
8. Cut the string into six 12 inch long pieces.

Assembling the marionette:

1. Securely tie the end of one of the strings to the middle of a pull tab. Pull the loose end of this string through the bottom of the body container from the inside until the pull tab is pulled tight against the bottom of the container.
2. Tie the other end of the string to the middle of the bottle holder so it does not slip out while you are assembling the turtle.
3. Take the body container lid and put a twist tie through each hole until they are midway through. Line up the holes on the lid to their matching holes on the body container. Slide one side of the twist tie through the body, the other through the lid. When all are lined up, close the container and twist each twist tie once to hold them in place, leaving ends to attach the legs and head to the body.
4. Choose the hole where you will attach the head. Line up both the head and body containers with their tops down. Put one end of the twist tie through the hole on the rim of the head container and bring the other end around inside the head container to hold them together.
5. Attach the four legs by wrapping the twist ties through the eye hooks.
6. Tie one end of a string around each spoon base where it is attached to a cork.
7. Tie the other end of the leg strings evenly around the sides of the bottle holder to be able to move the legs. Tie them loosely at first to determine the best length for the strings to have the most control. Shorten or lengthen the strings to the desired length, then tie them securely and cut off any extra string.
8. Take the last string and tie one end securely to the middle of the last pull tab. Send the other end of the string through the hole in the head container and pull till the pull tab is tight against the bottom of the container (top of the head.) Tie the other end of the string to the front of the bottle holder to control the movements of the head.
9. Use the glue gun to glue googly eyes onto the front of the head and the foam triangle onto the back of the body to make a tail.
10. Make your turtle swim smoothly through the air like sea turtles swim smoothly through the sea.

