

Recyclable Art



Learning Value:

As children use recyclable materials to create a collage, they experiment with color and shape. They build fine motor skills and they consider art materials in abstract ways, which requires creativity and symbolic thinking.

Materials Needed:

- ▶ Recycled materials, such as bottle caps and lids, buttons, corks, newspaper, ribbon, yarn, or fabric
- ▶ Cardboard or stiff cardstock
- ▶ Heavy-duty liquid glue

Participants:

This activity is intended for adult/child interaction.

Directions:

- ▶ **Step 1:** With your child, gather recyclable materials from around your home. Cut large pieces of paper, ribbon, or fabric into smaller pieces.
- ▶ **Step 2:** Show your child how to glue the materials on the cardboard or cardstock using small drops of glue that will dry quickly.
- ▶ **Step 3:** Encourage your child to create some art. They might create a representational piece of art such as a flower or a self-portrait or simply make a design. Either is fine! Have fun exploring shapes and color. Think creatively about what you can use for a representational piece of art, such as bottle caps for the wheels on a car or ribbon for hair. Offer crayons or colored pencils to add other details.