

Plastic pollution

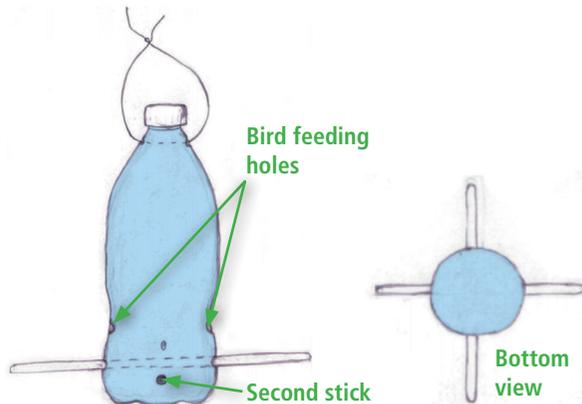
Over the last 50 years, plastic products have become almost irreplaceable in our lives and are used in huge quantities across the world. **In the UK alone, 15 million plastic bottles are used every day.**

As plastic is very cheap and versatile around 50% of the plastic items we produce are single use products and subsequently get thrown away almost immediately. **Plastic often ends up in the oceans where it harms marine life and their habitats with 663 species around the world harmed by plastic every year.** No ocean on Earth is unaffected by plastic pollution.

Here are 10 creative ideas for reusing your plastic bottle - they are fun and could also save you money!

1 Bird Feeder

- Wash the bottle and remove the label
- Using scissors, create 2 small holes opposite each other towards the base of the bottle. Pass a pencil through the bottle using the holes created to act as a perch. You may wish to create another perch in the same way
- To make feeding holes, using scissors create $\frac{3}{4}$ cm wide holes, about 4 cm above each perch (if the holes are too big, the bird food will fall out)
- Remove the lid, fill the bottle with sunflower or mixed seeds and replace the lid
- Create two small holes either side of the bottleneck. Pass a piece of string through the holes and tie a knot. Use this loop to tie the bird feeder to a tree branch



2 Garden Sprinkler

- Using a drawing pin, pierce a number of small holes at random in a 2 liter plastic bottle
- Feed 10 cm of hose into the bottle and using duct tape attach the hose to the bottleneck



3 Piggy Bank

- Using scissors cut a slit in the side of a small plastic bottle
- Decorate the bottle to look like a pig, using the lid as a snout



4 Plant Pot

- Cut a plastic bottle in half (choose the size of bottle based on the size of the plant)
- Get creative and paint your plant pot
- Fill lower half of the bottle with soil and add your seedlings



5 Desk Organiser

- Using scissors cut a 2L milk carton into the shape of a desk organiser for books and folders



6 Watering Can

- Using a drawing pin, pierce a number of holes in the lid of a plastic bottle
- Replace the lid on the bottle
- Fill with water and get watering!



7 Broom

- Remove label from a 2L plastic bottle
- Using scissors, remove the base of the bottle
- Around the base of the bottle, using a pen make a mark every 1cm and then using scissors cut along these marks, up to half way up the bottle
- Using scissors, remove the base and neck of another bottle and repeat step 3
- Place the bottles without a neck over the bottle with a neck
- Drill 2 holes through the bottles, and pass a piece of wire through the holes, to hold the bottles together
- Thread a broom handle through the bottle necks and secure in place with a hammer and nail



8 Penholder

- Using scissors remove the top of the bottle, depending on the depth of pot want
- Get creative and decorate your pen pot!



9 Coin Purse

- Using scissors cut the base of two same size plastic bottles
- Using a glue gun, attach a zip to fasten the two sides together



10 Decorations

- Using the base or top of your bottle, there are a number of decorations that can be made!
- Use environmentally friendly paint to decorate them



Global Ocean Presents...

Creatively Reusing Your Plastic Bottle



WHO ARE WE?

Global Ocean is a marine conservation charity based in 2006. We aim to raise awareness about the importance of healthy oceans for sustaining life. In doing so we seek to positively engage with the public and encourage stewardship of our blue planet. Our campaigns across the UK, India, UAE and USA focus on the problem of plastic pollution in the marine environment and shark and cetacean conservation.

To do this:

We develop and deliver free educational workshops and resources for schools and the public around the world, to inspire the next generation of leaders to take action to protect our oceans.

Our educational workshops are welcomed in the classroom as well as in museums, galleries and at festivals. Previous workshops have been located within the National Geographic Store, the Design Museum London and at the Mayor's Thames Festival.

In order to promote our message we organise public events such as beach clean-ups and marches on Westminster.

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