

Bug House Craft for Children or the Whole Family

This is a great spring activity as bugs emerge from hibernation. Since they have to live somewhere, why not make them their own house to live in? These are great for children who are interested in studying bugs and they can collect around the house or yard.



What you will need:

Paper mache or cereal boxes

low temp. hot melt glue gun

acrylic paint

natural items that bugs would like

Items around the house and garden could include: a quart size milk jug cut in half, pinecones, reeds or rolled up toilet paper rolls, curled up bark, dried apple slices, dried moss, pine needles, Sycamore tree ball (or any tree fruit found on the ground), dried berries, and acorn caps.

How to make:

1. Collect the materials you think bugs might like to live in. Bugs like to hide in holes so find things that have lots of holes or can be arranged so that they create cozy spaces.

2. If you would like to make a roof for your house, cut the lid of the box in half and glue it together to make the roof of the house. You don't have to make a roof. You can glue several boxes together to make a condo or apartment building.



3. If you live in a wet area, you may want to paint the box and then cover it with a clear acrylic paint so that it won't fall apart when it rains. Or you can place it in a dry place where it won't get wet.

4. Arrange the materials you have collected in the box. Group similar objects and shapes. Use low temp. glue to secure the objects in place. For a more pleasing arrangement try not to place everything in the same direction, vary the sizes and shapes of your objects, and group similar objects together. Use different colors of objects if you have them.

5. Now is a great time to make the house as bugs emerge from hibernation. Allow your house to sit out until end of summer, carefully take it apart and see how many different inhabitants there are.