

Kids Explore!

Make Flower Bracelets and Bouquets

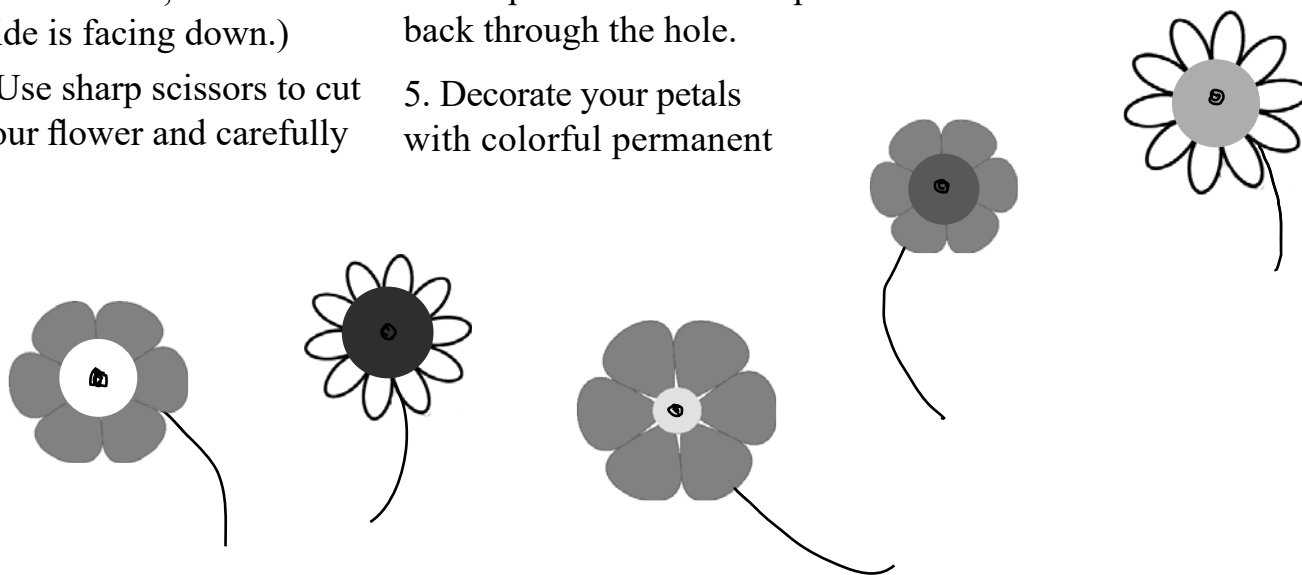
Use treasures from your recycling to make never-wilt flower decorations.

Materials

- ◆ Colorful plastic lids from containers like yogurt and salsa tubs or scrap cardboard from a cereal-type box
- ◆ Small plastic tops (from milk jugs or beverage bottles)
- ◆ Pipe cleaners or twisty ties (ideally green!)
- ◆ Sharp scissors
- ◆ Permanent markers (for plastic lids) or regular markers or crayons for cardboard

Adult help may be needed on steps marked by this symbol: ❖

1. Draw a flower petal pattern on one of your plastic container lids or scrap cardboard. (If your lids or cardboard have print on one side, make sure that side is facing down.)
- ❖ 2. Use sharp scissors to cut out your flower and carefully poke a hole in its center. Also poke a hole in one of your colorful small plastic tops.
3. Fold a pipe cleaner in half. Stick the folded end through the flower petal shape first, then through the small top. Now roll up and turn the folded end of the pipe cleaner just a bit so that it won't slip back through the holes. This is your flower stem!
4. If you use a twisty tie for your stem, you don't need to fold it in half if it's short, but do roll up the end of your tie after you poke it through your flower parts so it won't slip back through the hole.
5. Decorate your petals with colorful permanent markers (for plastic) or regular markers/crayons for cardboard.
6. If you want to make a bracelet and you have used a pipe cleaner for your stem, wrap the two ends of the flower stem around your wrist and twist them together.
7. If you want to make a bouquet, twist the two ends of your stem together (as needed) and stick your creation in a vase or give it to a friend! (Note to kids — remember this idea for Mother's Day!)
8. Make more flowers!



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