

Bee Hotel Craft Activity

Making a bee hotel from a drinks bottle is a fun, hands-on activity that supports learning in a simple and engaging way. It helps children begin to understand the natural world by introducing bees and the idea of pollination while also encouraging care for living things and the environment through reusing materials. As children cut, roll, and fill the bottle, they develop fine motor skills and early problem-solving, as well as simple maths ideas like size, shape, and fitting objects together. Decorating the hotel allows for creativity and self-expression, and watching for bees later builds curiosity, attention, and early observation skills. Overall, it supports key EYFS areas such as Understanding the World, Expressive Arts and Design, and Physical Development in a playful, meaningful way.

You will need:

Empty Plastic Drinks Bottle
Coloured Construction Card/Paper
Acrylic Paint/Paint Brushes
Scissors
Tape or Glue
String or Wire
Sticks or Leaves (optional)



Instructions:

Step 1: Wash and dry the bottle thoroughly and cut off the top where the neck is. Make two holes in the bottle, thread with string and tie securely.



Step 2: With the acrylic paint decorate the outside of the bottle however you like. Leave to dry. (I cheated and used stickers!)



Step 3: Cut strips of construction paper the length of the bottle and roughly the width of a pencil. Roll the strips tightly and glue or tape them to hold together.



Step 4: Pack the tubes tightly into bottle. You could also add some leaves or twigs too.



Hang your Bee Hotel in a sunny dry spot, like a fence or tree. Make sure it is about 2 metres above the ground. Once the bees start to use it do not move it. If you want to use again the following year replace the tubes for new bees.

