

Super Saturday is the second Saturday of every month at the Illinois State Museum's Discovery Room! For more information, please call 782-6044, or visit us online at [www.museum.state.il.us](http://www.museum.state.il.us)!



**Come back & visit!**

Our next Super Saturday, "Beetlemania," will be on May 9th!

...and remember,  
Earth Day is  
Wednesday, April 22nd!



Super Saturdays at the  
Illinois State Museum



## Craft & Activity Booklet

even more ways you can  
make every day an Earth Day!

# Crafty Fridge Magnets

Inspired by the article on  
[http://www.evilmadscientist.com/  
article.php/fridgemagnets](http://www.evilmadscientist.com/article.php/fridgemagnets)



Sometimes, we buy a little box of candy because its packaging is bright and colorful, but what about after you eat it? Instead of throwing away or recycling those cute little boxes, you can make them into a wonderful set of refrigerator magnets!

## What You'll Need

- Packages that are small, recognizable, and come in multiples are a great choice (Altoid tins, raisin boxes, etc.)
- Medium-strong magnets
- Hot glue (the best because you'll be gluing the magnet inside the package)

If you've chosen to use a mint tin, you can simply place a magnet in the box, shut the lid, and stick it to the fridge.

Otherwise, if you're using a cardboard box, the trickiest part will be opening it without making it look like it's been opened.

**"Check out" more Earth Day activities at the library & online!**

**Laurie Carlson**, "EcoArt!: Earth-friendly Art and Craft Experiences for 3- to 9-year-olds" (Williamson Publishing Company, 1992)

**Marion Elliot**, "Fun with Recycling: 50 Great Things for Kids to Make from Junk" (Southwater Publishing, 2001).

**MaryAnne F. Kohl**, "Good Earth Art: Environmental Art for Kids" (Bright Ring Publishing, 1991)

**Laura C. Martin**, "Recycled Crafts Box" (Storey Publishing, Inc., 2004).

### **Earth Day Crafts**

<http://www.allcrafts.net/earthday.htm>

### **Kaboose Kids' Crafts for Earth Day**

[http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/earth-day/  
earth\\_day\\_crafts.html](http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/earth-day/earth_day_crafts.html)

### **Earth Day Crafts & Projects**

[www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/earthday/](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/earthday/)



...it IS  
easy  
being  
green!

# Don't Be a Litter Bug, Make One!

(Craft found on [www.freekidscrafts.com/litter\\_bug-e318.html](http://www.freekidscrafts.com/litter_bug-e318.html))



There's no wrong way to make a litter bug! Each one will be unique and a good reminder that someone's trash really can be someone's treasure (or at least, materials for a great craft!)

## What You'll Need

- Newspaper, String, Straws, Bottle Tops, Caps, anything!
- Tacky glue or low-temp Hot Glue gun

## How You'll Make It

1. Crumple up a piece of newspaper. Wrap another piece around it and tie a piece of string around it to hold the newspaper in a ball.
2. Using glue, add straws, bottle tops, and caps to make it look like a little bug.



## How You'll Make Your Magnets

1. Find a flap on your box that's held down with glue. Using a sharp knife (have an adult help!), cut through the glue that holds one of the flaps down.
2. Remove the contents (if you haven't eaten them already!).
3. Drizzle in a little glue (this is why a hot glue gun is best), and drop the magnet in on top of the bead of hot glue.
4. Place the box on the top of the refrigerator (the magnet will be pulled down, flat against the side of the box and is then held in place when the glue cools.
5. You can also add some dry beans to substitute for many candies. It will sound like there's still candy inside your magnet!



# CD PICTURE FRAME

Don't add to the landfill!  
Rescue your old CD case  
by making a cute picture  
frame magnet!



## What You'll Need

- CD Case
- Hot glue
- Magnet Strips or Dots
- Scissors
- Construction Paper
- Puffy Paint, Markers, Paint Pens, etc.

## How You'll Make It

1. In your CD case, pop open the middle piece where the CD sits and take out the back paper jacket and replace the middle piece.
2. Trace the outline of the CD flap on your picture so your picture will fit (you can tape your picture onto a piece of construction paper if it's too small)
3. Slide the picture in and close the case.
4. Hot glue the magnets onto the back side of the case and let cool.
5. Decorate the front of the case as desired.

## How You'll Make It

1. Measure the width of the milk cartons. Measure the same distance up from the bottom and draw a line around the carton. Cut both cartons apart along the line. Save the bottoms and recycle the tops.
2. Push the bottom of one carton into the other, to form a square cube. Tape them together around the cut edges with masking tape.
3. Dip the squares of newspaper in the liquid starch and cover the cube with a thin layer of paper mache. Smooth it all down and let completely dry (overnight's best).
4. Spray paint the cube, or paint it a solid color and let dry.
5. Trim your pictures into 3.25" squares (you can use pattern-edged or plain scissors).
6. Using Mod Podge, glue each image to the side of the cube. Press images onto the block with a soft, damp rag. Apply another coat of Mod Podge and let dry (it will dry clear).
7. If you want to make your cube look old, you can rub artist oil paint onto the surface of each side (it comes in difference colors). You'll want to rub the extra paint away with a washcloth.

# Got milk? Make a picture cube!



These blocks have images of Victorian paintings, but you can collage any of your favorite pictures and make cubes just like these! This is one of the most creative recycled crafts you can make, and we show you how!

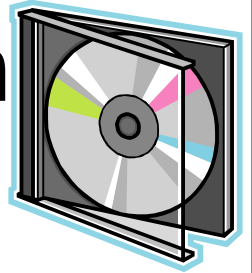
## What You'll Need

- Six images
- Half gallon cardboard milk cartons (2 per block)
- Newspaper, ripped in 1" squares
- Liquid starch (Stay-Flo, found at craft stores)
- Mod Podge, or similar decoupage glue
- Paint
- Magnet Strips or Dots
- Scissors
- Construction Paper
- Puffy Paint, Markers, Paint Pens, etc.

(for illustrated step-by-step directions, visit:

[http://www.vintageimagecraft.com/antique\\_blocks.html](http://www.vintageimagecraft.com/antique_blocks.html))

# 5 more crafts you can make with a CD case!



## 5. "Stained Glass" Ornament

Paint a pretty stained glass design inside the top of the case. Suspend with fishing line and a window suction cup!

## 4. Card Collector's Frame

Keep your favorite card nice and safe by placing it in a CD case. Hang the case on the wall or lean it against a book on your shelves.

## 3. Make Your Own Coasters

Get creative! Draw your own designs or glue your favorite pictures onto a piece of paper to insert into a CD jacket. You could even design your own rock album cover that keeps tables safe!

## 2. Make a Poem Magnet

Write your favorite poem or quote ("Whatever you are, be a good one," Abraham Lincoln) on a piece of paper, cut it to fit inside the CD jacket, and decorate the outside with baubles and paints! Attach a magnet, and you'll have an inspiring note to keep on your fridge!

## 1. My, What a Collage You Have!

With just a little batting (soft squishy fabric), you can display your favorite stamps, miniature shells, coins, bugs, butterflies, dried flowers—so many things! Just make sure they all fit *inside* the CD case when it's closed!

# ***Tubular Toothbrush Bracelets***

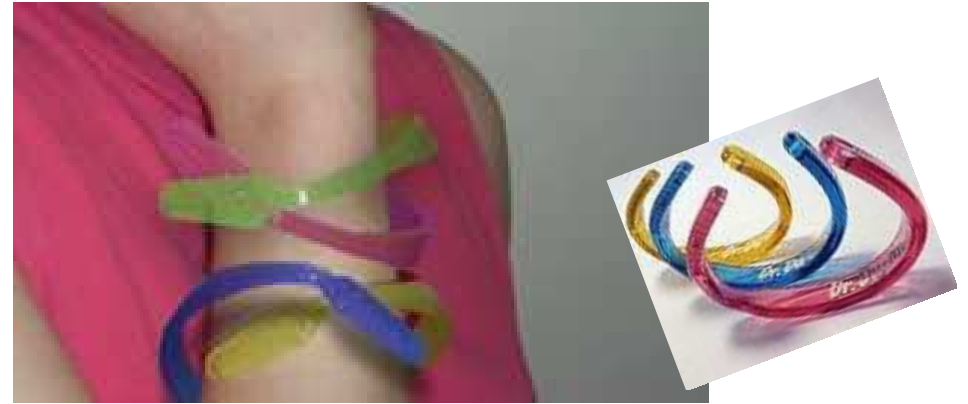
**Dentists say a toothbrush should be replaced several times a year. But don't throw away your old one just yet! Turn it into a unique piece of jewelry! They're fun to make (it uses recycled objects!), and you'll start a "green" trend!!**



Because this activity calls for boiling water and pliers, you'll want to have an adult help! You can make them a bracelet too!

## **What You'll Need**

- Inexpensive, translucent toothbrushes (the generic store brands work best)
- A pot of boiling water
- Pliers
- Tongs
- Cup or Glass



## **How You'll Make Your Bracelet**

1. Bring water to a boil, and place toothbrushes in the boiling water for two minutes.
2. Remove with tongs, and pull bristles out with pliers, holding the toothbrush with an oven mitt. If bristles do not pull out easily, put them back in the boiling water.
3. After bristles have been removed, place toothbrush back in the boiling water for a final two minutes. Remove with tongs.
4. Begin bending toothbrush while holding it with oven mitts (again, pliers work well for this step). Place the toothbrush back in the boiling water as needed to re-soften the plastic. You may want to bend it around a cup or glass.
5. Let cool completely, and don't forget to turn off the stove when you're finished!