



2008

Earth-Friendly Crafts: Clever Ways to Reuse Everyday Items

Marsha D. Broadway

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Ross, Kathy. *Earth-Friendly Crafts: Clever Ways to Reuse Everyday Items*. Illustrated by Celine Malepart. Millbrook, 2009. ISBN 9780822590996. \$26.60. 48 p.

Reviewer: Marsha D. Broadway

Reading Level: Primary, Intermediate

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Informational books;

Subject: Handicrafts--Juvenile literature; Recycling (wastes,etc.)--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

Simple, step-by-step instructions for twenty-one craft projects provide materials lists and color photographs of the completed projects. Each craft uses recycled components. From a tiny toy bookmark to a Slinky CD holder, kids not only will be able to make cool craft projects, but also will learn to reuse resources to create something new.

With more than fifty kid-friendly craft books to her credit, Ross has created another easy-to-use, creativity-packed book that will delight young crafters. With its focus on repurposing instead of discarding, *Earth-Friendly Crafts* is a better choice for learning about recycling than her *Every Day Is Earth Day* (Millbrook, 1995). End materials include both text and online resources, "Tips for Kids," and a few statistics about recycling. A brief note from the author encourages children to creatively reuse items instead of throwing them away. The mixed medium illustrations combine color photography, black and white line drawings, colored pencil, and more to add visual excitement and details to the instructions. In home and classroom settings, this book could encourage environmental awareness and resourcefulness.

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