



DID YOU KNOW?

About 49 million tons of cardboard—the most recycled packaging material in the US—was recovered for recycling in 2022.

Craft animals from recycled cardboard

What you need

- Pieces of corrugated cardboard, such as from delivery boxes (check your recycling bin)
- Pencil and marker
- Scissors
- Craft paint
- Paintbrush
- Toilet paper tube
- White glue or hot glue (optional)
- Pipe cleaners

Instructions

1. Decide which animal you want to make, then draw the orangutan, polar bear, or tiger body on cardboard with a pencil. For the orangutan, be sure to include the arms. Use the photo above as a guide. Cut out your shape with scissors.
2. Using a separate piece of cardboard, draw the animal's legs with a pencil and cut those out. For the tiger and polar bear, draw two pairs of legs: one for the front and one for the back.
3. Using scissors, cut two slits at the bottom of the animal's body where you want the legs to go. Cut a slit at the top of each of your animal's legs in the middle. At the end, you'll use these slits to fit your animal's body and legs together.
4. Paint your animal. You can follow the designs and colors in the photo above or create your own look. Let dry. Use a marker to draw on eyes, a nose, and a mouth.
5. To turn your orangutan into a pencil holder, add a toilet paper tube to the back. Trace one end of the tube onto cardboard and cut out the circle. Glue the tube to the back of the orangutan with the cardboard end of the tube at the bottom. Let dry.
6. Assemble the body and legs of your animal by fitting them with the slits you made.
7. Use a pipe cleaner to make a tail. Cut it to the size you want and glue it to the back of your animal, curling it if desired.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

BE AN INGREDIENT DETECTIVE

It can be worthwhile to look at the labels on food packages. This is because some foods are made with ingredients that can be harmful to the environment. Palm oil, for example, found in about half of packaged foods, is a cause of deforestation in Asia. (Deforestation is when trees are cut down and new ones aren't planted to replace them.) Although some palm oil is grown in a way that doesn't harm the environment, some people think it is better to avoid the ingredient if possible. Something else to look for is how far away a product was made. If the product had to be transported on a plane to get to your area, gases were released into the environment.



Read food labels at the grocery store.