

This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. We are going to enjoy creating something beautiful from something that normally would not be considered an art object. It will take some time and some fresh ideas, but some things can be transformed, with attention and patience. It will be a great chance to try out different colors, different textures, or new patterns. So, before you start, look around the house for those items that you can use in a new way to create something all your own style. Art from the heart can never be copied, only shared.



1-Look around the house for a container that is clear plastic. Peanut butter, mayonnaise, or a ball canisters are just a few. Then see what you can find to use to cover it up like old greeting cards, coloring book pages, newspapers, magazines, gift bags, or even another art picture hanging on the refrigerator. Take off any outside plastic, wash out, and be very careful of any sharp edges. This is where you may need to ask for help.

2- Cut up strips of paper, tissue, newspaper and lay out on the table. Mix up liquid glue and an equal amount of water. There are many additives to make your glue a special color. I found some orange jello and some red drink mix. You may not finish this project all at one time. So, you could mix the glue and water in a bowl that has a cover. Dunk the strips of paper in the glue solution and cover the container, start by covering the top edges. Smooth the paper down with a paintbrush, sponge, or even a dishrag, dipped in the glue solution. Leave this to dry, while you search for a design to add over this layer. Use yarn, popcorn, string, bits of colored paper, tinfoil, or even words from cereal boxes, or old cards. Glue these over the paper after the first layer has dried.

3- You may have to add small pebbles inside to weigh it down. Add in any treasures you find outdoors or in the house, for a beautiful vase or a container for organizing special items. Collect sticks with colored leaves for the perfect fall decoration.

Be well and happy, recycled beauty!

Ms. Susan