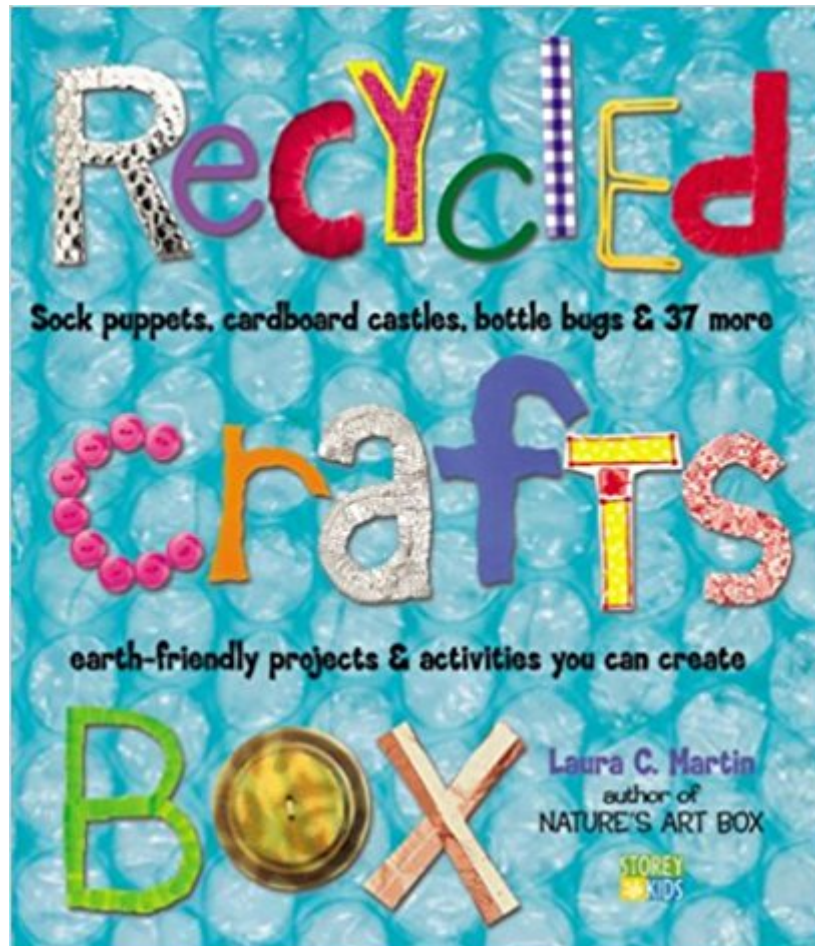




The book was found

# Recycled Crafts Box



## Synopsis

Corrugated Castle. Fancy Foil Fish Mobile. Paper Bead Bangles. Braided Rag Coasters. Old Shoe Flower Pots. Puppy Dog Sock Puppet. With a little imagination, just about anything we think of as trash can be transformed into an art project good enough to give as a gift or to keep and treasure yourself. Master crafter Laura C. Martin shows kids how to make art out of the paper, plastic, metal, and cloth we usually consign to the recycling bin or the garbage can. The way Martin sees it, just about everything around us holds artistic possibilities. Plastic picnic plates can be cut up to make a bouquet of flowers that will never wilt (and don't need watering). Roll leftover gift wrap into tight tubes and cut it into small sections to make one-of-a-kind beads. Decorate the sides of old paint cans with acrylic paint and tie sturdy rope to the handles to make a pair of stilts. Along the way, Martin offers sidebars on the history of rubbish and profiles of artists whose medium is junk. She passes along important lessons about being a good steward of the Earth. But the lessons are light and fun--never preachy. Fun for kids, perfect for involved and homeschooling parents, and ideal for schoolteachers who have seen their art supply budgets slashed, *Recycled Crafts Box* shows budding artists how to make something beautiful and save the planet at the same time.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 1-6 — From its cover with raised letters that look as though they are made of various recycled materials to the helpful back matter (including a list of books and Web sites on recycling), this title is attractive and informative. Divided into sections dealing with paper, plastic, metal, and

fabric, the book tells how these materials are made, traces their history, and explains how they can be recycled, emphasizing benefits to the environment. Tips on how youngsters can make a difference appear throughout, and interviews with artists who work with recyclables are included as sidebars. Scattered circles contain information about the inability of various substances to break down. Several art projects are provided for each type of material. These activities produce items that children will enjoy making and using, such as jewelry crafted from paper beads, dolls created from plastic yogurt cups, stilts fashioned out of empty paint cans, and planters made from old shoes. The finished items are shown in full-page color photos. The procedural steps are clearly written, well numbered, and illustrated with clear pencil drawings. Great for Earth Day or any day, this colorful, inviting, and well-organized book is a wonderful choice for instilling environmental awareness or encouraging creativity. Bobbe Needham's *Ecology Crafts for Kids* (Sterling, 1998) is another excellent title.

—œLynda Ritterman, Atco Elementary School, Waterford, NJ Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Gr. 3-7. Much more than just a craft book, this title includes a brief history of trash--illustrated in a colorful "trash timeline"--that shows how the invention of disposable products and packaging has created increasing waste. Another diagram shows the "anatomy of a landfill." Organized into sections based on common recyclable materials (paper, plastic, metal, fabric), the easy-to-follow, mostly appealing projects include a "Fancy Foil Fish" aluminum mobile, paper jewelry, and milk-carton castles. Each section has useful information about the material being used, such as a chart that deciphers the codes used in various plastic products. Throughout, Martin makes suggestions for "living lightly" on Earth, although in many cases (purchasing choices, for example), kids will have to pass on the tips to their parents. Illustrated with cheerful cartoon drawings and color photos of the finished projects, and bolstered by many resource lists, this is a surprisingly attractive, substantive offering that is just the thing for teachers planning Earth Day activities. Gillian Engberg

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I got this to inspire my 3-year-old daughter and me. Doing the crafts requires reading and adult-level skills (e.g., poking holes in metal), but the photos are good enough to excite her to do something and see what supplies we need to collect. At 3.5 years, she's just now starting to ask about the sections regarding the various materials, landfills, and recycling.

Over priced for the limited resources offered in the book. I have been doing research

for environmental and science activities. I've found many others with more ideas and less costly

There are some very creative projects in this book. While 75% of them won't work for us, the 25% that will work are definitely worth the price of the book. Not sure how the author is able to come up with such great projects, but they really are neat. Easy to do with things you find around the house or yard. A winner for us!

Product arrived in time promised and quality was excellent. This book was easy to use for children and had a lot of things to entertain my kids with stuff I have around the house.

just what I've been looking for

Was quite disappointed in the limited craft options.

My son loves books like this because truly we generally have everything around the house. No special supplies or such.

I work a lot with my grand children in creating crafts. I found that this book very informative. Thank you.

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Using Economical, Easy-to-Find Supplies! (Big Books) Crafts N Things, By Editors of Crafts 'N Things August, 1999, Volume 24, No. 9) (Single Issue Magazine) -Best-Sellers for your Craft Fair or Boutique; 11 Angels You Can Make Heaven Scent Patty (How To Make Your Own Potpourri) DIY Crafts (2nd Edition): The 100 Most Popular Crafts & Projects That Make Your Life Easier, Keep You Entertained, And Help With Cleaning & Organizing! Upcycling Crafts: A Compilation of 197 Upcycling Crafts for Beginners - Includes All of Kitty Moore's Best Selling Upcycling Books! Treasury of Tips & Tricks (Leisure Arts #15947): Paper Crafts? magazine & Stamp It! (Paper Crafts & Stamp It) The Big Book of Holiday Paper Crafts (Leisure Arts #5558): The Big Book of Holiday Paper Crafts SC WOODWORKING: ONE DAY WOODWORKING MASTERY: The Complete Beginner's Guide to Learning Woodworking in Under 1 Day! (Crafts Hobbies) ((Arts & Crafts Home Wood Projects)) Easy Crafts for Halloween and Fall - Crafts for Kids and Adults The Crafts and Culture of a Medieval Manor (Crafts and Culture of the Middle Ages)

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