

# BUMBLE BEE IN A TREE! A RECYCLING CRAFT PROJECT

**Kids! Ask a parent to help you follow the instructions below to make a birdhouse out of a coffee can!**



## You Will Need:

- Coffee can with lid
- Craft paint (try acrylic or model-car paint since this will be hanging outside!)
- Black pipe cleaner
- White fun foam
- Large goggle eyes
- Drill or a fat nail and hammer
- Strong twig or small wooden dowel
- Piece of twine or rope
- Paper hole punch
- Scissors
- Paintbrush

## Craft Project Instructions:

- Cut a hole near the middle of the coffee can lid, large enough for the type of birds that you would like to attract to the bird house. Just below this hole, punch a small round hole with a paper punch.
- Paint the front of the lid black.
- Remove the paper wrapper from the can. If a glue line remains where the wrapper was seamed together, use this area as the belly, or bottom part, of the bee.
- Painting the can should be easy as it has ready made lines. Start with the bottom of the can and first ripple line from the bottom and paint it black. Then paint every other line black. Paint the remaining areas yellow when the black lines are dry.
  - Painting tips: If you mix a little bit of glue with the craft paint it will improve the adhesion to the can. If using craft paint, you will likely need two coats of black paint and three coats of yellow. An alternative to craft paint is glossy model-car paints which will stick to the metal can very well and provide a nice shiny finish.

- When the paint is dry, place the black lid back onto the can, making sure that the lid is lined up so the mouth opening lines up with the belly of the can (where the coffee can label glue was left over). Spray or brush on an outdoor sealer.
- Glue on the large goggle eyes toward the top of the lid over the birdhouse opening. Glue a small dowel or twig into the hole that was punched.
- Take a pipe cleaner and fold it in half. Wrap each end of the pipe cleaner around a pencil to form curly ends on the antenna. Glue the pipe cleaner onto the can, positioning it over the eyes on the lid.
- For the wings, take a white square of fun foam, fold it in half and cut a tear-drop shaped cut in a square at the fold. Open up and glue to the top of the can right behind the antennae.
- Using a drill, or a fat nail and hammer, make two holes close together on the top of the wings and can. Pull twine or rope through the holes and knot off. Hang from a tree in your yard.

**Everyone will envy this birdhouse you have made by recycling a coffee can!**

**GO GREEN!  
Enjoy!**



**Coming  
January  
2009!**



**Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing • A CBS COMPANY**

Reproducible Activity: If you print this page, please use scrap paper when possible.