

Ecobricks

During the Easter holidays, why not join the Ecobrick challenge?

Why: When plastics are littered, burned or dumped, they poison the Earth, Air, and Water.



How: Save, separate and pack plastics into bottles, so we can make building blocks that can be used, and reused, repeatedly.

Making an EcoBrick

1. Choose a clean, dry bottle

We recommend starting with a simple-shaped bottle as it won't have any tricky areas (which if left un-stuffed leave weak air gaps). It must be clean and dry because any organic matter left in the bottle may decay, which could make the brick unstable and compromise the integrity of the build, likewise for your filler plastics.

2. Collect your filler materials

Any clean, dry, unrecyclable plastics can go in. Use soft plastics at the bottom as they will fill any uneven surfaces and prevent air gaps. It is wise to cut up harder plastics into smaller pieces so you won't be left with gaps (and they fit through the opening!). Please do not put metal, glass, paper or biodegradable/compostable plastics in your bottle, or any organic materials.

3. Grab a stick and start stuffing!

We recommend squashing the plastic down as you go with your stick (wooden spoon handle, broom handle, etc.) as it's much easier than doing so once the bottle is full. Mix hard and soft plastic as you go to avoid air gaps. Try squeezing your bottle; you shouldn't be able to if it's packed tight enough!

4. Weigh your bottle

As a rule of thumb, the minimum density should be about 0.3g/ml. Divide the ml of your bottle by 3 to find your target weight. If you haven't reached it, squash more plastic in! Then look for a building project in your area to donate it to.



Want to join in, but don't have a bottle to fill with plastic?

Ask Miss Bev for an empty bottle (or two) to fill with non-recyclable plastic

Our aim is to make enough Ecobricks to build a useful structure for us to enjoy!