

ACTIVITY

Make your own Sustainable Festive Wreath



What will you do?

In this activity you will make a festive wreath, using items you have at home, plus evergreen sprigs and berries from the great outdoors. This is one small way to make your Christmas more sustainable. By reusing items you have at home or repurposing something into a new gift, you can reduce the amount of waste going into landfill and help protect our environment.

Ensure you have permission from an adult and their supervision before starting.

What will you need?

Outside

You'll need to wrap up warm and take an adult outside, either to your garden or a safe outdoor space like a park. Gather some of the following items:

Green foliage

Leaves

Twigs with berries (don't eat the berries!)

Holly

Pinecones

From your house

Wire, Wool or String - whatever you have handy

Metal coat hanger (or cardboard)

Ribbon (optional)

Scissors

Dried oranges (optional)



How to do this activity

Step 1. Pull out the wire coat hanger to make a circle shape or cut a large circle shape out of cardboard.

Step 2. Gather your green foliage and some berries into small bundles and use wire to secure them. Be careful with scissors if you need to trim the foliage.

Step 3. To attach the individual bundles to the frame, place the first bundle over the frame at an angle and wrap the wire around three times or until secure.

Step 4. Take your second bundle and place it partly over the first bundle covering the wire, securing in the same way. Make sure to alternate each bundle's direction. For example, one should point towards the middle of the circle and then one facing away from the circle, alternating all the way round. Carry on until you can no longer see the wire frame.

Step 5. To finish off the wreath you can add a bow, some pinecones and even dried orange slices. It'll create a beautiful scent in your home.

Step 6. To make sure it survives the festive season spray a light mist of water to the back of your wreath every two to three days. The evergreens will drink the water and they'll last longer and keep their fragrance.

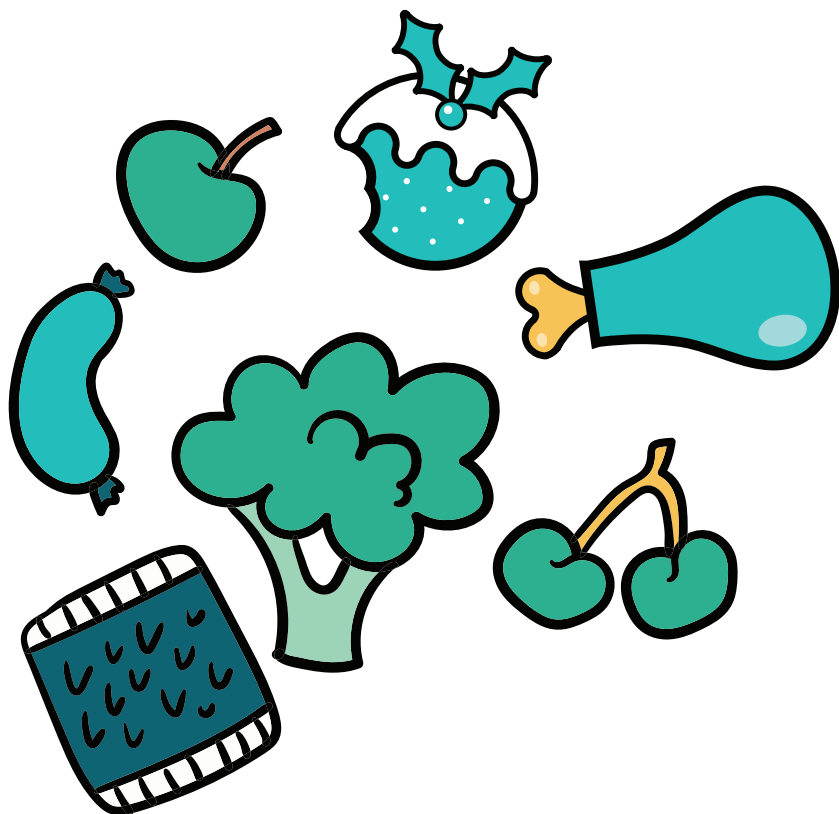
More to try

If you don't have a metal coat hanger you could use a couple of rings of cardboard stuck together. Wrap wool or string around it to add strength, before you attach your bundles of green foliage.

Fun facts

Here in Scotland we use on average 19,000 miles of Christmas wrapping paper every year. That means we could wrap it around the coast of mainland Scotland two and a half times!

As a country we throw away 50,000 tonnes of food and drink in December. If we cut that down by just 10%, the difference in the carbon output would be the equivalent of taking 2,600 cars off the roads for a year!



Share pictures of your festive wreaths with us on social media using #GSCAtHome