



TAKE AND MAKE:

Homeschool: Upcycled T-Shirt Bag

Ages 7 up

[tinyurl.com/PPLDHomeschoolPlaylist](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1xXSpsIW uc)
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April is Earth Month, and this project introduces the idea of upcycling. Upcycling occurs when you transform something that you no longer use into something useful. In this instance, we're upcycling our unused summer adventure T-shirts into very useful shopping bags that you can be used again and again! It's called upcycling because the value of the item is increased.

Supplies Included

Old summer adventure T-shirt

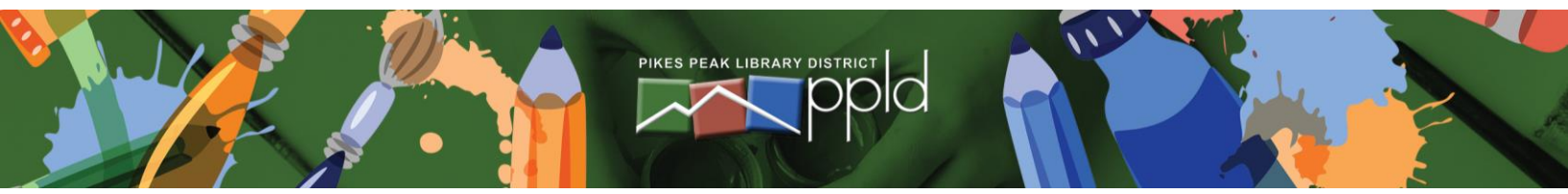
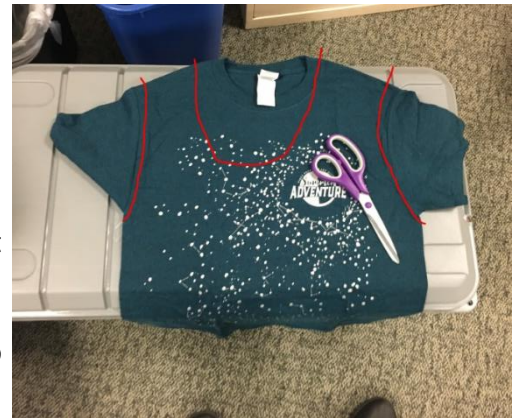
Supplies From Home

scissors

Note: Younger children may need help cutting and tying knots.

Directions:

1. Lay the T-shirt flat. Cut off the sleeves at the seam, and then cut out the collar. Cut a second semi-circle or rectangle below the cut-out collar (the shoulders of the T-shirt will become the handles, and this will make them deeper). See red lines in photo for where to cut.
2. Next, you will cut strips out of the bottom of the T-shirt. You might want to cut off the bottom hem of the T-shirt to make cutting the strips easier. Hold the back and front of the shirt together so you are cutting both sides at the same time to form an equal number of strips. Strips should be about one-half to one inch in width.





3. Now, tie the strips together (front side to back side) using an overhand knot. The overhand knot is the knot you tie first when you are tying shoelaces. Check out a video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SwdJ5op25SM>. You might want to double knot for a stronger bag. Tie overhand knots until all the strips are knotted and the bottom of the bag is closed. Ta da! You made a bag!



Optional: Use the handles as they are, or cut apart the shoulder seam and then tie the two ends together using the overhand knot. This is basically a decorative element as the sleeve holes can be used as handles without this step.

