life with little ones

ARTS & CRAFTS Watering Can

At the end of a long, hot day, with my children on the verge of major crankiness and complaining they were bored, I grabbed a milk jug out of the recycling bin, snatched a plastic funnel, cut a few strips of duct tape, and presto—a watering can! Sylvie, 6, and Lila, 4, spent time decorating each side of the container and stood together on chairs at the kitchen sink, pouring away with their new creation. —Beth Wickwire Remillard

- 1. Place the funnel in desired spout position, opposite the handle.
- 2. Trace around the funnel with a washable finepoint marker.
- Cut out a circle approximately ¹/₄ inch inside the circle outline, then wipe away the outline.
- 4. Compress the funnel slightly and pop its wide side into the container. Use Scotch tape to hold in desired place.
- 5. Help child cut strips of white duct tape and tape the funnel in permanent position, removing Scotch tape as you go.
- 6. Decorate.

MATERIALS

Recycled plastic milk jug with handle (1 gallon, ½ gallon, or pint), washed, dried, and labels removed Plastic funnel of appropriate size (4-inch, 3-inch, or 2-inch diameter for jug sizes above; available at craft or party supply stores or in grocery and department stores in the kitchen section) Washable fine-point marker Scissors, paper towels, Scotch tape, white duct tape Decorating items (googly eyes, stickers, Sharpie markers, glitter and glue, adhesive vinyl letters, and so on)