A Basket For Goodies!

→ BY GWEN HERSHA

Weave a basket to hold school supplies, just like kids in other countries do!

Supplies

- 16 oz. empty plastic water bottle
- 1 cereal box
- rubber band
- tape
- pencil
- ruler
- scissors



Prepare the water bottle

Cut away the top $\frac{1}{3}$ of the bottle, so that it measures about 4" from the base to the rim.

Prepare the cereal box

Unfold the flaps at the top and bottom of the cereal box so that the whole box lays flat. Now cut away the flaps and the sides (about 11" long, if using a medium-sized box). Using a ruler and pencil, mark every ½" from a long edge across to the other side. Now, cut the strips as evenly as you can (you will get about 15 strips).

Make the basket's base

With the printed side down, lay two strips on the table to form a plus sign. Secure them in the center with a small piece of tape. Add six more strips, spacing them evenly between each other to make a "starburst." Set the water bottle base on the center of the starburst and gently gather the strips or "spokes" up the sides of the water bottle. Place a rubber band around the top of the bottle to hold the spokes in place.















Begin weaving

Starting at the base, place a new strip under a spoke, and tape it in place. Now, weave that strip over the next spoke, behind the next, over, behind, repeating all the way back to where you began. Trim the strip and secure it with tape. Continue weaving rows of the strips until you reach the desired height. (If necessary, cut additional strips from the back of the cereal box.)

5 Finish off the top

Fold tape lengthwise and place it over the rim so that it covers the inside and outside. Do this all the way around to finish off the basket. Remove the bottle "form" or trim the bottle so it fits inside the basket — out of view. Now your basket can hold anything you'd like!