Recycled Wind Chimes

You can make something beautiful to look at and listen to by recycling some bits and pieces you probably have around the house.

Here's what you'll need:

- 1 sturdy small paper plate or a 6" circle cut from a piece of cardboard.
- 3 pieces of string, ribbon, or yarn about 18 inches long.
- 3 flat buttons or 3 small bottle caps with 2 holes punched in them
- A variety of recycled items such as small tin cans, metal buttons, curtain rings, pop bottle caps, jingle bells, small pieces of wood, nails, nuts and bolts, etc. Anything that will make a noise when it hits together. Just be sure that it isn't being used for something else and always ask before taking.

Punch three evenly spaced holes into the plate or cardboard circle. See figure 1.

Using the holes tie a button or bottle cap 6 inches from one end of each piece of string.

On the longer end of the string start tying your bits and pieces of recycled items. Try for a nice arrangement that looks good together then pick the strings up to hear how they sound together. Do you like the sound it makes? Experiment to see what pieces go together and what don't.

Now thread the top of each string through a hole in the circle and tie them together. See figure 3.

Your recycled wind chime is ready to hang. Pick a sunny place that gets plenty of breezes. (Remember to ask permission before you hand up your chime. You may also need an adult to help you hang it up.)

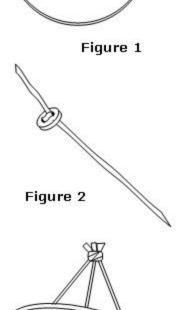


Figure 3