In the book *Rose’s Garden,* while Rose is waiting for her garden to bloom, children from around the city bring her flowers they have made from paper and other materials.

Here are some ideas and directions for making your own flowers from simple materials found in your recycling bin. Make several and place them in a jar, bottle, or yogurt container to brighten up your home or classroom. And then, like the children in the story, maybe you’d like to share some of your handcrafted blossoms. You could leave some for a neighbor, take some to a nursing home, or give them as presents.

*So: imagine, create, and share!*
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Flower-Making Essentials

🌟 scissors
🌟 tape
🌟 straws, pencils, or pipe cleaners for stems
🌟 paper
🌟 crayons or markers
Templates

Leaf

Leaf

Leaf

Yogurt Lid Flower

Catalog Flower
Cereal Box Flower

You will need:
- a clean, empty food box such as a cereal or cracker box
- the flower-making essentials (page 2)
- leaf templates (page 3)

Instructions:
1. Locate the most colorful part of the box, and cut several long strips (up to 12 inches).
2. Bend each strip with the color on the outside until the ends meet. Tape the ends of each strip together to make a loop. (These are your petals.)
3. Gather three or four loops and tape them together. (This is your flower.)
4. Tape the flower to a straw, pencil, or pipe-cleaner stem.
5. Using the templates, cut out some leaf shapes from paper, and tape them to the stem.
You will need:

- a clean yogurt container lid
- the flower-making essentials (page 2)
- yogurt lid flower and leaf templates (page 3)

Instructions:

1. Using the templates, cut a flower shape from the lid.
2. Tape the flower to a straw, pencil, or pipe-cleaner stem.
3. Using the templates, cut out some leaf shapes from paper and tape them to the stem.
**Catalog Flower**

**You will need:**
- an old catalog or magazine
- the flower-making essentials (page 2)
- catalog flower and leaf templates (page 3)

**Instructions:**

1. Flip through the catalog or magazine to find a patch of color you like. Using the template, cut out a large circle.

2. Following the dotted lines on the template, make six cuts toward the center of the circle, leaving a small circle, about an inch across, uncut in the center.

3. With the color side facing up, grasp the center of the circle, scrunching it slightly. Let the cut petal shapes fold in, then twist the center to hold the shape in place.

4. Tape the flower to a straw, pencil, or pipe-cleaner stem.

5. Using the templates, cut out some leaf shapes from paper and tape them to the stem.