

# Lightning Bug Craft

Light up your home with this lightning bug craft that keeps glowing even after summer's gone! This easy recycled craft makes use of any empty bottle and just a few craft materials. Kids learn bug anatomy while creating colorful shapes to decorate the lightning bug to make a personalized toy that glows like magic. This bug craft will entertain kids even if the real lightning bugs aren't out to play.

## What You Need:

- Water bottle
- Construction paper
- Tape
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaner
- Markers
- Stickers
- Glow stick



## What You Do:

1. Have your child choose a few sheets of colored construction paper.
2. Draw two wing shapes on the paper and cut them out. Lightning bug wings have wings that are long and oval.
3. Have your child tape the wings on the back of the water bottle.
4. Using the same color paper, cut out a rectangle for the lightning bug's belly. Cut thin strips on either side for fringes, or have your child decorate it in any creative way she desires.
5. Tape the belly to the front of the bottle.
6. Use construction paper of a different color for the face. Cut out a square or circle and have your child decorate it with stickers or markers.
7. Tape the face to the top of the bottle.
8. Cut two pieces of pipe cleaner, about 3" in length.
9. Take off the bottle cap and let your child bend the pipe cleaners into antennae. Then tape them to the bottle cap.
10. Place a glow stick into the bottle and screw the cap back onto the bottle. Place the lightning bug in a dark room to watch it glow!

Did you know that lightning bugs use their lights to communicate with one another? Ask your child what she thinks they might be saying the next time they are in your backyard.