



# Little House



## project



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be very small, so small you could live in a teeny tiny house like this one? Or maybe you could make your home under the floorboards, inside a grandfather clock, toadstool or even inside the trunk of a large tree?

You can make your own little house and pretend that you live there or think of somebody or something who might – such as an animal, fairy, dwarf or Hobbit.



If you fancy making your own little dwelling, here is how I made mine.

**You can make it as simple or difficult as you like.**

Most of the materials used were things I already had at home, but I did buy a few little props too.

**\* Health & Safety – Make sure you have an adult to help you. Have plenty of fresh air from an open window or door when using glue and paint. Always check with the adult that they are happy with the materials and tools you are using.**

## How I made it

- The little house started out life as an empty plastic milk bottle, that had been thoroughly rinsed clean. You can use other plastic bottles for a different shaped house.
- I cut off the top of the bottle including the handle but **didn't throw it away**. (See picture showing the line where I cut it).
- Door and window shapes were drawn on the bottle. I decided to make two windows in the end: one upstairs and one down, next to the door.



- The bottle was then covered in strips of kitchen roll dipped in watered down craft glue. Or you could use strips of newspaper or an old sheet. Make sure you leave the doors and windows uncovered. Leave to dry in a warm place.



- The roof was made by cutting out a circle of card and using it to make a cone shape (cut a slit in it from the edge to the centre and bend inwards). The cone needs to be big enough to be just overlapping the bottle. I then taped it once it was the right size so that it sat nicely on the bottle. I glued it on.

- The chimney was made from the handle of the milk carton. Cut the handle from the top part you kept from earlier. Cut a small hole in the roof and push in. Glue around it. The roof tiles were made by cut out little pieces of stiff card (pieces from a box would work well) and glued them in layers on to the cone, overlapping them.



- You may want to add some glued kitchen roll around the chimney too but may not be necessary.

**Now comes the fun part - the painting and decorating!**

- I painted the roof tiles three colours to make them look real. The walls were painted a cream colour and the chimney silver.

- I added some beams using strips of card painted black. The windows were painted silver with cocktail sticks painted black as the lattice effect. The frames were card painted brown. The door was made from cut lolly sticks glued to a door shaped piece of card and painted. I added painted pieces of card for the door hinges and added a bead for the doorknob.

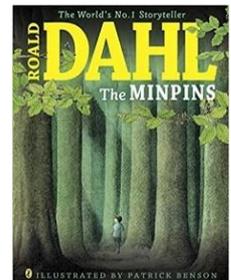
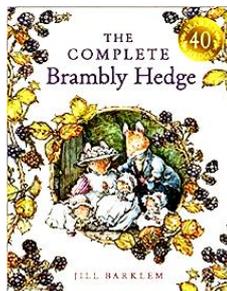
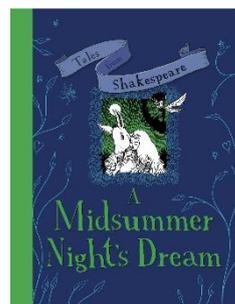
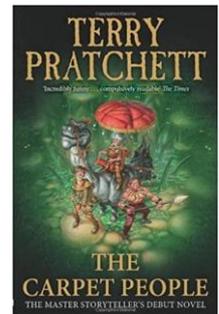
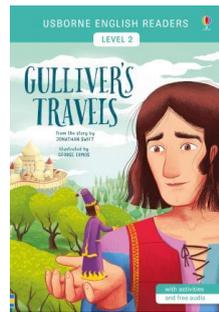
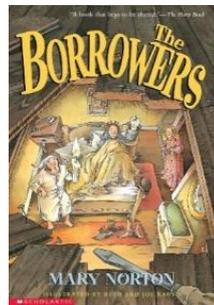
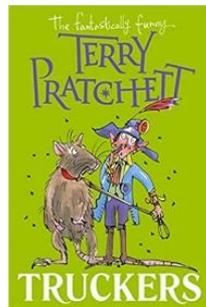
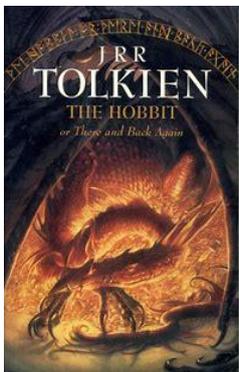


**Top Tip – a trick called ‘dry brushing’ is a good way to pick out some details on what you’ve painted, particularly the raised bits. Dip your brush in the paint and then brush most of it off again. Paint lightly over a surface to see how it looks. E.g. I used this trick with the roof tiles. I dry brushed light grey over the brown/red to give them a realistic look.**

- The base was made from an upturned mushroom tray that was covered in glued kitchen roll and painted with greens and browns.
- I glued on bought moss, mini toadstools, pebbles and small plastic flowers.
- The path was made by cutting paving stone shapes from card and gluing on a path shaped piece of card, which I then painted and dry brushed.
- **Finally, the house was glued on to the base!**

Done!

Books for inspiration!



All these books are available on the library catalogue.