

Mr. Bottle Bones: Upcycled Milk Jug Skeleton

Reduce and reuse! Make a life-size skeleton for Halloween with used plastic milk jugs.

Materials:

8-9 clean plastic gallon jugs
String
Marker
Scissors or Craft knife (for adult use only)
Glue gun (adult use)
One-hole punch

Tips:

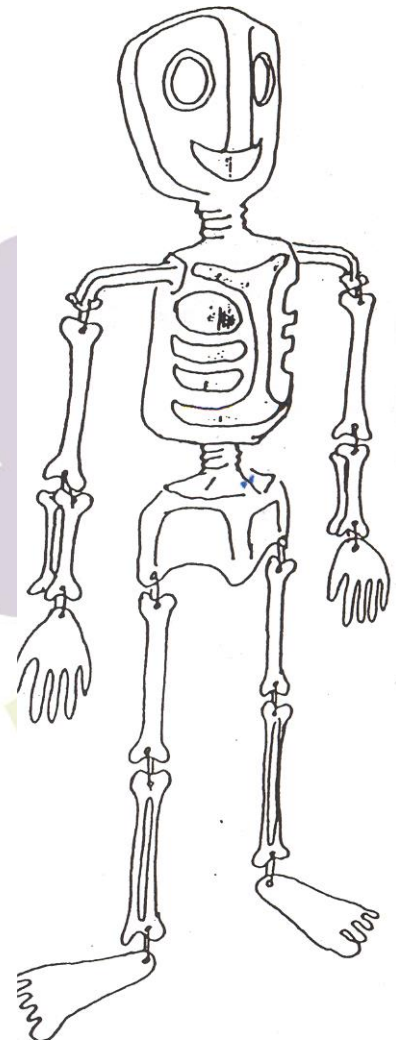
Punching holes and tying on bones is a job for little kids. Cutting out and gluing pieces is for older children and adults.

You can paint Mr. Bones a bright color to make him appear to glow.

See images on next page for close-up details on each section.

Directions:

- 1. Head:** Choose a jug with a pair of circular indentations opposite the handle (these will be the “eyes”) and turn it upside down. In the corner opposite from the handle, cut out a large, smiling mouth centered under the indented “eyes”. Make two small slits in the top of the head and tie a loop of string through them for hanging the finished skeleton.
- 2. Chest:** As shown, cut a vertical slit down the center of a right-side up jug, directly opposite the handle. Cut and trim away plastic to make the rib cage. Glue the head and chest together at the neck, connecting the spouts of the two jugs with a thick band of hot glue. Hold the jugs together for a few minutes until the glue cools.
- 3. Shoulders:** Cut off two jug handles (leaving a small collar on the ends) and attach them to the chest section with hot glue. Punch a hole on the outer edge of each shoulder.
- 4. Hips:** Cut all the way around a jug, about 4.5” up from the bottom. Take the bottom piece and trim away a small smile shape from each side to make a scalloped, four-pointed shape. Punch holes in two opposite corners.



5. **Waist:** Cut out two spouts, leaving a $\frac{1}{2}$ " collar on each. Glue the spouts together and let dry. Then hot glue the waist to the bottom of the chest and the top of the hip section.
6. **Arms and Legs:** Cut eight long bone shapes from the corner sections of three jugs (cut into the curved shape of the jug to make the bones even more realistic). From four of these bones, cut out the center to make lower limbs (forearms and shins). Punch a hole through the ends of all eight bones. String together a set of arms and legs, each with two bones (as seen in the full skeleton drawing). Then tie the arms to the shoulders and the legs to the hips.
7. **Hands and Feet:** Let the kids trace their hands and feet onto the side a jug then cut out the shapes. Punch holes in the hands and feet and tie them onto the arms and legs.

