Make Earth Day Crayons!

Objective: Children will learn a new way to recycle old crayons for Earth Day. They will also learn about states of matter in the process!

You will need:

- Used crayons (white, blue, and green if you want the end result to look like little Earths.)
- Oven or microwave
- Muffin tin (or microwavable tin, muffin cups, or ramekins if you use the microwave)
- Refrigerator

Step 1: Soak the crayons in warm, soapy water for a few minutes. Then remove the wrappers. Dry the crayons.

Step 2: Arrange the crayon pieces in the cups of a muffin tin. Start with a few pieces of white. Then add blue and green. (Kids can put in whatever colors they like if you are using many colors of crayons.)

Step 3: With oven: Bake at 250° F for about 15-20 minutes, until the crayons are melted. With microwave: Put pieces in microwavable tins or cups and cook for 5-8 minutes or until the crayons are melted. (Microwave temperatures vary; check crayons every 2 minutes or so.)

Step 4: Remove the muffin tin or cups from the oven or microwave. Let cool on a counter for about 15 minutes.

Step 5: Put the muffin tin in the refrigerator for 15-30 minutes. Remove.

Step 6: Turn the tin upside down, give it a tap, and voilà! Your recycled Earth Day crayons will pop out!

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Earth Day Crayons Observations

Draw what your Earth Day crayons look like at each step. Circle if they are liquid or solid in that step.

1. Crayons before they went into the oven or microwave:

   - liquid
   - solid

2. Crayons when they came out of the oven or microwave:

   - liquid
   - solid

3. Crayons when they came out of the refrigerator:

   - liquid
   - solid