Have some fun this Earth Hour with D.I.Y. lanterns

Kids, show you care for the Earth by creating your own special lantern. Cover the lantern in words and pictures of nature and animals, then carry it with you during Earth Hour.

What you will need

- Heavy paper or card (white or coloured)
- Printed template (page 4)
- Child safe scissors
- Markers, coloured pencils, crayons, glitter pens etc.
- Glue or sticky tape

Instructions

1. **Print the template on page 4** and cut the strip labeled “Cut 1” off along the lines and set it aside to be the lantern handle.

2. **Write or draw your Earth Hour message** longwise on the blank side of the paper in nice clear writing. This will be the outside of the lantern. Make sure you put your name, age and country at the bottom of the page. We suggest starting your message with the words “My Earth Hour, Beyond the Hour pledge for the environment is…” then fill in the rest with your words, colours and pictures!

3. **Next, fold the piece of paper along the dotted lines** in half lengthwise, along the line labeled “Fold”. Make sure you line up the edges. Your decorations should be folded on the inside now and the Earth Hour planet should be on the outside where you can see it.
4. **Take the scissors and starting at the folded edge,** cut through both layers of paper up the dotted line labeled “Cut 2”. You should stop cutting where the line stops and you reach the dotted line.

5. **Carefully continue cutting all the other lines labeled “Cut 2”** until you have cut all the lines.

6. **Once all the strips are cut,** gently **unfold the piece of paper** and refold it the other direction lengthwise, so the lines from the printed paper will be hidden on the inside and your message will be on the outside. Make sure to press the crease of the fold flat again along all the strips.

7. **Now you are ready to put your lantern together!**

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**Assembling your lantern**

1. **To assemble the lantern,** simply roll the paper into a tube shape and **tape the top edges together.** On the printed paper match side A to side B and tape.

2. **Make the handle.** The strip you cut off in the beginning with the words MAKE YOUR OWN EARTH HOUR LANTERN is the strip you should use for the handle. **Using the handle strip** tape the handles to the inside of the lantern to form and arch over the top. Your lantern should look like the picture. >

   **Hang your lantern up so everyone can see your message of good luck for our environment and long life for our planet.**

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**Top tip**

**Mini lanterns**

are a great way of decorating your classroom or local event. Just print or photocopy the template on page 4 at 25%, or smaller in size. Thread your lanterns onto a piece of string and pin or tape them to a wall or window.