



## GIFT CARDS

Most cards are used only once...so many trees!

Instead of buying more this year, try:

- ☑ Carefully cutting up old cards, punching a hole, adding a ribbon, and using as gift tags
- ☑ Creating your own cards on the computer and using up some of those sheets of paper with only a few lines of printing on. Simply trim away and you should still have enough for a card
- ☑ Make your own hand-made cards on recycled paper using pictures from old cards, beads, sequins, material, foil, magazine pictures...
- ☑ After Christmas, keep the parts of cards you can re-use, and give the rest to Planet Ark

## IDEAS FOR EARTH FRIENDLY GIFTS

With a little thought you can give to help the earth

- 🔔 Plants, especially natives
- 🔔 Home-made pomanders or pouirri air fresheners
- 🔔 National Parks pass
- 🔔 Rechargeable or solar torch
- 🔔 Home-made food. Try your hand at jams, sauces, sweets, shortbread, gingerbread. Try cooking a cake or bread in a terra-cotta pot, then gift-wrap in a tea-towel!
- 🔔 Worm farm or compost bin
- 🔔 Watering system with timer
- 🔔 Hand painted pot with seeds you've gathered
- 🔔 Stickers for re-using envelopes
- 🔔 Basket of alternative cleaning products
- 🔔 Herb garden starter pack
- 🔔 Bird feeder or nesting box made from old scrap (unpainted) timber
- 🔔 Coffee mug for people to take to work (they won't then use throw-away cups)
- 🔔 Home-made vouchers that promise that you will wash the car, vacuum, clean the windows...
- 🔔 Home-made lemonade or ginger beer
- 🔔 Solar battery recharger



**What other amazing things can you think of?**



Cool Stuff  
for Guides

**HINT!**  
Have you tried using popcorn for filler in parcels?  
Better than styrofoam beads!



## WRAPPING

Most wrapping paper is used only once too... more trees! Challenge yourself to *not* buy any new wrap this year.

Instead:

- 🔔 Re-use brown paper and decorate with stamps or potato prints, in red, green or gold
- 🔔 Wrap items in a tea-towel or scarf
- 🔔 Use special pages from the newspaper to suit the person (comics, sport, fashion, cars) and decorate with Christmas messages in green and red
- 🔔 Wrap in material from your scrap box
- 🔔 Iron, trim and re-use last year's paper
  - 🔔 Make gift bags or envelopes from old wrap, material, or magazine pages
  - 🔔 When wrapping gifts don't use lots of sticky-tape so the paper is easier for someone else to re-use
  - 🔔 Use raffia or strips of bright material to tie; decorate with small pine cones or dried flowers



Don't forget to save your ribbon to use again next year...  
HAPPY, HEALTHY,  
GREEN, CHRISTMAS!

